

Kentuckians for the Arts NEWSLETTER

February 2023

Kentuckians for the Arts (KFTA) is an arts centered organization formed for the purpose of providing advocacy for all arts endeavors across Kentucky. Our vision is to advance a creative Commonwealth and our mission is to promote the value of the arts and arts education for all throughout Kentucky.

KFTA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions such as annual dues and donations are tax deductible as permitted by law.

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KENTUCKIANS
KFTA
FOR THE ARTS



Top row, left to right: Julia Kinsman, Jessica Clark, Tyler Jones, Maggie Bowman, and Lorelai Prewitt. Middle row, left to right: Madelyn Haysley, Jack Atchley, Kathryn Janeway Howard, Sara Gdovkais, and Cooper Bartlett. Bottom row, left to right: Kaitlyn McCoy, Abigayle Kate Gatton Stokes, Austyn White, Emmaleigh Gray, Rhiley Cruz, and Chelslynn Helton.

Students from Across Kentucky Named to KFTA 2023 Youth Arts Council

Their grade levels, hometowns, and arts interests vary, but the 16 students who make up the 2023 Kentuckians for the Arts Youth Arts Council all share a strong belief in the value of the arts and a desire to share the arts with their fellow students and communities. Welcome to these talented young artists:

Abigayle Kate Gatton Stokes, a junior at Lafayette High School in Lexington. Her artistic interests are dance, vocal music, and theatre.

Austyn White, a seventh grader at Owensboro Middle School. His artistic interests are architecture and instrumental music.

Chelslynn Helton, a freshman at Lynn Camp Middle/High School in Corbin. She is in the school choir, has performed in two musicals, and also enjoys drawing, reading poetry, going to concerts, and watching plays.

Cooper Bartlett, a junior at West Jessamine High School in Nicholasville. His art forms are vocal and instrumental music, creative writing, and theatre.

Emmaleigh Gray, an eighth grader at Lynn Camp Middle/High School in Corbin. She enjoys singing, painting, drawing, sculpting, pottery, and theatre.

A special thank you to our Foundational/ Curator Level members:

Ms. Margaret & Mr. Jeffery Jamner

Gretchen & Aldy Milliken
Kentucky Performing Arts

To become a member of KFTA visit [our website](#).

So you can SAY...
“I support Kentucky Arts”

SUPPORT KFTA THROUGH KROGER

Kentuckians for the Arts is part of the Kroger donation program. Through this program, Kroger donates a portion of purchases to non-profit organizations. If you're a Kroger shopper, please register to support KFTA.

Visit <http://www.kroger.com> and log into your Kroger account, then search for Kentuckians for the Arts by name or use the number MR920.

KFTA Youth Council Members (continued)

Jack Atchley, an eighth grader at Elkhorn Middle School in Frankfort. His wide range of artistic interests include creative writing, dance, film and photography, vocal music, media arts, and theatre performance, tech, and design.

Jessica Clark, a junior at Anderson County High School. She enjoys vocal and instrumental music and theatre.

Julia Kinsman, a senior at Barren County High School. Her art forms are creative writing, dance, theatre, and vocal and instrumental music.

Kaitlyn McCoy, a freshman at Western Hills High School in Frankfort. Her art forms are instrumental music, visual arts, and theatre.

Kathryne Janeway Howard, a freshman at Lafayette High School in Lexington. She enjoys architecture, creative writing, dance, instrumental and vocal music, visual arts, and theatre performance tech, and design.

Lorelai Prewitt, a seventh grader at Lynn Camp Middle School in Corbin. She is active in theatre, choir, painting, and sculpting.

Madelyn Haysley, a seventh grader at Owensboro Middle School. She is interested in creative writing and both instrumental and vocal music.

Maggie Bowman, a junior at Lincoln County High School. She enjoys visual art, instrumental music, theatre performance, and set design.

Rhiley Cruz, a junior at Community Christian Academy in Paducah. She enjoys dance, instrumental and vocal music, and theatre.

Sara Gdovkais, a senior at West Jessamine High School in Nicholasville. Her main art form is visual arts.

Tyler Jones, a senior at Model Laboratory High School in Richmond. His main art form is visual art, and he also enjoys creative writing, film and photography, and media arts.

To form the council, KFTA invited Kentucky youth to apply, sharing how and why they participate in the arts and their ideas on how students can help advocate for arts and arts education. Each application was supported by a teacher recommendation.

Members will advise KFTA on how to engage and empower students and young people in the arts. The Council will also plan and implement activities using their artistic and communication skills to enhance the visibility of KFTA and Kentucky arts.

Read more about the youth council members and see quotes and some of their work at the [KFTA website](#).

CONTACT US

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[Website](#) (click here)

[Facebook Page](#) (Advocacy)

[Facebook Bulletin Board](#)
(Events)



Funded in part by a grant from South Arts in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts.

[Join Kentuckians for the Arts!](#)

Nonprofit Day at the Capitol Is March 8

On Wednesday, March 8 Kentuckians for the Arts will be joining the Kentucky Nonprofit Network (KNN) for Nonprofit Day at the Capitol. A major focus of the day is to thank the Kentucky General Assembly for funding the \$75 million Nonprofit Assistance Fund.

The schedule will include the Nonprofit Advocacy Awards Program at 10:15 a.m. and a rally in the Capitol Rotunda at 12:30 p.m. The morning is a perfect time to schedule meetings with your legislators. Registration is \$30 for Kentucky Nonprofit Network members, \$45 for non-members. You can find more information, including the link to register, at the [KNN website](#). There's information about how to schedule a meeting with your legislator in the [Advocacy Toolkit](#) at the KFTA website. Be sure to let Kentuckians for the Arts know if you plan to attend, and we'll provide you with talking points about the arts!

Coming Up: Ky. Crafted, Arts Deadlines

See you at the Kentucky Crafted Market public days March 11-12 at the Kentucky Horse Park. Admission is free, but donations will be taken for the East Kentucky Relief Fund. Wholesalers' day is March 10. [More info.](#)

If you want to nominate a Kentucky individual, organization or business for a 2023 Governor's Award in the Arts, do so by March 17. There are nine categories of awards. Info at the [Kentucky Arts Council website](#).

Applications are due March 15 for several Kentucky Arts Council grants programs: the Performing Artist Directory, the Performing Arts Tour Program, and the Al Smith Emerging Artist program. [More info.](#)



Phil Shepherd, KFTA Executive Director, presents Taylor Brown, a student at Campbellsville University, with a gift card from J. W. Pepper sheet music company at the Kentucky Music Educators Conference in February. KFTA had a booth at the conference and connected with music educators and students from across the state.