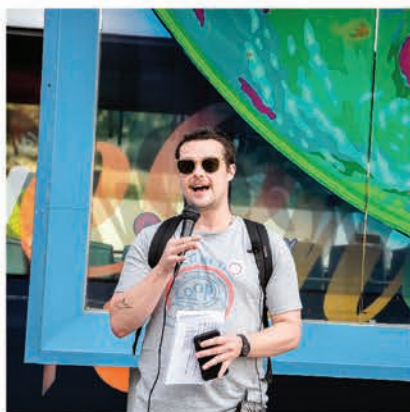




ABOUT THE PROGRAM

2022 marks the ninth year for the Art in the Loop Project, a curated outdoor exhibition of temporary artworks and performances presented in partnership with the KC Streetcar Authority. Artists responded to the 2022 theme of "Sustainable" and addressed questions about how one defines sustainability, what are the intersections between art and sustainability and what does a sustainable Downtown Kansas City look like?



Kyle Mullins

What I have loved about this year's theme, "Sustainable", is how multi-faceted it can be in its interpretation and use. This year's Art in the Loop visual and performing artists took this word in a variety of directions including environmental impact, community, family, immigration, native ecosystems, and more. I have been so incredibly inspired by each of these artists through their intentional, thoughtful, and creative approaches to our shared project this year. In 2022, Art in the Loop shared works from seven visual artists and twelve performing artists and artist groups, all with their own unique approach to sustainability.



Donna Mandelbaum, Communications Director for KC Streetcar & Art in the Loop Board member; Ann Holliday, Director of Art in the Loop & Vice President of the Downtown Council; and Kyle Mullins, 2020-2022 Art Director for Art in the Loop, Program Officer for Mid-America Arts Alliance and dance artist.

Each of these artists and the beautiful works they shared with us this year have allowed me to find sustainability within both my work and my creative practice. I have been reminded of the importance of celebrating local native fauna, of celebrating our regional immigrant communities, of sharing generational sustainability within my own family, and of the ways that artwork makes our city better. It has been my absolute honor to help steward these works created by this year's Art in the Loop artists throughout this process and I am incredibly grateful for their contributions to our beautiful city. Thank you all and ever onward!

Kyle Mullins
Art Director, Art in the Loop



Donna Mandelbaum; Riley Dietrich, Graphic Designer for the Downtown Council; Aidan Powers, Creative Services Coordinator for Art in the Loop; and Ann Holliday.





Darrius's Garden By Devin Edwards KC Streetcar Art Car #806



Darrius's Garden: An ode to my brother and how a sustainable environment could have saved him is a depiction of a crusader in his garden watering his flowers as bees fly around and on the flower, while flower petals blow in the wind. He is, simply, a child who dressed up in a homemade Batman costume, helping his community and raising the mindset of his peers. Creating a sustainable place to further the development of our Kansas City Eastside youth and their futures. The crusader is watering a field of flowers which represent the youth of Kansas City.



This project helped me see my work for the first time in public, it opened up so many doors for me for which I wouldn't have known were real or possible. I've found myself more confident with my work and with myself. With that being said there is no value I can place with having the chance to work on this project, for that I am truly grateful.





Take Care of Who Cares For You

by Sol Anzorena
Digital Illustration

Most digital artworks never leave the screen where they were created, so I'm glad that my piece not only got the chance to exist in the material world but that it was also able to be seen by thousands of people on a large scale. Nowadays artists share their work on social media, but beyond some kind comments from other users, the "likes" don't mean much more than just numbers on a screen. How great that Art in the Loop is allowing space to bring more art to the public, and not just in galleries, but in the real world. It makes me happy that the Pachamama made many people smile when they were not expecting it, and also that more people were introduced to the idea of being grateful to Nature for all the precious gifts she generously provides to us.



Sacred Spaces Live Painting Event

This was one of the most beautiful experiences that I've had as an artist. Art in the Loop gave me the opportunity to make my first live painting session and to see the reaction of people while I was working on my piece. I deeply appreciate being given the chance to fulfill my vision of using sustainable materials to create this temporary installation. This was also my first time painting on glass, so this project opened up doors for me to make more art like this in the future. Many people also asked if live painting was going to be something regular at the streetcar shelters, so I'm sure we would all love to see more such events! In any case I'm honored for all the trust that I had from the team and to be the first artist to possibly start this tradition. Art belongs to anybody who can take a minute to appreciate the beauty of being alive, and thanks to Art in the Loop more people each year are having the chance to do so.





