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**GATEWAY CENTER FOR GIVING CELEBRATES  
THE STRENGTH OF PHILANTHROPY IN ST. LOUIS**  
*Excellence in grantmaking recognized at Annual Meeting*

St. Louis, January 22, 2016—The [Gateway Center for Giving](#) convened grantmakers and nonprofits at the Gateway Center's Annual Meeting today to celebrate the generosity of donors in the St. Louis region and to recognize five sector leaders for their grantmaking excellence and impact. Gateway Center members collectively represent \$3.7 billion in charitable assets, of which more than \$261 million is deployed in the St. Louis region each year.

The **Gateway Giving Awards** reflect an emphasis on best practices in the field and philanthropic sector leadership. Award winners are nominated by their grantmaking peers, community members and nonprofits. This year's five award winners are:

**Excellence in Innovation in Philanthropy:** The **Clark-Fox Family Foundation**, for creating Blueprint4SummerSTL, a novel, highly personalized searchable web database that helps families in the St. Louis metropolitan area find best-fit summer programming for youth. In its first year, the site hosted 72,000 searches for more than 3,500 summer opportunities, promoting youth enrichment.

**Excellence in Collaboration in Philanthropy:** **Express Scripts and the Express Scripts Foundation**, for their leadership in fostering the Nance Elementary Transformation Plan, bringing together eight disparate agencies and elevating the key program areas and expertise that each brings to the table to better serve student needs.

Also, the **Regional Business Council**, for their leadership in the Reinvest North County Fund, created in partnership with North County Inc. and supported by the St. Louis Community Foundation. Under RBC's leadership, \$900,000 has been raised for businesses and school districts in the target region during a critical time for recovery and growth.

**Emerging Leader in Philanthropy:** **Serena Muhammad**, Director of Strategic Initiatives at the St. Louis Mental Health Board, was nominated by her sector peers for her work as a collaborative, thoughtful and inclusive emerging leader.

**Philanthropic Legacy:** The **Staenberg Family Foundation** has granted more than \$60 million in financial support to nearly 500 organizations, in addition to pro bono contributions valued at over \$10 million, over the past decade. A supporting foundation of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis, the Staenberg Family Foundation actively supports organizations and programs relating to arts & culture, children, education and medical research and services, creating a significant legacy of philanthropy that now extends to a second generation of givers.

FINAL

For Immediate Release

**Business Meeting**

Outgoing Gateway Center Board Chair **Ann Vazquez** of the Lutheran Foundation of St. Louis welcomed the following three additions to the Gateway Center for Giving Board of Directors:

**David Desai-Ramirez**, IFF; **Gregory Glore**, the Glore Fund; **Jenny Hoelzer**, Commerce Bank.

**New Board Officers:** Matt Oldani of the Deaconess Foundation was elected as Board Chairman for 2016; Jama Dodson of the St. Louis Mental Health Board as Vice Chair, Desiree Coleman of Wells Fargo Advisors as Secretary, and Mary Kullman of the Caola Kullman Family Fund as Treasurer.

**Outgoing Board Members** Amelia Bond of the St. Louis Community Foundation; Kathy Gardner of the United Way of Greater St. Louis; David Krauss of the Commerce Family Office; David Stiffler of Equifax; and Mary Swan, formerly with Ameren, were all recognized for their outstanding service to the organization.

The Gateway Center's Annual Meeting was hosted by Forest Park Forever and supported by Emerson and the Enterprise Holdings Foundation. Visit the [Gateway Center for Giving Facebook page](#) over the coming weeks to see pictures from the event.

**About the Gateway Center for Giving**

The [Gateway Center for Giving](#) helps donors do more. We strengthen philanthropy and promote community impact by providing programming, research and networking opportunities to grantmaking organizations in the St. Louis region. We also enhance regional leadership through information on community needs and philanthropic best practices, supporting collaborative action to help address our region's most pressing issues. The Gateway Center for Giving was founded in 1970 and our members include corporations, donor-advised funds, foundations, trusts and professional advisors actively involved in philanthropy. To learn more, visit [www.centerforgiving.org](http://www.centerforgiving.org).

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