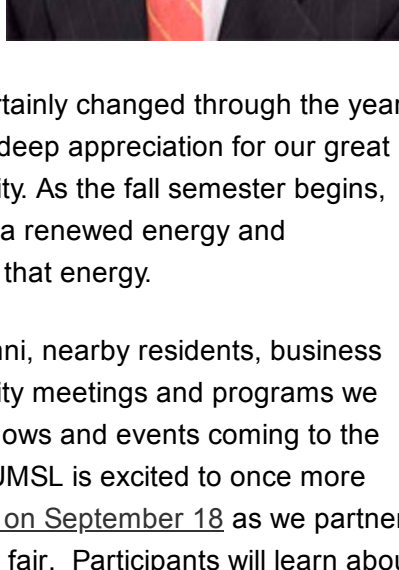


## Letter from the Chancellor

Greetings!

As most of you know, I am retiring at the end of August. It is hard for me to believe this is my closing message to you. I have been at UMSL for 16 years and it has been such a rewarding experience. While things have certainly changed through the years, much remains the same—like my deep appreciation for our great students and committed community. As the fall semester begins, new and returning students bring a renewed energy and enthusiasm to campus. I will miss that energy.



In addition, I will miss seeing alumni, nearby residents, business leaders, and partners at community meetings and programs to the Touhill as well as in Gallery 210. UMSL is excited to once more invite local businesses to campus on September 18 as we partner with St. Louis County on a vendor fair. Participants will learn about doing business with the university as well as opportunities to work with the County. There is a lot to do at UMSL, and we welcome you here.

Though my message to you today is bittersweet, as I step down from serving as Chancellor, I can honestly say that these 16 years have been some of the best of my life. The things we've achieved together for our campus and in our community bring me great joy. I was very fortunate to be able to reflect on these years recently in an interview on "St. Louis on the Air." Though the leadership of our university is changing, our foundation remains strong for the future. Know that I mean it very sincerely when I say I leave you in good hands with [Interim Chancellor-Designate Kristin Sobolik](#) starting on September 1.

Thank you,  
Tom George, Chancellor, University of Missouri–St. Louis



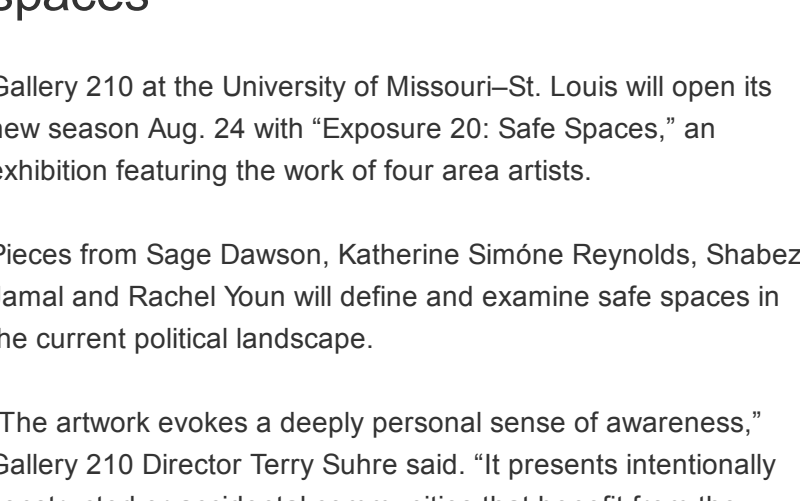
## Tom George reflects on time as UMSL chancellor on 'St. Louis on the Air'

Recently, Chancellor Tom George stopped by the studios of St. Louis Public Radio | 90.7 KWMU at UMSL at Grand Center and spoke to "St. Louis on the Air" host Sarah Fenske about—in her words – "the good, the bad and the bittersweet" from his tenure.

Asked to reflect on his biggest accomplishments, George pointed to UMSL's improved financial footing and the significant capital construction completed during his tenure. "About \$150 million worth – a new optometry patient care center, a new business administration building, a new science complex, a new wellness and recreation center, and fixing up Natural Bridge Road, which cuts right through the center of campus," George said.