Mahalaga

By Raffaella Malazarte

Wow! Never in my wildest dreams did I ever imagine that my artwork would be displayed in one of the coolest cities in the midwest! Winning a spot to showcase my version of "Sustainable Kansas City" has significantly impacted my career path as an artist. I was elated to share my immigration journey and how we contribute to economic growth in KC and beyond.

My street car stop painting is named "**Mahalaga**", which means important or of high significance in the Tagalog (Filipino) language. My intent was to radiate the message that diversity, equity, inclusion, environment, and immigration are at the heart of KC.

Seeing my artwork getting installed gave me goosebumps. I felt immense pride and elatedness. While standing there sharing my street car art, I am representing my home country of the Philippines and my people. I love telling all how I came up with the artwork and why I chose that scenery.

While participating in the Art in the Loop events, I met the most talented and dynamic people while enjoying the weather, artwork and music!. My cool girlfriend Mia Gonzalez has been very supportive all the way. She believed in me from the get go and made every occasion fun and sweet. Couldn't have done it without her!

Painting is a form of meditation and a much needed break from the real world. Art started as a passion hobby and now, I cannot get enough of it. But somehow, it has opened a lot of doors for me. Thanks to Art in the Loop and the KC Streetcar, they have made everything a little easier and smoother. I like being in the spotlight every now and then and this project showed me and the other artists that we are greatly appreciated and our ideas were brought to life by this great organization and community!!!

Thank you Kansas City!





Dieynaba Dress

By Jennifer Lapka, Amy Appleton, Paul Versluis

Thank you for selecting ***The Dieynaba Dress*** to be included in the 2022 Art in the Loop Sustainable collection; we were deeply honored. This program is an incredible asset to our community, as it beautifies our urban core with changing contemporary art and it supports local artists in monetary and marketing ways. This commission also specifically gave us the opportunity to network with past Art in the Loop artists, current sponsors, and future art collectors.



Kansas City-based model Dieynaba Diop wears a Rightfully Sewn dress, photographed by the brand imagery and consulting firm, A.P. Visual. The pink botanical fabric is made from recycled plastic bottles and the dress was designed, patterned, cut, and sewn in Rightfully Sewn's Crossroads Atelier. Rightfully Sewn is producing high-end dresses, kimonos, button-up shirts, and athletic wear for clients around the country.



Generations By DINKC



The Art in the Loop streetcar project, has been nothing short of a great experience all around. From the very start when I applied, I felt the information, guidelines, and process was very straight forward and gave the artist free range to express themselves with the given theme. It challenged me to research and come up with a new meaning for "sustainability" while incorporating my work and the core roots that build it. It let me work with new concepts and figure out how to apply my design to a 3D space that'll interact with the public. In a way, It brought a whole new meaning to the street art I have been doing in the past with my murals, and let me reach a new audience through the streetcar stops.



After being accepted, I was immediately contacted to meet the team and start working on production details with Signco. During our meeting, I was briefed on the installation process and had a better understanding of what could be done to help bring the vision to life. Having worked with vinyl sign companies before, I was very excited when offered various vinyl options to really make my design pop. I thoroughly enjoyed the attention to detail during the physical installation process and working with their team one on one to ensure the quality of my design be executed to the highest degree. I got to be on site and document everything for my personal records and share on social media to bring new attention to the project. I got a lot of positive feedback and created an installation video which got a lot of media coverage. I immediately started getting tagged in pictures/videos of people visiting my stop and sharing how much they loved the artwork! It felt amazing finally seeing my digital rendition up in public and just how much of an impact it was making. Also being able to participate in the "guided art tour" where we got to ride with guests and talk about our stop/work was a nice touch and helped connect me with more community members and opportunities.



All around, from start to finish, both Art in the Loop and the KC Streetcar were very hands on with any questions, concerns, comments, feedback, and even fixing a small "tag" on my stop. I was in very good hands and always felt supported from start to finish. It was a great project to be involved with and I hope to be able to be able to work with them in the future. I highly recommend any artist interested in this project to really get involved. It's as easy as applying and giving them a design that truly speaks to you, and the chosen theme. I truly believe that It's up to us to continue to sustain the arts, through community and projects like these.



