

GATEWAY ARCH PARK FOUNDATION

VIEW 630'

SPRING 2026



GATEWAY ARCH PARK
FOUNDATION



In Memoriam—John Ferring

We mourn the loss of John Ferring. Our heartfelt condolences go out to his family and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

John was a founding member of our Board of Trustees and was integral to creating the forward momentum our Foundation continues to benefit from and shaping Gateway Arch National Park into the vibrant destination we know today. John also served as Chair of our Nominating and Governance Committee and as an Emeritus Trustee.

“John was a remarkable man,” said Ryan McClure. “Personally, I will remember his kindness. He took many people like me under his wing and mentored us in unassuming and generous ways. He has left a lasting impact on Gateway Arch National Park, on St. Louis, and its people. We are grateful to have known him.”



JUNE 7, 2026 | 11 A.M. TO 1 P.M.

Mark your calendar and gather your family for the sixth annual Picnic in Your Park, hosted by the Foundation’s Friends Advisory Board. Enjoy a delicious catered picnic lunch and live entertainment at your leisure in our hometown national park, while raising critical support for our mission.

Reserve your basket today.



GATEWAY ARCH PARK FOUNDATION Board of Trustees

- John S. Barringer**, Chief Financial Officer, Stifel Bank & Trust
- Susan Brown** (Vice Chair), Partner, Moneta Group
- Laura Ellenhorn**, Principal, Edward Jones
- Tim Fagan** (Treasurer), Partner, EY
- Katie Fischer**, Market Executive, Bank of America
- Dr. Flint W. Fowler**, President, Boys & Girls Club of Greater St. Louis (Retired)
- Arindam Kar**, Antitrust Practice Group Chair & Shareholder, Polsinelli
- Anuk Karunaratne**, Senior Vice President of Business Operations, St. Louis Cardinals
- Ruth E. Kim**, General Counsel, Sr. VP & Sr. Partner, FleishmanHillard (Retired)
- Kerrin Kowach**, Associate Professor, Saint Louis University School of Law
- James (Jim) Lally** (Chair), President & CEO, Enterprise Financial Services Corp
- James Mann**, Trustee, Crawford Taylor Foundation
- Joe Mark**, President - Owner, Eco Constructors
- Kitty McDonnell**, 2nd Vice Chair, James S. McDonnell Foundation
- Thomas C. Melzer**, Co-Founder and Managing Director, RiverVest Venture Partners
- Stephen M. O’Loughlin**, President and Chief Operating Officer, Lodging Hospitality Management
- Melissa Paz**, Civic Volunteer
- Susan A. Stith**, Chief Executive Officer, Concordance
- Nicole Tate**, Senior Vice President, Enterprise Business Development & Client Enablement, World Wide Technology
- Jason Thein**, Chief Operating Officer, St. Louis CITY SC
- Matt Villa**, Chief Operating Officer, Villa Lighting
- Adam Woodard**, Chief Financial Officer, Spire

EMERITUS TRUSTEES

- William (Bill) DeWitt III**, President, St. Louis Cardinals
- John Ferring**, Chairman, Custom Pak Products*
- David W. Kemper**, Executive Chairman, Commerce Bancshares, Inc.
- Carolyn Kindle**, Chief Executive Officer, St. Louis CITY SC; President, Enterprise Mobility Foundation
- John F. McDonnell**, Former Chairman, McDonnell Douglas Corporation
- Andrew (Andy) C. Taylor**, Executive Chairman, Enterprise Mobility Inc.

GATEWAY ARCH PARK FOUNDATION Friends Advisory Board

- Clayton Alferman** (Vice Chair), Relationship Manager, Great Southern Bank
- Mayo Morgan Amos**, Program Manager, WashU Leads, Washington University in St. Louis
- Brit Barrick**, Senior Consultant, Slalom
- Laura Beckerling**, Associate, UB Greensfelder
- Andi Blaylock**, Director of Wellbeing, Emerson
- Ally Bruening**, Senior Marketing Manager, Centene
- Jared Cox**, Director of Project Controls, Brinkmann Constructors
- Trey Dodd**, Associate, ButcherJoseph & Co.
- Ryan Hake**, Analyst, J.P. Morgan Private Bank
- Ricky Hughes**, Founder of STL Run Crew
- Jacob Kearns**, Director of Financial Planning & Analysis, Clayco
- Niaz Khan**, Director, People Technology and Analytics, Coursera
- Joe Lane**, Acquisitions Associate, The Michelson Organization
- Dominic Lupo**, Associate, Agellus Capital
- Jerina D. Phillips**, Partner, Lewis Rice, LLC
- Amanda Ramcharan**, R&D Technical Unit Lead, North America Plant Breeding
- Han Sauer**, Audit Manager, Forvis Mazars
- Alexandria Seay**, Senior Communications Manager - Emerging Projects, LinkedIn
- Austin Tinsley**, SVP, Financial Reporting & Technical Accounting, Enterprise Bank & Trust
- Tanner Tucker**, Account Executive, HMH Education Company
- Erica Vranesh**, Senior Associate, Professional Landscape Architect, SWT Design
- Debbie D. Weber**, Keller Williams Realty STL
- Michael Woods**, President & CEO, Dream Builders 4 Equity
- Becca Zimmermann** (Chair), Senior Director, Ambetter Member Engagement and Communications, Centene Corporation

