



ART IN * THE LOOP

2018



* KC PLAYS



2018 ART IN THE LOOP PROJECT: KC PLAYS!

The Art in the Loop Foundation successfully activated outdoor spaces in Downtown Kansas City with temporary artwork and performances for the last five years through our annual Art in the Loop Project. The project infuses the center of Downtown with innovative, engaging and refreshing art for a five-month period.

Through a competitive, open call process, we selected local artists to create site-specific, temporary artwork around an annual theme. We also selected local musicians to perform lunchtime concerts. This year, with the help of a selection panel, we selected 15 artist teams and 18 music ensembles. Artwork was installed in three locations Downtown: along the KC Streetcar route and onboard vehicles, in West Terrace Park and at the Kansas City Public Library's Central Library. We also expanded the opportunities for the public to interact with the artists and learn more about the art with an exhibition at The Box Gallery, where artists displayed ephemera and process drawings related to the art installations and performances.

Art in the Loop strives to provide opportunities for local artists to gain experience in creating public art and exposure to new audiences. We also provide opportunities for Downtown businesses, employees, residents and visitors to connect with these artists and their work, helping to build and expand the creative community in Downtown Kansas City. Learn more about the hundreds and artists and musicians who have participated in our programs, as well as the businesses that support us, at www.artintheloop.com.

Ann Holliday, program director
Isaiah Jackson, communications intern
Rachael Love, arts administration intern

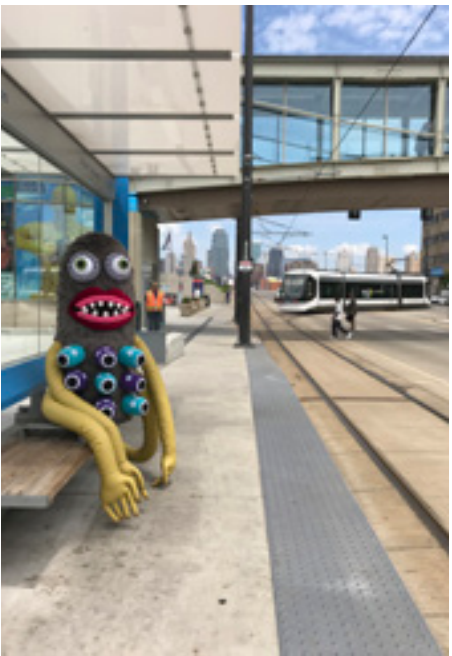
FROM THE ART DIRECTORS

Art in the Loop has been a special program for artists, musicians and performers since 2004 and is often referred to as the gateway to public art and community projects in the metro. As an artist, it can be difficult to begin a career in public art. Art in the Loop takes a chance on emerging artists with little or no experience in public art and allows them to run wild with their ideas, receive compensation for their work and receive curatorial support. This creative platform encourages artists to go big and reach for the stars. Kansas City is fortunate to have Art in the Loop because, without the program, emerging artists and musicians would be left in the dark.

This year's project theme was KC Plays! Inspired by the theme, artists, performers, musicians, puppeteers and dancers investigated the idea of play through their practice and experienced firsthand how this project affected the Downtown community. They asked participants, "How can play elicit happiness, friendship, excitement, humor and problem-solving through the lens of temporary art installations and performances?" The foundation received over 90 applications, making this a record-breaking year! This was completely overwhelming and an exciting reminder of just how creative and talented Kansas City is. This year was a first of many! Art in the Loop launched its first-ever artist residency program that facilitated collaboration and experimentation in a Downtown city atmosphere. The Kansas City Streetcar was reimagined as the art-inspired *Party Car* with a full vinyl wrap depicting patterns and colors that brightened the city. Art in the Loop welcomed an adorable monster perfect for hugs and selfies, and *The Stranger* spent its time roaming Downtown and making new friends. Union Station hosted a party fit for clowns that lured streetcar goers to join in and dance to one-hit-wonders.