Mother

By David Wayne Reed

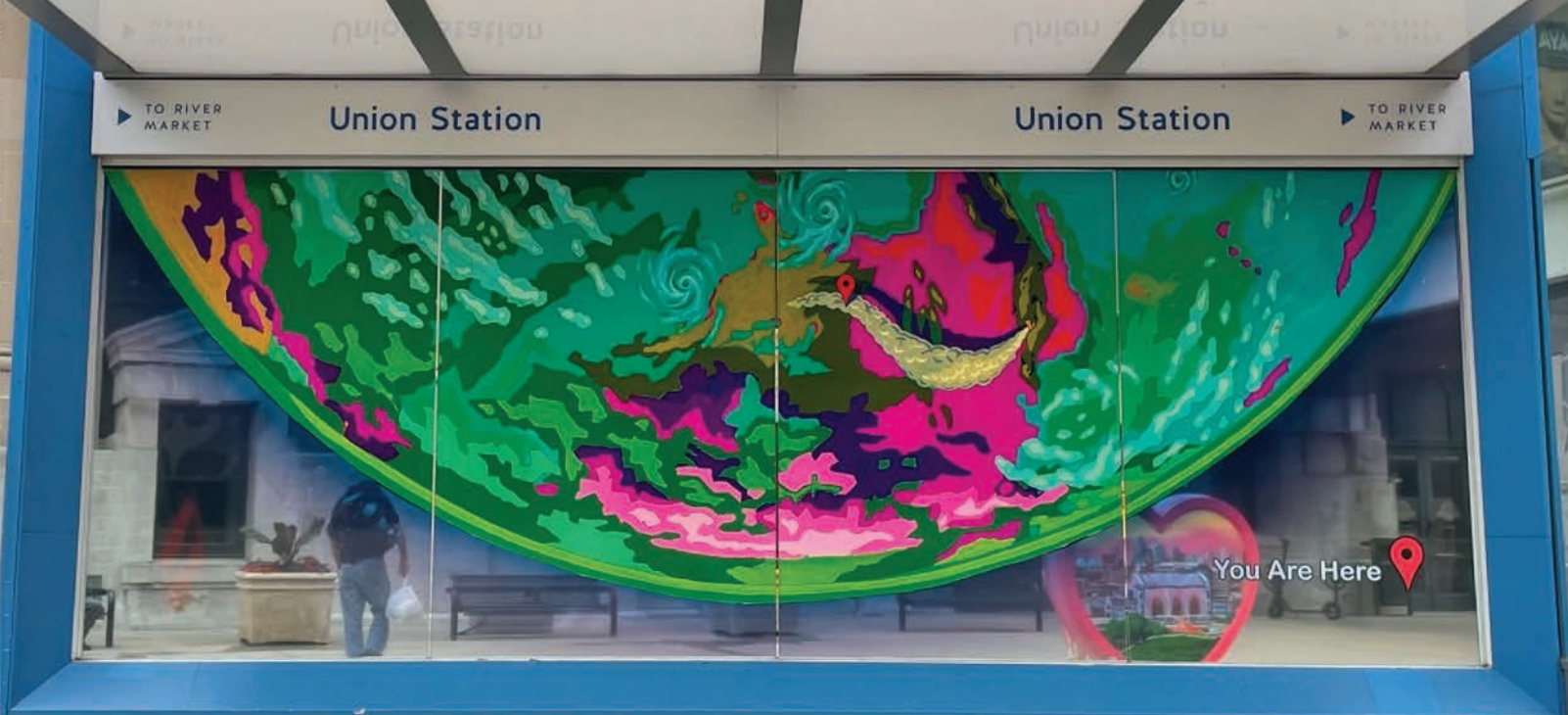
Being selected for Art in the Loop 2022 provided a new platform and discipline to stretch my work and my creative practice. I am a performer, writer, producer, and director. My own creative economy was shuttered due to the pandemic. I could no longer work in the framework of live gatherings and the butts in seats economy on which I had built a career. My art, like most, was dependent on venue, on shared space. The theatres, galleries, museums, live venues were shuttered and the pandemic showed us the limitations of our architectures and institutions and the ability to display and provide access to art.

And we moved into a space beyond our own limited physical space, into the spaces that we all share still, public spaces, virtual spaces. It made us collectively ask What does space mean now in this time? What does it allow and conversely what does it prohibit? All of this brought into clear and amplified view as we undergo and come to understand the time and space and connections lost. Because we had to pivot. To be elastic. To discover new ways of being, of sharing work, of building and maintaining community, connection, and culture.

Our public spaces became even more important. Those were the places to gather, They were places outdoors where we were allowed to exist outside of isolation, in the safety and reassurance of open air. We developed and invigorated places where we could remain connected, and in the loop. Art in the Loop: Sustainable was my first foray into public visual art and this opportunity allowed to expand what is possible of and for my work. Placing my photograph in a public space allowed both striking backdrop and maybe even a moment of solace and celebration with pedestrians and passersby. (I know that it has also been a site for selfies.) Seeing a woman's hand reaching up from the cityscape holding a bouquet of wildflowers from the endangered native tallgrass prairie ecosystem is poignant and reflective of what was plundered, plowed, and paved asunder and what little remains.