Arch Alliance Partners



*Deceased

STAY CONNECTED

From Our Executive Director

Ryan McClure

Spring in St. Louis always gives me a renewed sense of energy. It's the time of year when the public spaces that define our city start to feel alive again after a long winter. For generations, Gateway Arch National Park has been one of those gathering places. Families and friends have made memories under the shadow of our iconic monument. Residents and visitors alike make their way to this space to spend time together and experience our city.

At Gateway Arch Park Foundation, creating moments of connection between both people and place is at the heart of what we do.

Each spring brings another season of the Foundation's community programming designed to bring people downtown to experience all the Park has to offer. Arch Bark on April 18 will once again give St. Louisans a chance to get outside with their four-legged friends. Soon after, Picnic in Your Park will return, and before we know it, Blues at the Arch will be upon us.

Events like these play an important role in keeping the Park and downtown vital and active throughout the year, reminding us that the Arch is more than a monument. It connects us to our home and to each other.

But creating a vibrant Park experience doesn't stop at the Park's boundaries.



We also continue to strengthen the connections between the Park and the surrounding spaces that shape downtown St. Louis. One visible example of that work is the ongoing demolition of the former Millennium Hotel. The Foundation purchased the site last year, with a bold vision for what the future of that space could become. Today, as we work toward a new future, this project has come to symbolize reenergized hope and unwavering momentum for downtown.

We are also working toward the potential expansion of Gateway Arch National Park into East St. Louis. While there are many steps that still need to happen, we are closer than ever before to achieving Eero Saarinen's original vision of a park across the river.

This all happens because our public and private partners and our supporters all share a belief in our national park and Downtown St. Louis. Big things can and will happen when we work together.

That same philosophy also guides our work to conserve and preserve the vitality of Gateway Arch National Park, including supporting projects that enhance the visitor experience for the millions of people that come to the Park each year. It's been nearly one year since we reopened the Old Courthouse in partnership with the National Park Service, and the historic building once again welcomes visitors to reflect on and honor our past.

All of our work is only possible because of you. You fuel opportunity for our city. Thanks to your support, we're making an impact on St. Louis today and for generations to come. We hope to see you in the Park soon to see your investment in action.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Ryan B. McClure

Executive Director, Gateway Arch Park Foundation



LOOKING BACK

Winterfest

November 22, 2025-January 11, 2026

Ten years in the making and worth every moment.

This past winter, Gateway Arch Park Foundation celebrated a decade of Winterfest, presented by Bank of America and World Wide Technology, with our biggest season yet. From November to January, more than 70,000 visitors made their way to Kiener Plaza to experience the magic of the holiday season beneath 100,000 twinkling lights, nestled in the shadow of the Gateway Arch.

The season kicked off with the fifth annual Winterfest 5K, which drew a record-breaking 649 runners for an unforgettable route through the heart of Gateway Arch National Park. From there, the fun never stopped: over 12,000 skaters hit the ice, more than 500 heated igloo rentals kept guests cozy, and the Greater St. Louis, Inc. Lodge @ Winterfest buzzed with Carol-oke nights, DJ performances, holiday markets, family movie screenings, and more throughout the season. The tenth anniversary also brought a memorable New Year's Eve Neon Nights festival, capping off 2025 with a fireworks spectacular above Kiener Plaza.

The 10th Annual Winterfest concluded with a fitting finale: a partnership with the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, which brought skating-focused programming to Kiener Plaza for the festival's last weekend. Guests enjoyed open-skate sessions led by Learn to Skate USA, met Olympic champions, and took in live music and arts activities.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for this tenth anniversary. We cannot wait to see you all again this November.

BY THE NUMBERS

70,000+
Visitors

649
5K Participants

100,000
Twinkling Lights





LOOKING FORWARD

Picnic in Your Park

Sunday, June 7 | 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Sixth Annual Picnic in Your Park at the North Gateway in Gateway Arch National Park

For five years, Picnic in Your Park has brought St. Louisans together for an afternoon that captures everything we love about this city: good food, great music, and the Gateway Arch rising above it all. This spring, we're doing it all again for a sixth year.