He guided the university through a period of unrest in the St. Louis region in 2014 after the shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson and helped the institution and the surrounding community emerge stronger. "When Ferguson erupted, we saw it as an opportunity, and we have entities within the university – our College of Education, our Center for Trauma Recovery, psychological counseling services, the Missouri Institute of Mental Health – we went into the Ferguson community and engaged with people," George said. "Our students got involved and got engaged."

As he looks to the future, he hopes UMSL will continue to grow. [Click here](#) to read more.



## Gallery 210 opens 2019-20 season with community examination of safe spaces

Gallery 210 at the University of Missouri–St. Louis will open its new season Aug. 24 with "Exposure 20: Safe Spaces," an exhibition featuring the work of four area artists.

Pieces from Sage Dawson, Katherine Simóne Reynolds, Shabez Jamal and Rachel Youn will define and examine safe spaces in the current political landscape.

"The artwork evokes a deeply personal sense of awareness," Gallery 210 Director Terry Suhre said. "It presents intentionally constructed or accidental communities that benefit from the compassion of friends, family or an institution."

The Aug. 24 opening begins at 4 p.m. with an artists' panel moderated by local poet, curator and critic Jessica Baran. A reception will follow from 5-7 p.m. [Click here](#) to read more.

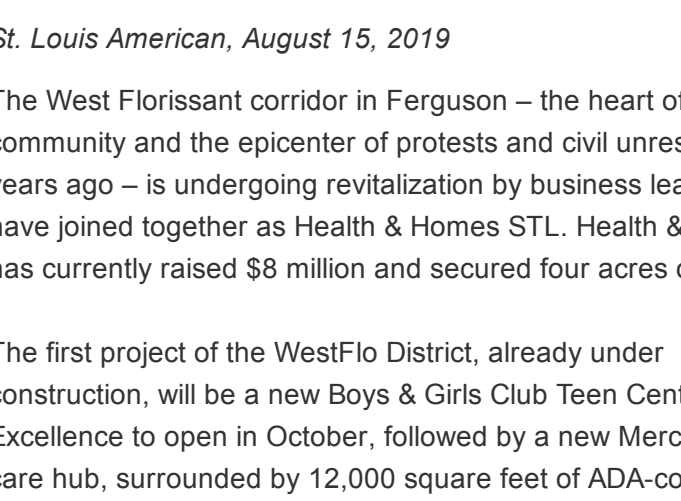


## UMSL hosting Local Business Engagement Event with St. Louis County

Is your company interested doing business with St. Louis County or the University of Missouri - St. Louis? Make plans to join us on September 18 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the JC Penney Conference Center on campus to explore opportunities for local businesses.

This [free event](#) will cover how to become a registered supplier for the County and University, real-time registration sessions, and how to track University business opportunities. UMSL is committed to a stronger relationship with the local business community, as we work together toward a vibrant economy.

Please register and share this event with other local businesses. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.

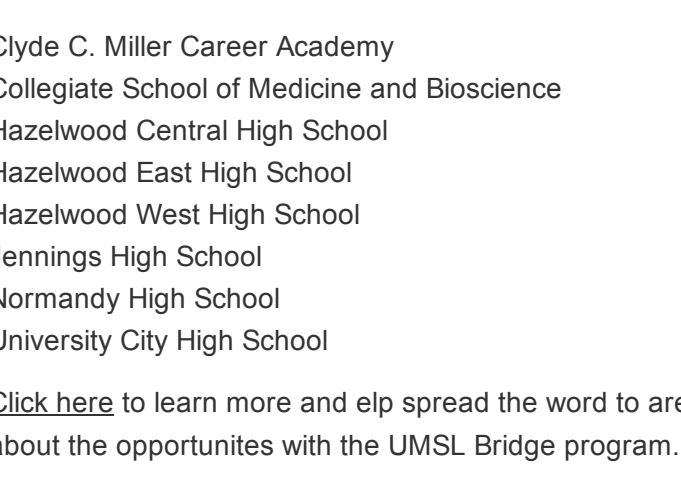


## Urban League announces new investments in Ferguson and Dellwood

The Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis announced new and future community and economic development projects to revitalize the Ferguson and Dellwood area to coincide with the fifth anniversary of the police killing of Michael Brown.