Another incredible year for Art in the Loop is another year for Downtown community members to interact with art, music and performances in exciting new ways. Art in the Loop is tremendously thankful to its sponsors and supporters for allowing Kansas Citians to come out and PLAY!

Jahaira Aguilar and Andrew Lattner, 2018 art directors





ART ON THE LINE & KC STREETCAR MUSIC SERIES

For the 2018 summer program, Art in the Loop partnered with KC Streetcar for the third year, bringing local visual artists and musicians not only to streetcar stops, but

also onboard the streetcar. Each Wednesday during lunchtime, musicians performed their eclectic sounds for riders. Music genres as diverse as folk, hip-hop and heavy metal were all represented at the lunchtime and evening

performances. The music was a pleasant accompaniment to the visual art that was placed along the route, including a video installation, a soft sculpture, and the wrapping of KC Streetcar #802, in addition to other unique and interesting artwork.



HAMMERHEDD

July 18, 2018
Union Station Stop

MARTHA HAEHL, KAREN HENDRICKS & ROBERTA VON FANGE

July 18, 2018
Onboard KC Streetcar

KC RUMBA COLLECTIVE

July 25, 2018
River Market West Stop
4th and Delaware

THE CENTER STATE

August 1, 2018
River Market West Stop
4th and Delaware

MUNDO NOUVO

August 8, 2018
Onboard KC Streetcar

PINK ROYAL

August 15, 2018
Onboard KC Streetcar

THEY CALL ME SAUCE

August 22, 2018
Metro Center Stop
12th and Main

NOAH DAVIS

August 29, 2018
Onboard KC Streetcar

ALTER ART SPACE

POP-UP pARTy

KC Streetcar Union Station Stop
August 24, 2018

Plywood, paint, fabric, fake foliage, music, dancing and happiness

Performance artists Bo Hubbard and Boi Boy created a nightlife environment

in the afternoon with their colorful set, fabulous outfits and killer dance moves. Not a private party, the artists and their friends encouraged KC Streetcar riders and passersby to stop and dance, make new friends and start the weekend with a fun, relaxing and positive experience. Bo and Boi are known locally for their performance collective, Alter Art Space, in which they strive to bring

excitement, energy and new perspectives to the community while expanding upon the traditional ideas of art by crossing perceived boundaries. Their interdisciplinary approach encourages collaboration within the community with purveyors of a variety of art disciplines such as painting, fashion, dance and music.



DANIEL CHASE RUNNING IDLE

KCity Post kiosks located at
KC Streetcar Stops

Video installation

Running Idle consisted of 13 animations of the human form performing a variety of idle actions analogous to the nature of transit. The video art was displayed on kiosks adjacent to streetcar stops. Artist Daniel Chase was interested in

exploring how people look, move and rest when on, or waiting for, public transit. The figure is shown static, as if waiting for the streetcar, or more mobile and playful, imitating the feeling of being on the streetcar and anticipating your destination. The animation engaged the viewer while waiting for a ride. Audio created from found noises accompanied the animation and conducted their rhythm similar to how pedestrian signals choreograph urban foot traffic.





MONICA DIXON CELESTIAL HEAP

Interior of KC Streetcar #801

Digitized paper collage printed on adhesive fabric

When riding the KC Streetcar, one does not typically expect to look up and see clouds on the ceiling composed of a fashionista's dream laundry pile. Filled with bright colors and textures, the sumptuous depiction of something familiar presented in a new and unexpected way invited streetcar riders to see the world with a new perspective. Using collage, Dixon created abstract shapes from magazine imagery, hoping to create a soft atmosphere. This softness, combined with the luscious textures and surprising placement on the ceiling, allowed the rider to let go of the physical, mental and emotional rigidity many of us experience every day.



