



# Volunteer Connection

*Enriching lives. Enhancing relationships.*

January-March 2009

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## Contact Us

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## A Word From the Coordinator

Before we turn the calendar over to another year—we wanted to share some of the highlights of 2008 for UMSL Volunteer Services:

The biggest news is that in April our office moved across campus to Normandie Hall. If you haven't yet had the opportunity to see our new home, we would love to have you stop by for a visit. Also in 2008, our SpongeBob-themed Volunteer Services float also placed 3rd in the homecoming parade competition. We expanded our recruitment efforts to include a page on the social networking site-Facebook. We received our recertification as a United Way Volunteer Center Certified Program. We were pleased to have 145 new volunteers join us on the campus in 2008. Additionally, the inaugural Volunteer Services Advisory Board was formed and has already begun contributing their creative ideas and talents to the program.

Looking ahead to 2009—we are excited to announce that our Annual Volunteer Recognition Event will be held on April 21 at the newly updated Magic House. In fact, we will have the Magic House completely to ourselves that night. All currently registered volunteers and their guests will be invited to attend this magical evening of fun! Also within the next couple of months, we will be offering a web-based version of our Volunteer Orientation and several new training classes.

We are reminded daily of the seriousness of the country's financial situation in all that we read, see and hear—and these same fiscal challenges are confronting our university. While the Volunteer Services program will continue to provide the campus with quality volunteers-- we are looking at creative ways to maximize our resources. We are confident that neither the volunteers nor the campus departments will not see a difference in the high level of customer service that has become a fundamental element of our program.

In these volatile economic times, volunteering can be a great way to network and enhance your skills. Our office continues to receive inquiries from potential volunteers who are between jobs or recent graduates seeking hands-on experience. The campus departments are also seeing an increased need for volunteers to assist them in accomplishing their goals. If your experience as a UMSL Volunteer has been positive, please share the fun with your neighbors, friends, co-workers and relatives. Never has the role of a volunteer on the UMSL campus been more important than in 2009.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Pawloski  
Volunteer Coordinator

# Volunteer of the Month Recipients



## Volunteer Services

Elizabeth Pawloski- Coordinator  
Sarah Brady- Office Support

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🌐 [www.umsl.edu/services/volunteer](http://www.umsl.edu/services/volunteer)

### OCTOBER 2008



#### **Kierra Blunt**

Gary Clark of the Center for Transfer Services noted that "Kierra did an outstanding job while assisting in a mailing project for the Office of Transfer Services. She demonstrated ability to grasp the concept of the project immediately and was consistent and accurate in her work. Kierra arrived on schedule, was appropriately dressed and was very professional in her outlook towards our project. She was not afraid to ask questions, stayed busy, and was enthusiastic and a bright spot in our day. We would welcome her back at any time. It is a pleasure to meet a young person of Kierra's caliber. It is always a joy to see such a quality young person meet or exceed expectations and Kierra does this."

### NOVEMBER 2008



#### **Angela Bingham**

Angela helped the Creative Services department with a "huge job" which ended up taking a few days to complete. Murray Velasco commented, "Her initiative is impeccable. She is such a quick study, asks pertinent questions and executes instructions with all the detail that is needed. Angela knows what it takes to be a professional. The way she dresses and the way she directs clients, answers phones calls and walk-ins to the department all show that she is professionally savvy." Creative Services is very appreciative of Angela's volunteer work!

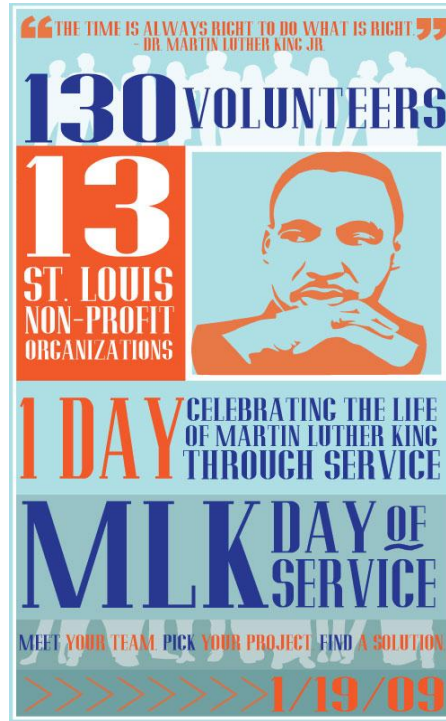
### DECEMBER 2008



#### **Michelle Brown**

As a volunteer with the Western Historical Manuscript Collection for three and a half years, Michelle is considered prompt, thorough and an extra-ordinarily hard worker. Kenn Thomas of the WHMC believes Michelle has "added greatly to the Western Historical Manuscript Collection by processing collections and making them available to the public. She's a self-starter and very skilled at helping patrons with the collections, in addition to her processing work. Having Michelle here has been a great, great pleasure."