Join us on Sunday, June 7, for the sixth annual Picnic in Your Park, hosted by our Friends Advisory Board and benefitting Gateway Arch Park Foundation. Enjoy a delicious catered lunch from Butler's Pantry while taking in the sounds of the Red & Black Brass Band and the sights of a perfect day at Gateway Arch National Park.

Wondering if you should attend solo or bring the whole family? Good news: there's a picnic basket for everyone! Each purchase includes our signature 6th anniversary picnic basket, the gourmet meal of your choice, and select beverages. Kid's meal add-ons are

also available with every purchase. Want to make a full weekend of it? Enjoy access to discounted Cardinals tickets for any Cardinals vs. Reds game from June 5 to 7 and any Cardinals vs. Rockies game from August 7 to 9.

Your basket purchase not only unlocks all the fun that Picnic has to offer, but it also does something meaningful. Every dollar raised supports our conservation, preservation, education, and community programming efforts that keep Gateway Arch National Park thriving for the millions of visitors who walk its grounds each year and for the generations who will follow.

Whether you've made Picnic in Your Park a tradition or this is your first time joining us, there's a spot on the lawn with your name on it.



Reserve your basket by May 30 at archpark.org/picnic or contact Maggie Kloppenberg, Manager of Donor Engagement & Stewardship, at maggie.kloppenber@archpark.org.



PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Sunrise Yoga

Presented by BJC HealthCare

Every Tuesday, May 5-September 29 | 7-7:45 a.m. | Kiener Plaza



Early on Tuesday summer mornings, just before St. Louis fully wakes up, something remarkable happens in Kiener Plaza. Hundreds of neighbors, coworkers, students, and visitors roll out their mats, face the Arch and Old Courthouse, and move through a coordinated yoga session together. By the time class wraps, strangers have become familiar faces, and this small slice of downtown feels a little more like home.

This is Sunrise Yoga, and it's quickly become one of St. Louis' favorite community traditions.

Presented by BJC Health Care, weekly Sunrise Yoga returns to Kiener Plaza from May 5 through September 29. Classes run for just under an hour and are designed to be welcoming and accessible to all levels, even those who have never stepped foot on a mat.

What began as a small weekly program has blossomed to regularly draw 200 or more participants each session. It's a testament to what's possible when free, inclusive health and wellness programming meets one of the most iconic backdrops in the country.

And that's the point. Sunrise yoga exists because we at Gateway Arch Park Foundation believe wellness and community should be available to everyone. Thanks to the generosity of our members, donors, and sponsors, this program remains completely free and open to all.

Join us in Kiener Plaza this May and see for yourself what hundreds of St. Louisans already know: there's no better way to kick off a Tuesday. Whether you come alone or bring a few friends, you'll leave with a sense of connection that's hard to find anywhere else. We hope to see you on the mat this summer!



Learn more at archpark.org/yoga

SAVE THE DATE

Blues at the Arch Festival

Presented by The Steward Family Foundation

August 14-16, 2026



More than a decade in, blues music on the Arch grounds has never sounded better.

Blues at the Arch Festival returns to Gateway Arch National Park for its 11th year this summer, from August 14-16. Produced in partnership with the National Park Service and presented by The Steward Family Foundation, this beloved festival brings together blues lovers from across the region for a weekend packed with live music from local and national artists, delicious eats and drinks from local vendors, yard games, a Kids Korner, fireworks, and more.

And did we mention Blues at the Arch is free to attend? Thanks to the generosity of our members, donors, and sponsors, this annual community celebration remains completely free and open to the public. It's one of the many ways that the support of people like you brings our mission to life.

Whether you're a longtime regular or prepping to make your Blues at the Arch debut, there's something for everyone at this iconic St. Louis music festival.



Save the date and learn more at archpark.org/blues

Blues Merch is Back

Gear up for a jam-packed summer with official Blues at the Arch merchandise! From t-shirts to tote bags, your purchase supports our mission and lets everyone know where St. Louis' favorite party is happening.



Providing Support for Park Projects

Generous supporters like you help bring projects like this to life



Millions of people visit Gateway Arch National Park each year, and the Foundation is proud to support our hometown national park in creating an environment where each visitor has an unforgettable experience and makes lasting memories. One way we do this is through supporting projects like those listed below. While these projects may not be immediately noticeable, each effort, big and small, is part of our mission to help our Park shine brighter—none of which would be possible without your generous support.

The Old Courthouse, One Year Later

It's been nearly one year since we reopened the Old Courthouse to the public after a \$27.5 million renovation in partnership with the National Park Service. So, we checked in with Pam Sanfilippo, Acting Deputy Superintendent at Gateway Arch National Park, to hear how she has seen the visitor experience change since it reopened last spring.