MEGAN KARSON STRANGER ON A TRAIN

Onboard KC Streetcar

Fleece, felt, faux fur, velvet, silk, foam, pex and plywood

This large-scale soft sculpture made its way around Downtown KC this summer! *The Stranger* was spotted riding the KC Streetcar, shopping for produce, hanging out with the Mayor and even having some pizza while watching the World Cup! *The Stranger's* only job was to brighten your day, and based on how many hugs it got and how many selfies were taken, *The Stranger* feels pretty good about its summer vacation in KC. Karson, who is simultaneously fearful and fascinated by monsters, wanted her friendly *Stranger* to transport streetcar riders to a land of imagination, where - instead of fear and uncertainty - monsters evoke a desire for play, joyfulness and creativity.



AMY KLIGMAN PARTY CAR

Exterior of KC Streetcar #802

Party materials photographed and produced on vinyl

You, me and everyone in KC would exclaim "Party Car!" every time this bright, dazzling and glittery KC Streetcar would roll by. This is exactly the reaction the artist was hoping for: to incite joy and playfulness while emphasizing the unique character of KC. "It has been a complete joy to see the car appear at random in my daily life," Kligman said about seeing her work roll by. In order to create the vinyl wrapping for the KC Streetcar, Kligman used party materials such as confetti, glitter, tissue paper and ribbons to create a still life, which she then photographed and manipulated to create the final image. This piece is the first time KC Streetcar has wrapped one of their cars.

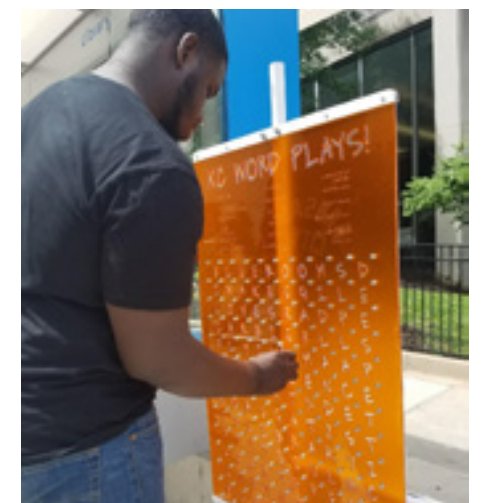
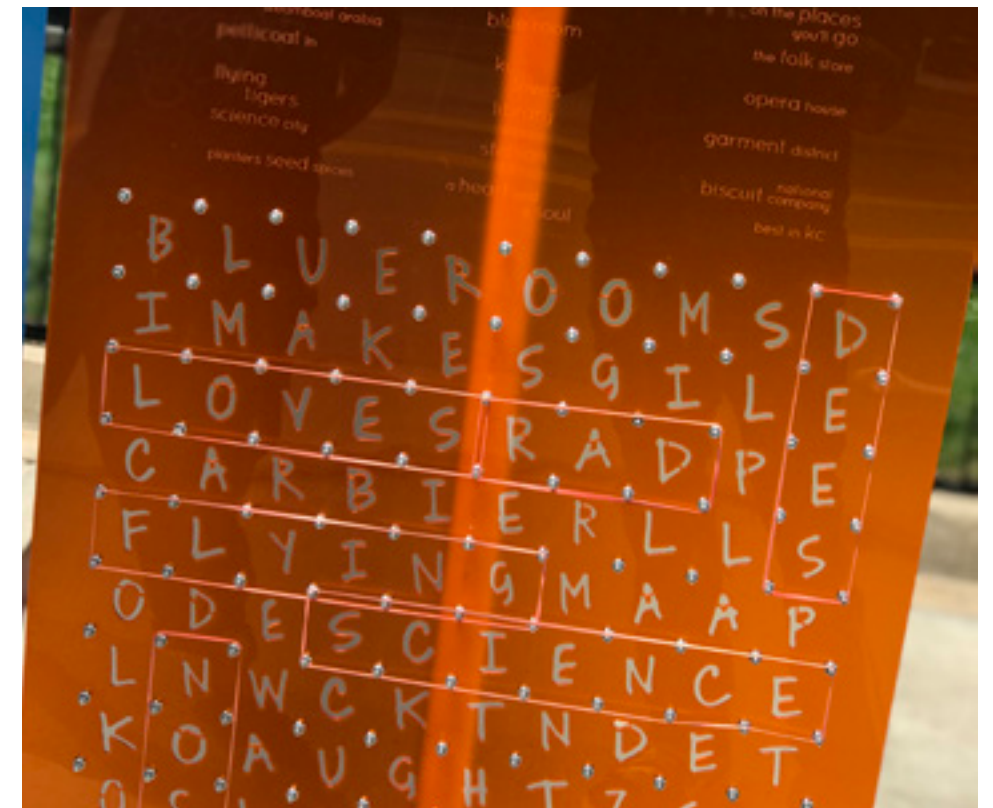