Public art is art for all. It is diverse, inclusive, and accessible- It helps us find our way, to make meaning, to honor histories, to share visions, and to shape hopes. Our public art shows us what we prioritize, center, remember and fight for be it in our infrastructure, our parks, our airport, or on our loop. May this loop continue to grow and ripple through the art that we see, the conversations we have, and connect us as we move through this loop of space and time.





You Are Here By Dave Loewenstein

The view many of us picture when we imagine the earth with North above and South below has its roots in a map created in 1569 by the Flemish cartographer Gerardus Mercator. The Mercator map (and the Mercator Projection which distorts the scale of the continents as they move closer to the poles) was made to assist navigation and centered the needs and desires of white Europeans.

Of course, throughout history, people have portrayed the earth from different points of view that align with their own beliefs and geographies, but the Mercator map has dominated. And because of this, a set of assumptions and then judgements took hold, principally that North is above and South is below. (Look around and ask yourself when you last saw the planet portrayed with the South on top?)

That's why I chose to portray our home this way. I wanted to reacquaint myself with the planet, free, as much as possible, from my own assumptions. Undertaking this process of reseeing the earth surfaced new questions for me, including - What other images, concepts and ideas that I have taken for granted, could be upended in order to see them with fresh eyes?

The opportunity to have this work displayed in such a prominent and geographically significant location led to many interpretations of "***You Are Here***" the image I made, and also the notion, you are here, that we tend to contemplate when lost or searching physically, emotionally or spiritually.

Thanks to all the folks who help make this annual exhibition possible. It was an honor to play a part.



KICK OFF EVENT!

***On the Cusp of Air and Water by Vanessa Aricco
Amado Espinoza & The Junkyard Orchestra***



On the Cusp of Air and Water

Vanessa Aricco moved the crowd with her presentation of "On the Cusp of Air and Water" a poem from her most recent collection written during her studio residency at the Charlotte Street Foundation. Aricco's poems draw on the thematic material of capitalism and environmental collapse to illustrate some of the contradictions between labor and sustainability

Amado Espinoza & The Junkyard Orchestra

Multi-instrumentalist Amado Espinoza, along with Brendan Culp, performed music from around the globe - with a twist: their instruments were made from recycled materials and found objects! Constructed by Amado himself, instruments included a classical Arabic flute made out of a broom, an Andean pan-flute made from dried-up markers, a Bolivian guitar made from a cookie tin, and much more.



Oppenstein Park Performance

ALBER

b.Hive Theatre

Pollinators Parade



ALBER

Alberto Racanati is a contemporary jazz musician originally from Italy and now working and living in Kansas City. Alberto's music is deeply influenced by his connection to the city and his survey of its various musical cultures. A studious evaluation of these cultures creates a cohesive composition that tells the story of Kansas City's musical history.



b.Hive Theatre

b.hive theatre, a performance group focusing on playback theatre, engaged the audience in Oppenstein Park through empathy and reenactment. Pulling from theatrical modes of improvisation, playback theatre is engineered off the verism of real-life stories, creating a vehicle to form connections between performers and their audience. The group is lead by Emily Bartlett.



Pollinators Parade

The audience became the performers in the Pollinators Parade with puppets created by artist Lavinia Roberts. The puppets portraying butterflies, bees and flowers were meant to bring attention to the pollination process.



Art Walk + 816 Day Performance

Kyle Jones
Circus Scorpious
The Black Creatures



Kyle Jones

Saxophonist and educator Kyle Jones performed a selection of works from composers whose principal musical ethic is sustainability and social justice: Anthony R. Green's composition for alto saxophone and fixed media *A Single Voice: Solitary, Unified* and Alexandra Gardner's composition for baritone saxophone and electronics, *Cypress*.



Circus Scorpious

Kelsey Archer awed the audience with the aerial acrobatics she performed with her company, Circus Scorpious at the 816 Day event in the City Market. The performers exhibited a great deal of physical ability, dexterity, and balance, and dazzled the audience with complex maneuvers and feats of athleticism.



The Black Creatures

Jade Green and Xavier performed as The Black Creatures. Blurring the lines of genre while maintaining a recognizable cohesion, they blended contemporary musical styles captivating the audience with their fun and funky sounds.