“Visitors and staff have commented about how much they enjoy the new exhibits—the accessibility, the interactive elements, and the content,” said Sanfilippo. “I’ve even heard that the galleries themselves just feel much more inviting with how bright the spaces are now that we have new windows that have UV protection rather than the dark curtains.”

As the Foundation does at the Museum at the Gateway Arch, we also provide the funding for ongoing maintenance for the new museum galleries at the Old Courthouse. When needs arise in the galleries, the Foundation can move nimbly to complete repairs and important maintenance.



Haven't visited the Old Courthouse after renovations? Plan your visit today.



Waysides in Gateway Arch National Park

In 2025, the Foundation funded much-needed updates to interpretive waysides throughout the Arch grounds. Over time, the signs had become deeply faded and needed to be replaced.

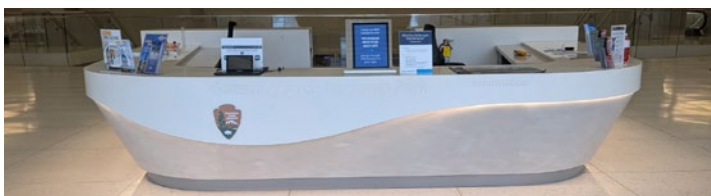
“It was to the point of being unreadable, in some cases,” said Sanfilippo. “While the content only changed to make some minor corrections, the new panels are easily readable with vibrant colors. They attract visitors who are walking through the Park.”

Visitors can now more easily find their way around the Park, while learning about their surroundings along the way.

New Visitor and Tucker Theater Desks

While we provided an update about these desks in our last newsletter, these new desks continue to deliver positive experiences for both visitors, park rangers, and volunteers. These desks are much larger and welcoming, giving park rangers and park volunteers more space to assist visitors with general information, Junior Ranger activities, accessibility services, and park passes.

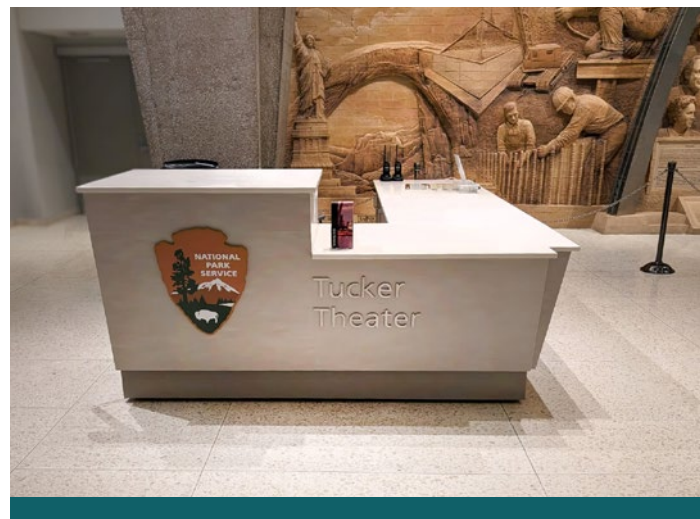
“With the Arrowhead and the Park name, visitors are much more able to identify where to go when they enter the Visitor Center, especially if they have questions about services at the Park,” said Sanfilippo, when asked how it has improved the experience. “The new desk is much larger, allowing staff and volunteers to have necessary materials available at their fingertips. Designing the desk with space for wheelchairs has greatly improved our ability to efficiently serve individuals with mobility issues.”



Dred and Harriet Scott Statue Cleaning

The Dred and Harriet Scott statue that stands tall along the east-facing side of the Old Courthouse is a popular point of interest for park visitors. Because the statue must withstand changing weather elements throughout the year, the silica bronze sculpture requires periodic cleaning to prevent copper oxidation. Last year, the Foundation provided the funds for this maintenance, which was a marvel in itself, according to Jennifer Clark, Gateway Arch National Park’s Acting Program Manager for Museum Services & Interpretation.

“It was extremely interesting to watch the statue cleaning,” said Clark. “I was expecting it to be cleaned with water and was amazed when it turns out that it is cleaned with fire! People walked by and were so fascinated by the process. The statue cleaner did a great job of making sure it looks brand new, also conveying his extensive knowledge and love for the art form and its rich history.”





GET INVOLVED

Volunteer with the Foundation and Gateway Arch National Park

Hear from one of our dedicated volunteers, Heather McNamee, and find out how you can get involved in our co-managed volunteer program.

Gateway Arch Park Foundation's co-managed volunteer program with Gateway Arch National Park is the heartbeat of our organization. Through their generous donation of time, each one of our volunteers makes a direct impact on the Foundation's mission to uplift and support our hometown national park.

There is a role for everyone, including supporting National Park Service rangers in their duties at the park, assisting with grounds maintenance, supplementing Foundation staff at community programs, and helping with administrative needs in the Foundation office. Whether it's one hour or hundreds, every volunteer effort creates monumental impact.