The Urban League will partner with First Financial Federal Credit Union to provide auto loans, credit counseling, checking and savings accounts to members of the Urban League's Save Our Sons program and local residents at the Ferguson Community Empowerment Center, using a \$50,000 Community Development Block Grant award announced by St. Louis County Executive Sam Page.

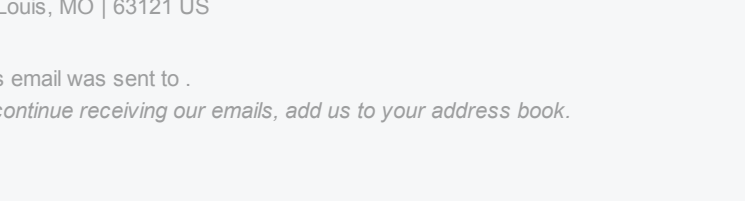
First Financial Federal Credit Union also will employ Kiara Jefferson, a full-time financial empowerment coordinator and Ferguson resident, to work on-site at the Ferguson Community Empowerment Center to provide budget and credit counseling, as well as access to necessary transportation, mortgage and credit building loans and free and low-cost deposit and checking products. [Click here](#) to read more.



## Reviving Ferguson's West Florissant Ave.

The West Florissant corridor in Ferguson – the heart of the community and the epicenter of protests and civil unrest five years ago – is undergoing revitalization by business leaders who have joined together as Health & Homes STL. Health & Homes has currently raised \$8 million and secured four acres of land.

The first project of the WestFlo District, already under construction, will be a new Boys & Girls Club Teen Center of Excellence to open in October, followed by a new Mercy health care hub, surrounded by 12,000 square feet of ADA-compliant sidewalks, 17 new crosswalks, almost four miles of improved curbs and gutters, and much-needed street lighting. [Click here](#) to read more.



## UMSL Bridge Program's Express Scripts Saturday Academy

Applications are now being accepted from students in grades 9 through 12 for the UMSL Bridge Program's **Express Scripts Saturday Academy**. In this program, students are immersed in mathematics, science, written and oral communication, career research, personal and professional development and college planning. The program takes place on the first and second Saturdays of each month from October through March and provides an intensive 11-Saturday course of study. All activities will be held on scheduled Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to noon on the UMSL campus in various laboratories and academic classrooms. Apply by Friday, August 30 by [clicking here](#).

The UMSL Bridge program also offers **After School Clubs**. The clubs meet during the school year and engage students in inquiry and discovery specifically in the fields of math and science. Students meet weekly at their schools to conduct research and participate in math and science competitions. Bridge Clubs are gearing up for the school year at:

- Clyde C. Miller Career Academy
- Collegiate School of Medicine and Bioscience
- Hazelwood Central High School
- Hazelwood East High School
- Hazelwood West High School
- Jennings High School
- Normandy High School
- University City High School

[Click here](#) to learn more and help spread the word to area youth about the opportunities with the UMSL Bridge program.

## Questions, Comments or Share a Community Story?

We'd love to hear from you about how we can improve our communication with the community and hear your questions and comments about UMSL and neighboring communities. We also welcome stories about great things happening in our communities. Your thoughts will help shape and content covered in future newsletters to be pertinent to you and your neighbors. Leave any suggestions, questions, or stories [here](#).

Thank you!

## UMSL Community Connection

[Sign up for this monthly newsletter!](#)

## UMSL Calendars

Interested in events on campus?

[Campus Calendar](#)

[Athletics](#)

[Performances](#)

## UMSL Careers

Interested in a job at UMSL?

[Open Positions](#)

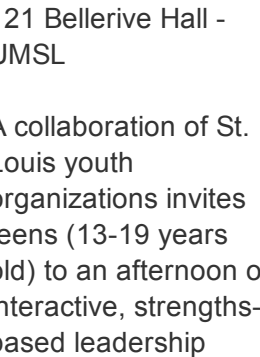
## UMSL Contracts

Interested in bidding on projects at UMSL?