Art Walk + Performance

JASS

Dancers of a Certain Age

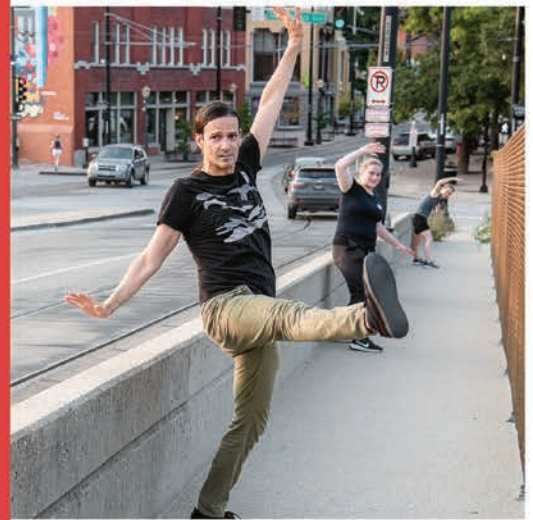


JASS

Multi-instrumentalist, vocalist, and poet Jasmine "Jass" Couch entertained the crowd at the River Market West KC Streetcar Stop with her gentle, foggy fusion of R&B beats and lo-fi pop melodies for a soul-inflected vocal performance. Her music both honors and builds upon the music traditions of Kansas City.

Dancers of a Certain Age

Led by Jeramy Zimmerman, Dancers of a Certain Age, performed throughout the Art Walk. The performance had a simple structure with dancers, improvising as part of the larger crowd. The dancers rode the streetcar and then broke into dance as they exited the vehicles, working with themes of the streetcar stops and surrounding landmarks and neighborhoods.



Closing Reception

FlamenKCMO
Natasha Ria El-Scari
and Kevin Church Jonhson

The Art in the Loop Closing Event opened with the exuberant flamenco trio FlamenKCMO performing traditional and contemporary dances. FlamenKCMO includes bailaora Melinda Hedgecorth, cantaor Antonio Rojas, and tocaore Beau Bledsoe. The event closed with Natasha Ria El-Scara performing "Self-Care as Sustainability-Poems about how nature, meditation and more help to create sustainability from the inside out" accompanied by Kevin "Church" Johnson on percussion.



Art, just like the KC Streetcar, is for everyone.



Art, like the KC Streetcar, is an experience. It connects people to communities, expressions, cultures, events, social causes and to each other. Since 2016, Art in the Loop and the KC Streetcar have been making meaningful connections by bringing art to the downtown route. The inclusion of art at the streetcar stops transforms the spaces into more than a waiting area. Art installations create an attractive transit experience that affects the quality of life for our streetcar riders. For some riders, this may be the only access they have to art and artistic expression.



Our partnership with Art in the Loop brings visual artwork, performance arts and musical events to the streetcar line. Art in the Loop brings art to where you are. It brings art into your daily life while commuting to work or going out with friends. The infusion of temporary public artworks into the streetcar experience makes a streetcar ride so much more than transportation.

The impact public art has had on the KC Streetcar has been astounding and as the system expands to reach the Missouri River and the University of Missouri-Kansas City, we hope to grow that impact along the entire route.

Donna Mandelbaum
Director of Communications
KC Streetcar Authority





Art in the Loop

Our Mission

- To provide opportunities for local artists to gain experience in creating and performing public art.
- To infuse the heart of Downtown Kansas City with innovative and engaging art for employees, residents, and visitors.

Art in the Loop (AILF) is a unique partnership of its founding members - The Downtown Council of KCMO, the KC Art Institute, and the City of Kansas City, MO. We value an equitable, diverse, and inclusive art community. It is a private, 501(c)3 charitable organization managed by the Downtown Council. What's with the name? Art in the Loop originally focused only on the center of Downtown KC (inside the highway loop). As Downtown KC has grown and evolved with KC Streetcar, Art in the Loop has expanded as well.



Art in the Loop By the Numbers

TOTALS (2014 - 2022)

Art sites/locations	12
# of applications received	748
# of selection panel members	80
# of stipends awarded	195
\$ amount of stipends awarded	\$271,520
# of artists, musicians, performers participating	461
# of performances (music and art)	149

TOTALS (2014 - 2022)

# of Visual Artworks	90
# of Studio Residencies	1
# of Exhibitions	1
# of Receptions and Tours	32
# Attendance at Receptions and Tours	2,129
# attendance at performances	21,831
# of streetcar riders potentially viewing artwork	3,077,869

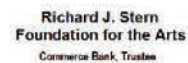


Photo Credits: Margaret Norcross Photography,
Art in the Loop, KC Streetcar Authority, and Participating Artists

For more info about this and previous years programs please visit:
Artintheloop.com