FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I’m so pleased to be writing this letter in 2023, when I can share that in 2022, Gateway Arch National Park saw a 41% increase in attendance over 2021.

As to be expected, the pandemic’s effects on tourism and business travel have not completely subsided, but it is a welcome relief to be standing on this side of it, seeing visitors come back and feeling the energy of St. Louisans as they reclaim their hometown park for entertaining out-of-town friends and relatives, for recreation and fitness, for education, and for family fun at all the special events that we and our partners offer throughout the year.

With the momentum in the City generated from amazing development projects, from the now-completed Armory and CITYPARK soccer stadium to the upcoming residential projects on Laclede’s Landing and the AT&T Building, we are hopeful that park attendance will continue to climb.

During 2022, in the course of walking the exquisite Arch grounds, I had conversations with folks from Oregon, Texas, Wisconsin and states across the country who expressed how blown away they were by their visit and by how much of a jewel we have here. I couldn’t agree more. The sight of the Arch against the St. Louis skyline that greets me every morning as I arrive and every evening as I leave is something I do not take for granted.

But beyond the magnitude of the sight itself is the magnitude of what it represents. The people of St. Louis are some of the best people the world over. And for me, the highlight of 2022 was welcoming them back to the Arch grounds in August to bask in our shared blues heritage alongside 9,000 fellow St. Louisans and visitors at the Blues at the Arch Festival. After two years of virtual concerts, seeing the crowd teeming with strangers becoming friends—from toddlers to seniors and everyone in between—reminded me why we do what we do, and what we owe our future generations.

Thank you for being with us in this endeavor and for supporting us at every step along the way. I hope to see you at the park this year!

Warmly,

Ryan B. McClure
Executive Director, Gateway Arch Park Foundation
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The Old Courthouse Prepares for Renovation
In 2022, the Foundation finalized a lease at the Old Post Office to be the new home of the collections and archives from the Old Courthouse. These objects and archival records document the westward expansion of the U.S. and the creation of the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (now known as the Gateway Arch National Park). The collection is used in ongoing research by scholars and staff and is the basis of the historic site’s interpretative programming and Museum exhibits. It includes more than 5,000 books, models of the park and Old Courthouse, statues from the World’s Fair and much more.

We also announced together with the National Park Service the selection of Tarlton, the general contractor chosen to lead the renovation of the Old Courthouse, the last component of the $380 million CityArchRiver project.

5 Visits from Pacific Studio for Museum Innovation and Maintenance
In 2022, the Foundation funded five visits from Pacific Studio, the company that fabricated and installed the Museum at the Gateway Arch exhibits and provides for their ongoing innovation and maintenance, totaling $36,604. During these visits, approximately 40 projects were completed. Additionally, the Foundation funded remote Wi-Fi and IT support from BBI Engineering totaling $1,127.

Examples of this work include maintaining the Creole House’s roof, improving the oral history exhibit, repairing the interactive tram car, adjusting the access doors at the Keystone exhibit display, refreshing the scent jars, replacing and fortifying a pirogue paddle, and much more.

In addition to these more extensive projects, the Foundation continues to fund smaller maintenance needs conducted by local St. Louis personnel as they arise.
**CONSERVATION**

**Nearly 2,000 Trees, Shrubs, Grasses Planted across the Park**
In 2022, the Foundation supported the planting of 14 trees, 1,758 plants and bushes, and 185 pounds of various grass seed throughout Gateway Arch National Park. Nearly 250 of the plants and bushes are pollinator attractors for certain species of birds and insects, contributing positively to the ecosystem of the park. Volunteers were instrumental in this undertaking, helping clear out the east slopes along the Riverfront and removing weeds around the fence road near the railroad tracks.

**Kiener Plaza Visitor Services Center Building Receives Design Award**
The Visitor Services Building in Kiener Plaza that opened in 2021 received a prestigious design award in 2022, the American Institute of Architects Design Award, accepted by local architecture firm Trivers and one of its principals Amy Gilbertson. The building was one of the last components of the CityArchRiver project and was a joint effort of Great Rivers Greenway (GRG), the City of St. Louis, and the Foundation. The Foundation and GRG continue to provide free public Wi-Fi to Kiener Plaza visitors, and the Foundation provides free Wi-Fi throughout the grounds of Gateway Arch National Park, as well.