ALICEN LUNDBERG & KRISS YOUNG MILLER KC WORD PLAYS!

KC Streetcar Library Stop

Acrylic, rubber bands, hardware and brackets

It was easy to pass the time while waiting for the KC Streetcar if you were at the Library stop, because a bright orange word-search was sure to catch your attention. Lundberg and Miller filled their search with KC-related words and the names of iconic locations. The artists hoped the tactile, fun and nostalgic game would offer not only "a meaningful experience for every participant, engaging with people of any age, ability, language and level of literacy," but also an opportunity for participants to expand upon the Kansas City site-specific words found, inspiring riders to learn more about the city's history.



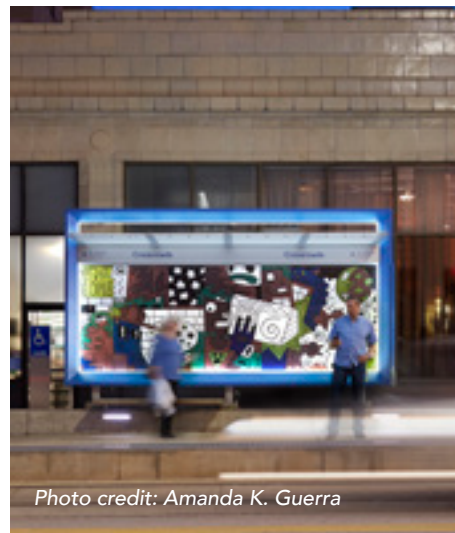


Photo credit: Amanda K. Guerra



STEPHEN PROSKI NIGHT PEOPLE

KC Streetcar Crossroads Stop

Sharpie and watercolor reproduced on vinyl

As a frequent rider of KC Streetcar and Ride KC buses, Proski has become well-versed in people watching, and he knows some interesting characters come out at night. In his vinyl covering at the Crossroads streetcar stop, he used his characteristic force-fitting, colorful style to explore what it means to be a commuter on public transit and what kind of experiences are possible. Satirizing and comical, Proski's work deals with everyday experiences depicted in an unexpected and interesting way. His style is influenced by the chaos and uncanniness that occurs in cartoons.



Photo credit: Amanda K. Guerra

EMILY EVANS SLOAN STREETCAR SHELTER SWEATER

KC Streetcar River Market West Stop

Yarn, zip ties

This installation was composed of a multitude of brightly colored yarn, knitted and crocheted into bold and geometric designs, with the intention of covering the KC Streetcar shelter stop in an act of "yarn bombing." The soft texture, bright colors and yarn's association with craft created an interesting juxtaposition with the functional concrete, glass and steel structure. The artist hosted knit-ins at the site, which led to yarn-bombing of other features at the stop, including light poles, benches, trash cans and a bicycle. At the end of the summer, Sloan's piece was dismantled and reworked into blankets and scarves, then donated to a local women's shelter.





