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Dear friends, neighbors and community members,

Happy New Year! I am so energized by the potential of 2023. As you will see in this month's news features, exciting things are happening in our area schools and local entrepreneurs are reaching new heights. People are getting more involved in their local communities through programs like our Neighborhood Leadership Fellows partnership, and UMSL is poised to begin the new physical transformations of our campus.

To start off the year, we are pleased to invite you back on to campus as we begin the spring semester honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at our annual holiday observance. The theme of this year's in-person celebration is, "Give us the ballot! How do we leverage the power of our collective voices to impact change?" We hope to see you, our friends and neighbors, at the January 16 event, as well as throughout the year. Celebrations, partnerships, and progress are in store for us in 2023, and we are excited to continue this journey with you!

UMSL Community Connection newsletter

Received this as a forward?
[Click here](#) to subscribe.

UMSL Community Card

[Register](#) for a community card to receive benefits and discounts at UMSL events and facilities.

UMSL Careers

[Click here](#) to learn about job opportunities at UMSL. Check back regularly for new listings.

UMSL Contracts

Interested in bidding on projects at UMSL?
[Procurement Bids](#)
[Construction Bids](#)

Community Connect

[Click here](#) to learn about UMSL resources, services and programs available to the community.

STL Community LAB

Gratefully forward,

Kristin Sobolik
Chancellor
University of Missouri–St.
Louis



Photo courtesy of Cristian Stowers/Stowers Photography

B Juiced juice bar opening in Ferguson in 2023

St. Louis Magazine, Jenny Agnew, December 27, 2022

Brandace Johnson plans to open a juice bar in Ferguson next year. B Juiced—Johnson's line of handcrafted, raw, organic cold-pressed juices—will expand to a brick-and-mortar, slated to open on April 1 at 605 S. Florissant. The decision comes after Johnson was recently awarded a \$50,000 grant from [UMSL Accelerate](#). In addition to juices, smoothies, and smoothie bowls, the juice bar will offer a small menu with such dishes as avocado toast, waffles, and salads.

Prior to applying for the UMSL Accelerate program, Johnson had been selling B Juiced out of a trailer at the Ferguson Farmers' Market and events across North County. In late 2020, after Johnson got COVID-19, she sought out juices while recovering. Although she found a juice bar that delivered, the company didn't deliver to her neighborhood near UMSL's campus. Johnson decided to make her own juices and ensure they would be available in areas where there are fewer healthy options, such as Ferguson. About a year into operations, Jada Huffman, a friend from middle school, joined Johnson as a business partner, and it's been a "two-woman show" ever since. [Read more.](#)



[Click here](#) to learn about community development trainings and programs.

Events & Resources



UMSL MLK Holiday Observance

Monday, January 16, 2023
11:00 a.m.

UMSL Touhill Performing Arts Center

"Give us the ballot!! How do we leverage the power of our collective voices to impact change?" is the 2023 theme for the celebration from the Touhill Performing Arts Center at UMSL hosted by the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. The community is invited to join in this **free** program **featuring Cliff Albright**, Executive Director and Co-Founder of Black Voters Matter. There will also be a musical performance by The Sheldon's All-Star Chorus under the direction of Maria A. Ellis, Director. The Mistress of Ceremony is writer, speaker and educator Tierra K. Parks Brown.

[Click here](#) for additional information.

STLCC-Flo Valley and NCCU MLK Celebration

Tuesday, January 17, 2023
6:00 p.m.

Online or in-person at the Terry M. Fischer Theatre at STLCC-Flo Valley
3400 Pershall Road

The community is invited to join STLCC-Florissant Valley and North County Churches United for Racial Harmony and Justice for a program that will include inspiring speeches, celebrate excellence in the community with a formal award presentation and more. This year's theme is "It Starts With Me: Cultivating the Beloved



Photo by Community News

Keeping arts in the classroom

St. Louis County Community News, Wendy Todd, December 14, 2022

Jennings School District starts Early Childhood Fine Arts Department to help young learners benefit from engaging in the arts

Studies show that students engaging in arts education experience multiple benefits including higher academic performance, lower dropout rates and increased self-esteem. Research regarding arts education for early childhood students has shown it can help them cultivate critical abilities such as enhanced cognitive skills and provide benefits in emotional and social development.

Arts in education was first introduced into public school curriculum in 1821. Massachusetts was the first state to integrate arts education into the general education program in 1860. It wasn't until 1990 that the Missouri Arts Education Task Force "established a comprehensive plan to include the arts as a basic component of every child's education."

The Jennings school district recognizes the importance of the arts in education, particularly for young learners and recently created an Early Childhood Fine Arts Department. [Read more.](#)

Community."

[Click here](#) for additional information.

Christian Hospital 6th annual "Embracing the Dream" Celebration and luncheon

Friday, January 13, 2023
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Christian Hospital Paul F. Detrick Building Atrium

This annual event exemplifies Dr. King's teachings. Open to the community, during this celebration five unsung local heroes and numerous student scholars from the local community will be recognized. Guests will enjoy great music by Denise Thimes and visit with Xernona Clayton, Civil Rights Leader and Broadcast Executive, who worked closely with the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

[Click here](#) for more information or to register.