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**GATEWAY ARCH PARK FOUNDATION**

**91-Acre Park**

**5 Miles of Trails**
EDUCATION

Foundation Funds Two Full-time NPS Positions
When funding for two full-time education positions at Gateway Arch National Park was at risk following the pandemic, the Foundation stepped up to ensure the park could operate at full capacity. Education specialists at the park are instrumental in providing every student and every Museum visitor with an enriching, memorable experience. The two new specialists, Ray Brundege and Rebekah Kell, joined the team in the fall and have hit the ground running with engaging student groups from across the region.

Journey Fund Supports 257% More Students, Educators
In 2022 as field trips surged back, demand for the Journey Fund surged with it. Gateway Arch Park Foundation funded more than 30 visits for 1,953 students and educators from under-resourced schools—an increase of 257% individuals over 2021—with 79% of those students qualifying for free or reduced lunches.

Since its inception in 2019, the Journey Fund has brought over 3,500 students and educators to the Arch grounds, subsidizing transportation, meals, and activities like Tram Rides to the Top, the “Monument to the Dream” documentary film, and riverboat excursions. During the pandemic, it also funded ranger virtual visits, educational kits for classrooms and professional development materials for teachers.

The Journey Fund is made possible with initial and continued funding from the Regional Business Council, and additional support from AT&T and Bi-State Development. Thank you for your support!

Nearly 100 Children Read with a Ranger
The Foundation hosted a new park literacy program in 2022 in partnership with the National Park Service. Every weekend in June, children and families were invited to visit Gateway Arch National Park to receive a copy of a meaningful children’s book, read it together with a park ranger, engage in a group discussion and then explore the Museum and Arch grounds.

Reading with a Ranger saw nearly 100 participants from 13 different cities and more than 40 zip codes! The park rangers enjoyed interacting with the participants and encouraging a love of reading. A special thank you to Great Southern Bank for supporting this program.
Joyful Fourth Graders Return to Paddle Your Park
Another popular program for students returned after a multi-year hiatus—Paddle Your Park took place on Oct. 6, with 210 local fourth graders participating. Hosted by the National Park Service with other community partners, the program gets kids outside to learn about biodiversity, endangered species and wetland science, and to teach students about the importance of caring for the environment. A special thank you to the Regional Business Council for supporting this program.

Arch Views from the Top Enjoyed across the World
What began in 2020 as a way to bring Arch views to the people when the Visitor Center was closed has lived on, and we continue to see remarkable web traffic from people across the world who delight in the views from the top. In 2022, the webpage was visited 109,535 times.

The two, 24/7 livestreams show the iconic views facing east—looking over the Mississippi River and Illinois, and west—looking across St. Louis City and County. The livestream is also available as part of the keystone exhibit in the Arch Visitor Center for guests who may have a physical disability or are otherwise unable to take a tram ride to the top. Thank you to the National Park Service for supporting the livestream, and of course to our Foundation members whose donations also support this technology.

“My name is Mark and I live in Colorado Springs. I am a retired widower and love to watch the cam, sometimes recording it for the sunsets. I just wanted to take the time to drop you a note and tell you just how much I appreciate all the wonderful folks working there.”
COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & EVENTS

In 2022, the Foundation hosted and co-hosted even more programs and events for the St. Louis community.

Sunrise Yoga and Bootcamp
In 2022 we joined forces with a new partner, Nicole Coglianese of Citra Fitness & Yoga, who took over instruction of our popular Sunrise Yoga series every Tuesday from mid-May through October. She also brought back Sunrise Bootcamp for six weeks on Thursday mornings. The Sunrise series saw several attendance records broken and welcomed a total of 1,130 attendees to Kiener Plaza. We’re thrilled that in 2022, Sunrise Yoga contributed to St. Louis being named the “Best City to do Yoga” in the country by Apartment Guide.