We sat down with long-time volunteer Heather McNamee, who recently reached 250 volunteer hours over her two years of service and was named our 2026 Volunteer of the Year. McNamee is involved in nearly every type of volunteer opportunity we offer, from our annual community events to special events like the Old Courthouse reopening last year and National Park Service programs like Trails and Rails. McNamee first got involved with our co-managed volunteer program after finding open opportunities on a local website.

"I know how prominent the Arch and Foundation are, so I thought it would be a good opportunity to put myself out there," said McNamee. "I knew there was a Foundation, but I didn't understand the expanse of what it did to support the Arch and the Park."

While she's involved in many volunteer opportunities at the Park, McNamee is an enthusiastic volunteer at both the Museum at the Gateway Arch and the Old Courthouse. At these locations, she supports rangers by staffing the visitor services desks, taking tickets at Tucker Theater, and answering visitor questions, all of which give rangers more opportunities to take a break or share a ranger presentation.

McNamee expresses her gratitude for the rangers as well: “I lean heavily on the rangers to learn about the subject matter at our museums. They’re great at answering my questions or filling in any gaps to make sure volunteers are knowledgeable about the content.”

Through her volunteer work, McNamee hopes she’s leaving people with a positive and pleasant experience at Gateway Arch National Park. She’s also finding personal fulfillment while generously giving her time.

“I enjoy the opportunity to socialize with individuals from different states and from around St. Louis,” McNamee said. “We’re all in Gateway Arch National Park for the same thing, but we all come from somewhere different. It’s so interesting to share an experience with people who are outside your normal walks of life.”

“I volunteer because I like to give my time. And, in return, that gives me those warm fuzzies.”

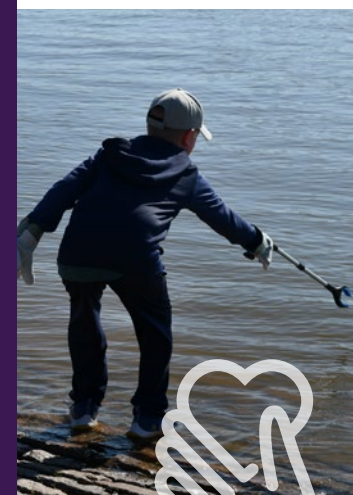
There are many ways individuals can volunteer through the Foundation’s co-managed program, and to McNamee, potential volunteers don’t necessarily have to have hours upon hours available to volunteer.

She shares her advice to those looking to be more involved: “Volunteering is fitting things into the life you already have. If you have a few spare hours here and there throughout a week or a month, fill them with the opportunity of going to an event and meeting new people. There’s always the occasion to grow your social circle, and why not try volunteering to do that?”

If you’d like to get involved with our volunteer program or learn more about our upcoming volunteer projects and opportunities, contact Volunteer Manager, Grace Teofilo Hilker, at grace.teofilo@archpark.org.



Join us at our next Riverfront Cleanup on April 25! These single volunteer days are a great way to make a tangible impact on the Park grounds and get familiar with our volunteer team. Last year, volunteers collected over 2,000 pounds of trash on the St. Louis riverfront.



[Learn more and register here](#)

National Park Friends Alliance Annual Conference

A reflection on the annual Friends Alliance conference hosted in Gateway Arch National Park in September 2025



Last fall, more than 300 park enthusiasts descended upon Gateway Arch National Park for the National Park Friends Alliance annual fall conference.

Gateway Arch Park Foundation had the privilege of being the host organization. From September 15 to 17, the Friends Alliance and the Foundation partnered with the National Park Service and various St. Louis institutions to show off our favorite city and its parks and how the power of public-private partnership and collaboration makes big things happen for our region.

Founded in 1998, the National Park Friends Alliance is a coalition of nonprofit partners who work tirelessly toward a shared mission—to support and enhance national parks. Gateway Arch Park Foundation has proudly been part of the Friends Alliance since 2019. Since then, we have attended various Friends Alliance gatherings, our Executive Director Ryan McClure has taken on the role as Friends Alliance Board Chair, and our staff members have recently founded Friends Alliance affinity groups to foster focused learning and partnership through the Marketing and Communications Affinity Group, Volunteer Affinity Group, and Young Professionals Network.

The conference came to life after eight months of planning with Friends Alliance leaders and Meagan Patterson of Gateway Arch Park Foundation. This group intricately arranged every detail of the conference with great intention, from the flow of the sessions to the meals, from the field trips to the learning circles. And, that intention shined on center stage as the conference kicked off in September 2025.