[Procurement Bids](#)

[Construction Bids](#)

## Upcoming Events

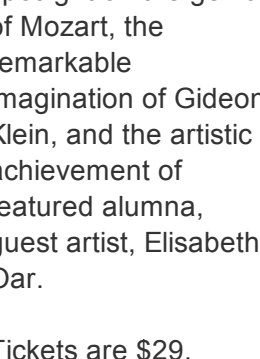


### Youth Empowerment Summit

August 24, 2019  
12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
121 Bellerive Hall - UMSL

A collaboration of St. Louis youth organizations invites teens (13-19 years old) to an afternoon of interactive, strengths-based leadership training, and formulation of action-oriented policy recommendations. Participants will leave empowered with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to make positive changes in their schools, communities, and organizations.

To register for this event, [click here](#).

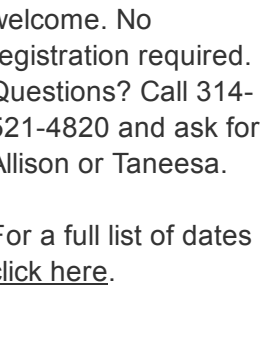


### Ariana String Quartet: Spotlight

September 6, 2019  
8:00 p.m.  
Touhill Performing Arts Center at UMSL

The Arianna Quartet opens their 2019-20 series with a concert spotlight on the genius of Mozart, the remarkable imagination of Gideon Klein, and the artistic achievement of featured alumna, guest artist, Elisabeth Oar.

Tickets are \$29. [Click here](#) or call (314) 516-4949 for tickets from the Touhill Ticket Office.



### Genealogy Drop-In

Thru Dec. 27, 2019  
Alternate Fridays  
3:00 - 5:30 p.m.  
Ferguson Municipal Public Library  
35 N. Florissant Rd.

Just started researching your family tree? Trying to find information on a long lost ancestor? Working on a genealogy project for school? Looking for others with the same interests? Drop-in for resources, one-on-one help, and fun with fellow genealogists in the community and your local librarians! Whether you are a genealogy expert, beginner, or simply curious about your family history, drop-in and see us! All are welcome. No registration required. Questions? Call 314-521-4820 and ask for Allison or Taneesa.

For a full list of dates [click here](#).



### Saunders Schultz: Visionary Abstractions

Thru January 1, 2020  
St. Louis Mercantile Library at UMSL

Saunders Schultz (1927-2017) was a prominent St. Louis artist and among the founders of the concept of Architectural / Environmental Sculpture. This focused exhibition presents examples of drawings, paintings and sculptures that illustrate Schultz's affinity for nature as his primary inspiration.

This exhibit is free and open to the public. [Click here](#) for more information.



### Ferguson Summer Movies

Saturdays, Aug. 31  
8:30 p.m.  
PLAZA 501  
501 S. Florissant Rd., Ferguson

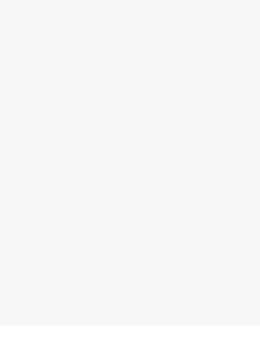
Movies at the Community Center and parks will be free and include complimentary popcorn. Be sure to bring your lawn chairs and/or blankets and take this opportunity to enjoy a beautiful night under the stars.



### Ferguson Farmers Market

Saturdays, May-October  
8:00 a.m. to noon  
PLAZA 501  
501 S. Florissant Rd., Ferguson

Music and entertainment as well as great produce! [Click here](#) for more details.



### North County Fresh Friday's Farmers Market

Fridays thru Nov. 22  
4:30 to 6:30 p.m.  
Ferguson Community Empowerment Center  
9420 W Florissant

The St. Louis Metro Market Bus will offer fresh, affordable fruits and veggies. EBT and Double Up Food Bucks are accepted! This event is sponsored by the Missouri Foundation for Health: Healthy Schools Healthy Communities, Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, The Y, and St. Louis Metro Market.

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