In September, we helped facilitate a second yoga series, Just Breathe STL hosted by instructors from The Collective STL, which saw 412 participants.
B.A.R.K. Ranger Program

Competition was fierce in our B.A.R.K. Ranger Photo Contest to name the next “B.A.R.K. Superintendent(s)” of Gateway Arch National Park, with 30 entrants, thousands of votes and lots of news coverage. Molly and Leila, a black Australian shepherd and a chocolate labrador retriever, were inducted by Superintendent Jeremy Sweat and the Foundation’s executive director Ryan McClure and participated in B.A.R.K. Ranger activities throughout the year.
Salute to Veterans Tribute
The Foundation hosted a pop-up concert with the Airforce Band over Memorial Day weekend that welcomed 205 visitors. The Foundation and NPS once again hosted a Salute to Veterans concert tribute on Nov. 5. Honoring the bravery and sacrifice of all U.S. military veterans, the program welcomed 223 guests and featured a performance by the Missouri Brass Quintet from the 399th Army Band. Salute to Veterans was generously supported by the Hyatt Regency St. Louis at the Arch.

Free Events for All Ages
National Park Week & National Public Lands Day
Riverfront Clean-ups
On April 23, as part of the National Park Week celebration in partnership with the National Park Service (NPS), we welcomed 50 volunteers who cleaned up the St. Louis Riverfront, keeping it—and subsequently our oceans—cleaner and safer for everyone. They collected 35 full bags of trash and 94 pounds of recyclables, including 40 pounds of plastic.

On Sept. 24, we celebrated National Public Lands Day together with NPS. National Public Lands Day was established in 1994 and is traditionally the nation’s largest single-day volunteer effort. Our 54 volunteers collected more than 800 pounds of trash and recyclables, including 50+ pounds of plastic and even items like a buoy and a couch!

The day also featured a “Just Breathe” yoga session led by The Collective STL, a ranger-led dog walk hosted by our B.A.R.K. Superintendents, and an educational session about the migration patterns of monarch butterflies, ending at the Explorer’s Garden.
Blues at the Arch Becomes a Festival, Welcomes 9,000
After two years of virtual concerts, the Foundation relaunched its popular Blues at the Arch as a destination, weekend-long festival Aug. 12-13, with a Blues Brunch on Aug. 14, held at 612North in Laclede’s Landing, overlooking the Arch grounds.

“My husband and I had a great time on Friday. The weather was great. The music and artists were amazing. The food was delicious, the crowd was outstanding. Miss you guys already!”
Paying tribute to St. Louis’ storied blues history, the seventh annual event, produced in partnership with the National Blues Museum and the National Park Service, saw nearly 9,000 attendees and showcased eight national and regional musical groups.

For the first time, Blues at the Arch offered six local food and beverage vendors, a Kids Korner where children could experiment with musical instruments, a performance by Circus Harmony, a Barre3 fitness class, local artists, and a festival poster contest.

A news article from KSDK praised the event, saying, “The music has returned... bringing some much needed energy back to the City.”

We are grateful to our eight sponsors who helped make the festival a reality, and we are hopeful that this new festival format will attract visitors from across the Midwest and beyond to make St. Louis and the Arch part of their summer travel plans.

“My teenage son and I spent Saturday afternoon/evening listening to some fantastic music. We'll definitely come back again.”
Winterfest Welcomes 38,500 Visitors to Downtown St. Louis
The seventh annual Winterfest, presented by Bank of America and World Wide Technology, welcomed 38,500 visitors to Kiener Plaza, a 46% increase over 2021’s attendance numbers.

It featured 22 days of ice skating, 100,000 twinkling lights, music, gooey s’mores, and countless moments of holiday merriment.

It kicked off with the second annual Winterfest 5K presented by Caleres, which saw 209 registered participants on one of the coldest days of the year who nevertheless showed up to run through the beautiful Arch grounds on Winterfest’s Opening Day.

The Winterfest Cafe was helmed by Chef Juwan Rice of JR’s Gourmet for the second year. Rice curated an incredible menu and an all-star team of local and minority-owned businesses including Pour Decisions STL for handcrafted cocktails, De’Lish Emporium for exquisite desserts, Work & Leisure for staffing support, Natural Tableware for environmentally friendly dishes and cutlery, Larson’s Medical Supply for all things safety-related, and UnLtd Ventures for production assistance.

This year included a two-day Winter Market, presented in partnership with Greater St. Louis, Inc., which featured #STLMade favorites like Arch Apparel, Series Six, Good Life Candle Co., Truly Melanin, and other local businesses.