The first day of the Friends Alliance began with field trips around St. Louis so attendees could not only learn about park conservation, education, visioning, partnership, and storytelling, but also get better acquainted with our city. The Foundation's partners from the National Park Service, Jefferson National Parks Association, Great Rivers Greenway, and other partners and institutions joined us in leading the tours, providing attendees a chance to dive into different parts of St. Louis' history and existence today. This was an example of St. Louis collaboration at its best—helping new visitors see the best of our city, how we honor the richness of our history, and how we come together to make St. Louis a place you want to visit time and time again.

Days two and three kicked off the heart of the conference, with moderated panels, fireside chats, learning circles, and networking opportunities. It would be difficult to find an attendee who left the conference without a new project in mind for their organization, without a proposed solution to a recent roadblock, or without having made a friend at a group across the country.

Feedback for the event was overwhelmingly positive. The conference attendees were surprised and delighted by Downtown St. Louis, the organizations here, and Gateway Arch National Park, so much so that many genuinely promised to return one day.

And, a rewarding experience for our visitors meant a rewarding experience for Foundation staff members, who each played a role in the conference. The staff had the opportunity to attend sessions, work the check-in desk to answer questions, lead tours, and participate on panels. Each staff member gained a renewed sense of purpose, partnership, and appreciation for the work of those at Gateway Arch National Park and parks nationwide. To work at a conservancy is to care deeply about these public spaces, to feel committed to a mission of stewardship, and to devote yourself to partnership because our parks belong to everyone. It was an invaluable experience to be surrounded by more than 300 other people who live and breathe the same purpose: to uplift our national parks.



“Hosting this conference was a deeply rewarding experience for the Foundation, our partners, and the City of St. Louis,” said Meagan Patterson, Senior Manager, Operations & Volunteer Engagement, who was vital to planning the conference. “The partnership and collaboration among the Foundation, Friends Alliance, park community, and local organizations were truly inspiring. It is amazing to work alongside so many individuals who demonstrate such passion and care for their communities and public spaces. I am beyond grateful for the opportunity to have participated in this unforgettable experience and for the knowledge gained and relationships built along the way.”

The conference attendees were surprised and delighted by Downtown St. Louis, the organizations here, and Gateway Arch National Park.

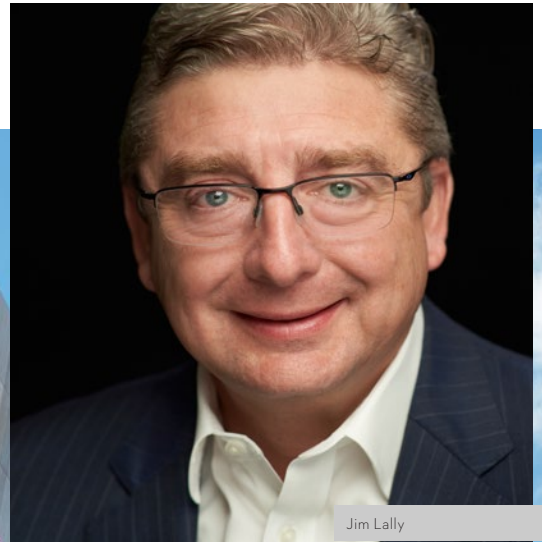
Thank you to our partners at the National Park Friends Alliance and to the conference attendees. We look forward to continuing to keep our national parks vital and welcoming, and we are excited to see our Friends Alliance members once again in Rocky Mountain National Park this fall!



GET TO KNOW US

Meet Jim Lally

Gateway Arch Park Foundation Board Chair



Jim Lally

Meet the new leader of the Board of Trustees as he looks to the future of Gateway Arch Park Foundation, while paying homage to its past.

Jim Lally has lived in St. Louis his whole life, and the Gateway Arch has been the centerpiece to many of his lifelong memories. From that feeling of home as he would return from road trips and catch a first glimpse of that stainless steel curve to telling friends to meet at the south leg on a packed day at Fair St. Louis in the eighties, Lally has always found community and hometown pride in view of the Arch.

“It’s hard not to think about the Gateway Arch as part of many big points in our lives. It’s been a gathering place for years,” said Lally as he reminisced. “This is our city’s national park, and it’s been a longstanding anchor for our city.”

His memories of the Arch remain with him as he stepped into his role as Gateway Arch Park Foundation Board Chair in Fall 2025. Not only is it a gathering place he frequented over the decades as

a St. Louis resident, but it’s also now a place that he has championed and stewarded since he first joined the Board of Trustees in 2021.

Lally also brings with him 23 years of experience with Enterprise Financial Services Corp, based in St. Louis, serving as its President and CEO since 2017. Enterprise encourages all of its employees to be involved in and show up for their communities through charitable donations, volunteerism, and serving on local boards.

A banker at his core, Lally recalled wanting to be involved with Gateway Arch Park Foundation after assessing the risks and finding this was an organization he could get behind.