NLF
NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP FELLOWS
— ST. LOUIS PROMISE ZONE —

2023

**Neighborhood Leadership
Fellows Cohort**

Lakia Bell	Jacqueline Ewing	Daphne Redding
Aniya Betts	Kiana Fleming	Latanya Reeves
Anthony Bilal	Shewona Ford	Darius Rucker
Eddiemae Brown	Joyce Green	Xavier Souter
Tiffany Brown	Monica Groves	Damon Starks
Yolanda Campbell	Daria Keys	Tammy Tuggle
Shelia Caradine	Pamela Neal	Karen Washington
Alicia Chestnut	Kimberly Northcross	Jennifer Whitaker
Darron Collins-Bey	Nellie Quinn	

Neighborhood Leadership Fellows announces newest cohort

Neighborhood Leadership Fellows (NLF) is an advanced leadership training program of [UMSL](#), MU [Extension](#) and the [St. Louis Promise Zone-St. Louis Economic Development Partnership](#). The mission of NLF is to increase and amplify the voices of North St. Louis City and County residents at the civic decision-making tables in order to produce more equitable regional policies for neighborhoods. The primary geographic focus area is neighborhoods within the St. Louis Promise Zone due to the well-documented need for more targeted investment. [Learn more.](#)



Chancellor's Certificate in Advancing DEI in the Workplace

Program Dates: January 23 – June 23 2023

The Chancellor's Certificate in Workplace Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) is a highly interactive, cohort-based, online professional development program that explores the concepts of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace. In collaboration with MU Extension, this non-credit bearing course is open to all professionals in the Greater



UMSL prepares for 60th anniversary

2023 holds the promise of an exciting time for the UMSL community, both on and off campus! Current and past students, our neighbors and community stakeholders have a great opportunity to help the campus celebrate our 60th Anniversary, while witnessing its flourishing future come alive through [TransformUMSL](#).

The 2023/2024 academic year marks the celebration of six decades of UMSL's service to the St. Louis region. The UMSL community will honor this milestone in a variety of ways including on-campus events, social media campaigns and community service initiatives. September 15, 2023 marks the official 60th anniversary of the University of Missouri-St. Louis and, with that, "UMSL Day" will launch a year of festivities with exciting events and encouragement to show UMSL Pride by wearing our famous red and gold colors no matter where you are in the world! Additional campaigns will take place throughout the year, including a community service initiative and an Alumni Spotlight that will showcase some of the amazing individuals who have taken their experience at UMSL into the world. The 60th anniversary not only honors a spectacular history of this community, but also introduces the bright future to come on campus with the start of the initial phases of TransformUMSL. Major steps begin throughout the 2023/2024 academic school year to establish an academic core on the UMSL North Campus, paving the way for the new North County Business and Workforce District on campus south of Natural Bridge.

Whether someone attended UMSL in the past, is a current or future Triton, or is simply one of our neighbors, we invite everyone to be part of the celebration of UMSL! It has been our pleasure to have support from our region for 60 years, and we look forward to continuing our commitment to inclusive prosperity and innovation for decades to come.



UMSL | University of Missouri-St. Louis

Saint Louis community. For more information, [click here](#). To register for the program, [click here](#).



3-day Intensive Web Analytics Bootcamp

Saturdays, January 28, February 4 and 11, 2023
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Understanding web behavior is important to ensure a good user experience and maximize the conversion rate of visitors to customers. There is an abundance of web data out there. Knowing what is important and what is not is critical to you being productive and effective. Not understanding what is happening under the hood of Google Analytics will not allow you to be as effective as you can be. This course is offered in-person only! The day-long class will have one break in the morning, and one in the afternoon, as well as a one hour lunch. Registration fee is \$595. For more information and to register, [click here](#).



C.S. Lewis On Stage: Further Up & Further In

Saturday, February 11, 2023
Begins 4:00 p.m.
UMSL Touhill Performing Arts Center

Award-winning actor Max McLean's tour de force performance captures C.S. Lewis' magnetic personality, astonishing eloquence, and self-deprecating wit to create



Transforming our future

UMSL joins St. Louis County and the State of Missouri in working with our community to envision an ambitious plan to improve quality of life and economic opportunities by creating a North St. Louis County Business and Workforce District anchored on the UMSL South Campus.

Learn more about plans and share your thoughts by taking a survey at surveymonkey.com/r/UMSL2023 and/or attending one of the upcoming town hall sessions listed below.

an onstage experience venturing deep into the soul of one of the most influential thinkers of the past century. Don't miss this mesmerizing, one-of-a-kind stage experience that promises to take you further up and further in the heart and mind of C.S. Lewis. General admission \$49-\$69 pp. For information and tickets, click [here](#).

Public Co-Design Opportunities

EdCollabitat Building on UMSL campus
Tuesday, January 31, 2023
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Natural Bridge Public Library Branch
Thursday, February 2, 2023
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Parkview Public Library Branch
Saturday, February 4, 2023
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

RSVP to attend a Town Hall Session at
surveymonkey.com/r/UMSLMeet

Share with Us

We'd love to hear your questions and comments about UMSL and stories about great things happening in our communities. Your thoughts will help shape content covered in future newsletters to be pertinent to you and your neighbors. Leave any suggestions, questions, or stories [here](#). Thank you!

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