New Year’s Eve smashed attendance records with 6,649 attendees. Guests of all ages enjoyed fire dancers and a figure skating showcase before the fireworks spectacular at 8 p.m.
One Nation Day saw visits from Fredbird and Louie, and we welcomed the return of St. Louis Blues-sponsored three-on-three hockey classic tournaments, ice skating lessons, and Sunday rinkside visits from princesses and superheroes. This year also featured new events, like “Festive Friday” happy hours and Pride Night.

Kids got to skate for free every Friday courtesy of the Blues, and everyone skated free on Opening Day, courtesy of Ameren Missouri and the Foundation.

This year we were also proud to donate Winterfest visits to 174 children from the Boys & Girls Club of Greater St. Louis and Cardinal Ritter High School and 71 students from Central Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA) High School.

Thanks to the generous support of all our sponsors and patrons, this was our biggest Winterfest yet! We are honored to continue to be a staple St. Louis holiday tradition for so many residents and out-of-towners alike.

With more than 38,500 attendees, 220 igloo rentals, 30 volunteers, and six weeks of holiday magic, we are so proud to create a lively, thriving atmosphere in the heart of Downtown St. Louis.

**BY THE NUMBERS**
- 22 days
- 220 igloo reservations
- 39 million+ Earned media reach
- 1 million native social media impressions
- 1 incredible cafe (JR’s Gourmet)
- 2 Winterfest package giveaways
- 2 Winter Markets
- 15 sponsors
Foundation Staff Positioned as Thought Leaders in Parks, Community Partnerships

Executive director Ryan McClure was invited to participate in and speak at a number of conferences in 2022, including the Central Park Conservancy Institute for Urban Parks’ Spring Roundtable in May, where he was a panelist on the topic of equity in parks and the importance of parks to the equitable economic development of cities. And as a member of the steering committee, Ryan helped plan the National Park Foundation’s Fall Friends Alliance Meeting in the Great Smoky Mountains in November, where Amanda Goldsmith, director of philanthropy and external affairs, and Meagan Patterson, volunteer manager, were also featured speakers on panels in their areas of expertise.

And in October, Maria Tsikalas, senior manager of communications, spoke alongside NPS’ Superintendent Jeremy Sweat and Michelle Pearce, facility manager at the national park, to a group of about 200 guests from across the country attending the America in Bloom conference. They discussed public-private partnerships, the achievements of the CityArchRiver project, and unique planting challenges on the park grounds.

Volunteer Program Welcomes 85% More Volunteers in 2022

The Foundation’s Volunteer Program, co-managed with the National Park Service, welcomed 192 volunteers in 2022, an increase of nearly 85% over 2021.

We also saw a 300% increase in corporate and community group days of service, from three groups in 2021 to 12 groups in 2022.

Volunteers donated 4,905 hours over 992 shifts (growing by 3,009 hours and 331 shifts compared to 2021). Volunteer work completed included both one-time and recurring opportunities in landscaping and groundskeeping, museum interpretation and education, event services, development and communications, administration and more.

In 2022, our program became certified through the United Way, which assists prospective volunteers in finding the opportunities offered.

The Volunteer Program hosted the first “Greater St. Louis Volunteer Fair” at the park in conjunction with NPS and several community partners, and for the first year we held a Volunteer Appreciation event in April to recognize the value of the participants.

These volunteers helped make Foundation events—especially Sunrise Yoga, Picnic in Your Park, Blues at the Arch Festival, An Iconic Evening, and Winterfest—smooth and successful.
STAFF UPDATES

In 2022, the Foundation promoted Amanda Goldsmith to director of philanthropy and external affairs and promoted Gina Wake to manager of development operations.

The Foundation also hired Alex Bakken as digital content coordinator, Alissa Korn as manager of individual giving and stewardship, and Jason Douglas as event manager.

These strong additions will help the Foundation operate more efficiently, undertake more community outreach and events, and expand our reach to new audiences.
FRIENDSHIP

Serving our national park, our City’s residents, Downtown St. Louis and our out-of-town visitors would simply not be possible without the generous support of so many.

We are exceedingly grateful to our members, donors, corporate partners and foundations, and event sponsors whose support makes all of this possible.

We extend a very warm thank you to everyone who attended and spread the word about our fundraising events in 2022, and we hope to welcome you back in 2023.