STONELION PUPPET THEATRE

KC PUPPETS AT PLAY

KC Streetcar Union Station & City Market Stops
July 11 & August 8, 2018

Paper, clay, foam, fabric, acrylics and wood

StoneLion Puppet Theatre brought their many fibrous friends to hang out with Kansas Citians along the KC Streetcar route and in the City Market this summer. The puppets did skits on stage, then meandered around the City Market, bringing unexpected encounters to people waiting for the streetcar or shopping for produce. Riders and audience members were encouraged to



join in the fun by participating in sketches and taking selfies with the puppets. There was even a puppet of Mayor Sly James! StoneLion Puppet Theatre, a local non-profit, has been an active part of the Kansas City artist community since 1992. Their performance with Art in the Loop was the first time they put a stage on the sidewalk and asked passersby to perform with them.

OLIVIA CLANTON

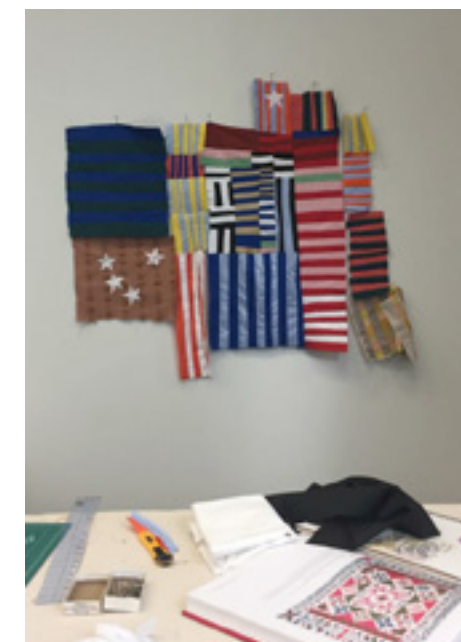
SOFT LAB

Studio Residency located in the Commerce Bank Building

As a fiber artist, Clanton was interested in exploring improvisational making and collaborative creating through quilting and weaving workshops. Craft connects our minds and hands to our present and our past. In her workshops, she encouraged participants to experiment with a craft that connects to their history and explore the value of objects made by

individuals. In addition to her residency, Clanton held four workshops over the summer where she first invited people to bring quilts, jackets, or any fabric that held significance to the individual and share the unique histories and meaning of each. She then taught participants to make and use a functioning loom out of easily available materials. For the third workshop, Clanton and participants each made a quilt block, then in the fourth workshop, the individual blocks came together to form a quilt, thus becoming significant and carrying its own history.

Craft connects our minds and hands to our present and our past.



ART IN THE PARK & WEST TERRACE PARK MUSIC SERIES

Art in the Loop placed three installations in West Terrace Park this summer. All the pieces encouraged play and new perspectives and were reminiscent of iconic toys from childhood. The park, the artwork and the Missouri River were a perfect backdrop for the musicians who played lunchtime and evening concerts in a beautiful outdoor setting overlooking the confluence of the Kaw and Missouri Rivers.



THE SEXTET

May 30, 2018 10th & Jefferson



ROGER PITTS

June 6, 2018 10th & Jefferson



JOHN GILMORE TRIO

June 13, 2018 10th & Jefferson



SIMON FINK

June 20, 2018 8th & Pennsylvania



CANDICE HILL TRIO

June 27, 2018 8th & Pennsylvania



COWTOWN COUNTRY CLUB

June 27, 2018 8th & Pennsylvania



DENISE DIPIAZZO SLINKYBALL

West Terrace Park, 10th & Jefferson

Aluminum tubing, repurposed ductwork, piping, recycled toys and paint

SlinkyBall is what happens when you combine two of the most iconic childhood toys: the Slinky and the ball. DiPiazzo's piece delighted both children and adults with the large-scale interactive installation where participants were encouraged to throw balls into the chutes and watch them traverse the structure to meet in a central location, ready to be tossed again. The nearby Crossroads Academy elementary schools enjoyed interacting with the artwork during the schools' Field Day. The artist also participated in the event and shared her thoughts with the students about "the importance of environmental stewardship through reuse of material sources, using the artwork itself as an interactive teaching tool."