“When I first met Ryan McClure and the rest of the Foundation team, I knew immediately it was a high-quality organization,” he said. “As bankers, we assess

our risks and ask ourselves, ‘How good is the team and can they execute on the plan?’”

“High-quality teams make it happen. I see that, every time I’m involved with Ryan McClure and the staff at the Foundation, whatever the focus, the team gets the task done. It’s that passion of the team that is fuel for the board.”

Lally is assuming his role at an important and transformational time for the Foundation and its mission to support Gateway Arch National Park and surrounding areas. After the Foundation led and completed the CityArchRiver Project that reimagined this corner of downtown and after transitioning to its role as the official conservancy and philanthropic partner of the Park in 2017, the Foundation keeps pushing forward to steward and innovate in and around the Park.

A banker at his core, Lally recalled wanting to be involved with Gateway Arch Park Foundation after assessing the risks and finding this was an organization he could get behind.

“As the new chair, it gives me great inspiration to continue the awesome work of those that came before us. The leaders of CityArchRiver created the mission, raised the private funding, and created momentum,” said Lally. “And now, we carry that momentum forward.”

“This is still a young organization, but in a very short time, it has become a leader in shaping our region and what our downtown looks like. As it relates to what’s in the future, there’s just so many great opportunities that we are already part of, from the former Millennium Hotel site redevelopment to the potential expansion of the Park across the river into East St. Louis.”

Both passion and philanthropy have the power to transform and create this momentum Lally speaks of. As the philanthropic partner of Gateway Arch National Park and surrounding areas, the Foundation is vital to the continued growth and success of the Park and our region, and Lally says it’s time to invest.

“Gateway Arch National Park is one of our region’s greatest resources, and we have to make sure that whatever we do, that it continues to be a beacon for all. We must leave it better than we found it, and that includes everything around it,” he said. “Getting involved with the Foundation is a chance for someone to be involved with the conservancy for this beacon and create great impact for downtown.”

When asked if he has seen philanthropic support make a tangible difference in Gateway Arch National Park, Lally said, “No question. If not for the generosity of all supporters, we would not have the experience we have today in the Park. Whether it’s walking the grounds or visiting the museum beneath the Arch or the galleries in the Old Courthouse, you see the impact of philanthropy over and over again.”

As Lally looks ahead to the future, he knows that the organization has accomplished so much in a short time, but there’s much to do yet. As a conservancy of a public space, the Foundation’s work is never truly complete, to ensure it remains to be vital and well-resourced for generations to come.

He’s prioritizing three things, including carrying forth the legacy of his predecessors to care for and steward Gateway Arch National Park, finding new ways the Foundation can go above and beyond for our hometown national park, and support and see through the parts of the special projects—such as the Millennium redevelopment and the potential East St. Louis park expansion—that are within our purview.

Lally expressed his gratitude to current and past donors, without whom none of this work would be possible. “Your work and generosity is making such a great difference,” he said addressing our supporters directly. “If I could ask for one thing, it would be to bring someone down to see the Arch that hasn’t been down in years. That experience will transform them into wanting to be part of our future because when you see it, you see the impact of what we’re doing.”

He also notes that as the Foundation grows, the need for philanthropy grows too. He calls on those who are not yet involved to join and support: “You’ve got great pride in who we are as a city. This is our symbol. This is our national park. This is our welcome to the rest of the world. Supporting this organization is one way you can participate to make sure this space is maintained and continues to evolve.”

“Our legacy as contributors to and stewards of this great treasure is to create access to this space for all and to make sure this place is cared for so that other generations will continue to enjoy it.”

With Lally as our newest Board Chair, the Foundation looks toward our future with great confidence. Under his leadership, our mission will continue to thrive so that future St. Louisans will continue to make lifelong memories and find community under the glow of the Gateway Arch.

“Getting involved with the Foundation is a chance for someone to be involved with the conservancy for this beacon and create great impact for downtown.”



MEET THE TEAM

Bryan Rogers

Director, Special Projects



Gateway Arch Park Foundation is proud to welcome native St. Louisan Bryan Rogers, who joined our team in late-February as Director, Special Projects. Rogers comes to the Foundation with a breadth of experience in urban planning, community development, and working in the nonprofit industry, making him a perfect match for this new role.

“This role embodied everything I’ve been doing up until now, and it made sense for this to be a natural step,” said Rogers. “This place is just awesome. It feels like such an exciting moment for the Foundation with everything we have going on. I’m very lucky to be part of it right now.”

As his title mentions, Rogers will manage special projects, such as enlivening the Riverfront and continuing steps to explore the potential expansion of Gateway Arch National Park to East St. Louis. He will also engage and build relationships with stakeholders in these spaces to ensure the positive momentum around these projects continues.