# MLK Day of Service



January 19th, 2009 is UMSL's first annual **MLK DAY OF SERVICE**. Join over 130 volunteers in celebrating the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. through a day of service. As a volunteer you will work in a team to complete a service challenge at one of our 13 Non-Profits. To find out more and to register visit <http://www.umsl.edu/studentlife/osl/service/mlkdos.html>. Anyone is welcome to participate so tell your friends about this great opportunity. Contact Megan Hill ([hillme@umsl.edu](mailto:hillme@umsl.edu)) if you have any questions.

*\*Check out Obama and Biden's plans to participate in their own MLK Day service project in Washington D.C.!*  
[http://www.mlkday.gov/about/newsroom/states\\_news\\_detail.asp?tbl\\_pr\\_id=1171](http://www.mlkday.gov/about/newsroom/states_news_detail.asp?tbl_pr_id=1171)

*\*\*Register by Friday to ensure your T-Shirt size!\*\**

## MLK Day Agenda:

- 9AM** – Sign-in, Breakfast, and Team Break-out
- 10AM** – MLK Day Celebration at the Touhill
- 12PM** – Lunch
- 1PM** – Service Projects
- 5PM** – Dinner & Closing Ceremonies

## Volunteer Milestones

January- March Anniversary Dates

4 Years	3 Years	2 Years	1 Year
Susan Erickson	Judy Nelson	John Sanders	Angela Bingham
Elsie Meyer	Sydney Hawkins		Cassandra Crittenden
	Alisha Maybell		Precious Crittenden
	Mary Wurtz		

Volunteer **Anysa Womack** served **309 volunteer hours in 2008**- the highest number of documented volunteer hours for the year!

## Volunteer Spotlight

### A Word From... Albert Nall



On behalf of Volunteer Services, I would like to thank Sarah Brady and Elizabeth Pawloski for their great confidence in me as well as giving me the opportunity to say a few things in regard to my experiences with Volunteer Services.

The highlight of my holidays included sending out cards to my growing number of network contacts I've made through Volunteer Services. Lisa Taylor of the Development Office, I did get your message on my answering machine. My records show that I worked for you on August 15th 2007! I keep track! I really would like to acknowledge Faith Lucas of Accounting and Michelle Kilper of Alumni Relations for their fine work at the Holiday Bazaar on December 10th to raise money for the John P. Perry Scholarship fund. Afterwards, I took a tour of the UMSL campus by way of the shuttle bus.

As many of my acquaintances are now aware, I am transferring to UMSL from St. Louis Community College with plans to major in Communications and Gender Studies. I look forward to meeting advisors from my majors at my orientation on Tuesday January 13th. I feel like a Triton already.

There is no shortage of excitement over the inauguration of President Elect Barak Obama. The spirit of the event will be foremost in my mind on Martin Luther King Day January 19th when I will be at the Touhill Center. Hope to see you there!

You really do not have to go to Washington to serve your community. In tight economic times, volunteers do make a difference! You can begin right here and right now on the UMSL campus.

I guess that's it for now! See you on campus!

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## 10th Annual Trivia Night



Mark your calendars for the 10th Staff Association/Student Life Trivia Night to be held on Saturday, Feb 28, 2009. This event will be held at the St Ann's Center, 7530 Natural Bridge Road in Normandy. It a great way to test to your intellect and pop-culture savviness. Please contact Sarah if you are interested in joining the Volunteer Services table. Look for more information in January!

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## Technology Update

Coming soon, registered UMSL volunteers can look forward to a new program on our website which will allow volunteers to input their own hours, view past and current placements and view new volunteer opportunities. Look for more information to come in February.

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