**MICHAEL ELWOOD,
ANNELISE KINNEY &
DANIEL RAWLINGS**
BUSY BEAD MAZE

West Terrace Park, 8th
& Pennsylvania

Steel, concrete, silicone and PLA

Three Kansas City Art Institute students created this outdoor installation evoking nostalgia for those doctor-office toys we all played with as children. It's meant to be a reminder that time for play is important for our mental and emotional well-being. The silicone beads were easy to move along the poles, allowing a fun interaction to take place in a picturesque spot overlooking the river. The work was so enticing, unfortunately, it broke due to people climbing on it. While frustrating, the artists were able to learn a valuable lesson in public art: that unlike gallery shows, it is almost impossible to control how the public is going to interact with your work, and that "public work takes more planning for the unexpected than we originally thought," Rawlings said. They are not discouraged though; the trio has plans to build bigger and better in the future.



*Time for play
is important
for our mental
and emotional
well-being.*



STACEY SHARPE
AIR PLAY

West Terrace Park, 8th
& Pennsylvania

Steel, bearings and paint

Air Play, a three-part outdoor kinetic steel sculpture, captured the swaying movement of kites in the wind. The sculpture became a fitting backdrop for several organized community kite-building, decorating and flying events held throughout the summer. The park was a picturesque location for Sharpe's installation; her piece looks out over the Missouri River and practically begs for people to fly kites over the bluff. Sharpe describes her goals with this project as being a "vibrant work of public art that would add aesthetic value, and increase engagement with one of Kansas City's most beautiful parks."



ART STARTS AT THE LIBRARY

Kansas City Public Library
Central Library

Art in the Loop teamed up with the Kansas City Public Library to provide interesting, entertaining and inclusionary events for the community. Art Starts is the library's recurring family-friendly event highlighting local and regional artists and musicians. It is a way to bring a wide variety of art disciplines to one central location for the city to enjoy. People of all ages had fun listening to the traditional Peruvian music of Amado Espinoza while they wrote secret notes for others in David Alpert's *Passing Notes* workshop. Sunyoung Cheong taught us how to make *Wearable Play*, while the lush sounds of the Lawrence-based ethereal indie band Twin Stranger provided an excellent soundtrack for the evening. *The Stranger* even showed up to participate!



(clockwise from above)

KC RUMBA COLLECTIVE

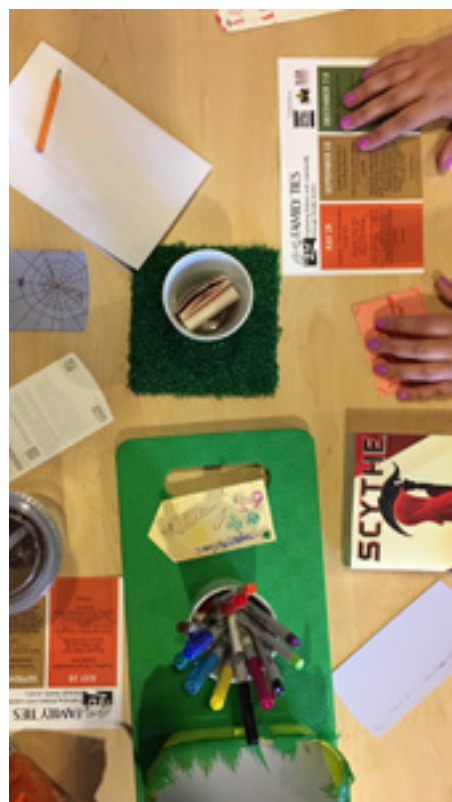
May 1, 2018

AMADO ESPINOZA

June 1, 2018

TWIN STRANGER

August 3, 2018



DAVID ALPERT PASSING NOTES

Workshops

*Books, paint swatches,
paint pen and stickers*

It is a weird kind of exhilaration felt when a note or doodle is found inside a book. It is as if you have stumbled upon someone's secret. *Passing Notes'* aim was to create lots of those future discoveries for random readers by allowing participants to place secret notes inside books. This action strengthened our connection to books by using the notes to bridge past, present and future readers. Alpert is interested in interactions and how they make one feel, think and behave. With his project, he wanted to create opportunities for people to interact with each other and with future others through the experience of a shared book.