Picnic in Your Park
On May 15, our Friends Advisory Board hosted our second annual Picnic in Your Park benefit in support of our mission, which welcomed 246 people—an increase of 8% over 2021—to enjoy the beauty of the park with family and friends. We were delighted to offer live entertainment this year with the Red & Black Brass Band, as well as yard games and some special merch for attendees.
An Iconic Evening
On Oct. 26, our flagship fundraiser, An Iconic Evening, welcomed 183 guests—an increase of 5.2% over 2021—to the Visitor Center for a special program that featured live entertainment by jazz band The Gaslight Squares, live painting by Steven Dragan, tram rides to the top of the Arch, an exquisite culinary experience catered by Butler’s Pantry, and unique takeaway desserts from local cupcake artisan Amie Lepsky (Bakery Blooms by Amie).
**REVENUE**

**Contributed and Event Revenue**
Annual Campaign $1,109,310
Special Gifts and Events, Gala and Volunteer Activities $479,890
Total Contributed and Event Revenue $1,589,200

**Endowment and Other Revenue**
Endowment Support* $1,298,923
Investment Income $111,726
Total Endowment and Other Revenue $1,410,649

**Design & Construction**** $6,606,823

Total Revenue $9,606,672

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**EXPENSES**

**Programming/Events/Marketing** $1,621,611
**Design/Construction**** $6,606,823
Operations/Maintenance $490,622
Development $585,739
General and Administrative $404,227

Total Expenses $9,709,022

*Based on unaudited 2022 financials
*Supports operations and maintenance of Gateway Arch National Park and Kiener Plaza, and the Foundation’s mission
**Consists of prior designated funds raised through/for the CityArchRiver Project in support of the renovation of the Old Courthouse

- Programming/Events/Marketing
- Design/Construction
- Operations/Maintenance
- Development
- General and Administrative
LOOKING FORWARD

TODAY, TOMORROW, FOR GOOD

2022 was a year of great energy for the Foundation and in many ways felt like the first full year of “almost back to normal” following the pandemic. Travel and tourism are rebounding, field trips are soaring, and awareness of our mission and impact here in Downtown St. Louis is expanding.

We were delighted to support several groups in their enjoyment of our national park, including Black People Who Hike and the St. Louis Brewers’ Heritage Foundation, who hosted three community socials in the North Gateway. We’ve refreshed our website, our print publications and email newsletters to better showcase our impact. And we’re continuing to offer new member benefits and opportunities to deepen our connections with and among our loyal supporters.

In 2023, we look forward to keeping the community informed about the historic renovations at the Old Courthouse and continuing to tell more stories of park visitors, history and opportunities. We’re exploring new advertising avenues with the goal of making Blues at the Arch Festival and Winterfest household names across the Midwest. And we have big goals for expanding our fundraising base, as well.

Guided by and grateful for your support, we remain focused on the future while being inspired by our past. Stay tuned for email, website and social media updates about our upcoming programs and events, and we look forward to seeing you on the beautiful Arch grounds in 2023!
Members are Monumental
Gateway Arch Park Foundation’s nearly 760+ members provide critical support for our mission – helping us sustain the park and maintain a world-class visitor experience, today and for generations to come. From conserving 91 acres of urban parkland to preserving more than 200 years of American history, there are truly no limits to what our members’ generosity makes possible. Thank you, members!
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Director, Ambetter Member Engagement and Communications, Centene Corporation

Alex Bakken 
Digital Content Coordinator
Jason Douglas 
Event Manager
Carla Hudson 
Office Manager
Alissa Korn 
Manager, Individual Giving and Stewardship
Meagan Patterson 
Volunteer Manager
Maria Tsikalas 
Assistant Director, Communications and Marketing
Gina Wake 
Manager, Development Operations
Mission Statement

The official philanthropic partner and conservancy of Gateway Arch National Park, Gateway Arch Park Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to ensure the Gateway Arch, its grounds, neighboring public spaces, and attractions will be a vital, welcoming, and well-supported resource for the community and nation for generations to come.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The Arch belongs to everyone.

Gateway Arch Park Foundation seeks to create inclusive environments for people to be themselves by identifying, accepting, embracing, and celebrating our differences. We are authentic in our work in Gateway Arch National Park and Downtown St. Louis by creating places, programming, and experiences that reflect the community.

We are committed to ensuring all feel welcome at the Arch.