“This is a very special place,” said Rogers on the significance of our hometown national park and its surrounding areas. “Locally, the Arch is the front porch to St. Louis, welcoming people in. It’s a catalyst for economic development, not just for downtown, but for everything beyond that. On a national level, this is one of the few places where architecture, history, and the beautiful park grounds come together to tell the story of westward expansion.”

We asked Rogers which project he’s most excited about, and he replied, “It’s hard to pick one, especially because all these things are connected to each other. They’re transformative, and making these things happen will be huge.”

Please join us in giving Bryan a warm welcome to the Gateway Arch Park Foundation team.

MEET THE TEAM

Foundation Staff Share Their Love Stories at the Arch

Some of Gateway Arch National Park's biggest fans work right here at the Foundation, so it's no wonder that the Gateway Arch is part of their milestone memories with family and significant others. Around Valentine's Day, we gathered our Foundation's staff's greatest love stories that took place on the Arch grounds.

Here are some of them:



The photo taken at the Top of the Arch is from the first day that my now-husband and I became official. We met up before work and ate breakfast together on the Arch grounds near the south reflection pond. He asked me to be his girlfriend, and I said yes. Later that morning was the first time he saw me in uniform and was the first time we ever were at the top together. I was working, but I could hear him telling other tourists how proud he was that his (as of several hours ago) girlfriend was the ranger working at the top.

On the day we got engaged, he brought me back up to the Top of the Arch to commemorate our first official day as a couple.

—Grace

My wife and I met in St. Louis in 2019. She was born and raised here whereas I was entirely new to the city. As our relationship grew, she introduced me to her favorite places, and before long, St. Louis began to feel like home.

Five years later, I was the one insisting we take our wedding photos with the Arch in the background—because by then, it perfectly captured what this place had come to mean to us.

—Alex



Saint Louis has always felt like home to me. Even though I grew up in Florida and visited Disney World every year, St. Louis, with its wonderful restaurants, museums, zoo, and parks, was the city I loved most.

Twice a year, my family and I would make the trip, and the sight of the Arch on the drive from the airport to my grandmother's house would fill me with an immense burst of excitement—I knew I was almost back where I belonged. Now an adult, I have chosen to make St. Louis my permanent home.

I still get that feeling, and I never tire of exclaiming, "There's the Arch!" with the same enthusiasm my mother once did. It truly is the Gateway to my Heart.

—Tasha

STEWARDING AN ICON

Members are Monumental



The Gateway Arch draws more than two million visitors to St. Louis every year. It anchors our skyline, grounds our identity as a city, and connects generations of St. Louisans to something larger than themselves. But, keeping it vital, welcoming, and well-supported doesn't happen on its own.

That's where our members come in.

Gateway Arch Park Foundation's mission is built on four pillars: conservation, preservation, education, and community. Members make all four possible. Their support maintains the Park's grounds and historic assets, funds free events that bring tens of thousands of people downtown, and ensures that students from across the region, regardless of background, can experience their hometown national park firsthand.

Membership transforms this iconic landmark into a living, breathing part of the community. And you can be part of this transformation by joining or renewing your membership today.

Gateway Arch Park Foundation members enjoy exclusive perks all year long, including:

- Special access to iconic St. Louis events like Blues at the Arch and Winterfest
- Passes for tram rides to the top of the Arch and downtown parking
- A year-long subscription to St. Louis Magazine
- Exclusive discounts at The Arch Store

The Arch belongs to everyone.

Visit archpark.org/membership or contact Maggie Kloppenberg, Manager of Donor Engagement & Stewardship, at maggie.kloppenberg@archpark.org.





701 Market Street, Suite 1250
St. Louis, MO 63101
314.881.2015 | archpark.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
St. Louis, MO
Permit 1291



SUNDAY JUNE 7, 2026 TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION

GATEWAY ARCH PARK FOUNDATION OUR MISSION

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.**

LOOKING AHEAD

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 18: Arch Bark

This free, family- and pet-friendly event features activities, entertainment, and stunning views of the Arch, while promoting the National Park Service's B.A.R.K. Ranger program.



April 25: Riverfront Cleanup

Join us at our next Riverfront Cleanup and help make a tangible impact on the Park grounds.



Tuesdays, May 5-September 29: Sunrise Yoga

Align your body and mind through movement and breath in Kiener Plaza.



June 7: 6th Annual Picnic in Your Park

Picnic in Your Park raises awareness and critical funds for our mission of Park conservation, preservation, education, and community programs.



August 14-16: 11th Annual Blues at the Arch Festival

This popular end-of-summer celebration pays tribute to St. Louis' storied blues history and showcases the talents of national and local artists.



archpark.org/events | @gatewayarchpark