SUNYOUNG CHEONG WEARABLE PLAY

Installation

*Wood, plexiglass, felt, plastic, foam
and fabric*

In this installation, participants were encouraged to play and utilize their imagination through the assemblage of common objects like wood, plastic, foam and fabric to create pieces they could then wear or play with, becoming an active part of the exhibit. One participant of Cheong's installation said, "I had fun using the colorful geometric pieces to create a little sculpture, and my husband and I both enjoyed watching the little children freely play with the materials. It was indeed a magical evening for young and old alike."

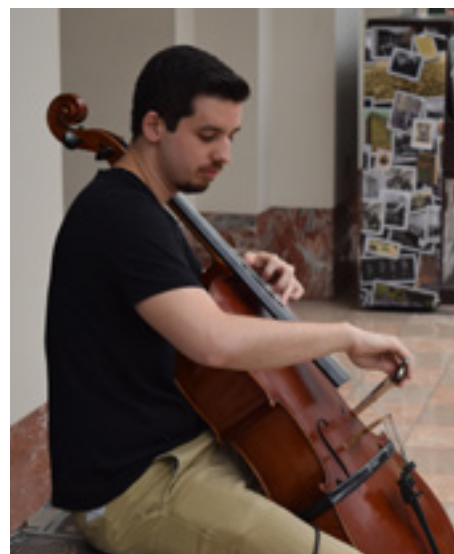
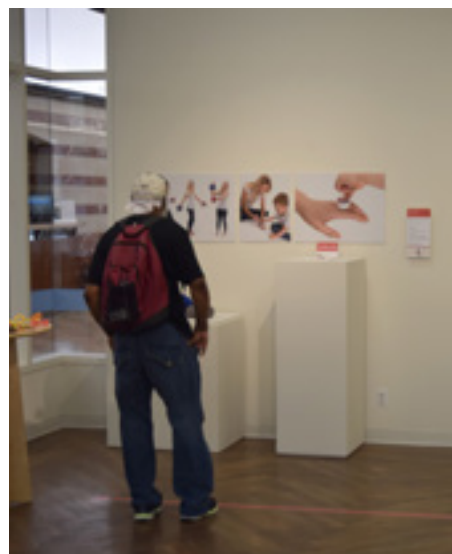




KC PLAYS! EXHIBITION AT THE BOX GALLERY

Commerce Bank Building,
1000 Walnut

The KC PLAYS exhibition at The Box Gallery celebrated Art in the Loop's summer program of temporary artwork, events and performances in Downtown KC. People visited the gallery to learn how the local artists created unexpected installations along the KC Streetcar line, interactive fun at the Kansas City Public Library and projects in West Terrace Park. Maps, Art in the Loop Scavenger Hunt Bingo Cards and related informational material were available to encourage people to explore art in Downtown KC. Musician Daniel Yung performed his improvisational looping cello music at the opening reception, and Into the Sun entertained crowds at the closing reception with Irish-influenced music.



ART IN THE LOOP SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

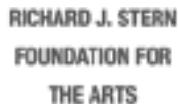
PRESENTERS



GOLD



SILVER



PARTNERS

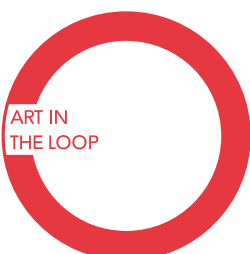


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