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Contemporary Art
Museum St. Louis

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CAM awarded \$20,000 Dana Brown Charitable Trust grant
in support of ArtReach and LEAP youth education programs**

August 31, 2017 (St. Louis) — The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) announced a \$20,000 grant from the Dana Brown Charitable Trust. The grant is designed to help expand and improve the Museum’s ArtReach and LEAP Middle School Initiative youth education programs, benefiting local middle and high school students.

CAM Executive Director Lisa Melandri said, “St. Louis youth interested in the arts deserve to have opportunities to explore and develop their creativity, investigate creative career options, interact with artists, and be exposed to contemporary art. Such opportunities are incentive for teens to remain in school. The grant from the Dana Brown Charitable Trust will help CAM reach more students in the St. Louis region, ensuring that the arts remain a vital part of their education.”

With the support of the grant from Dana Brown Charitable Trust, ArtReach and LEAP will serve a total of 450 students during the course of the school year. ArtReach will serve 420 middle and high school students attending approximately twenty different public and private schools. LEAP will serve thirty middle school students who have previously participated in ArtReach through their schools.

ArtReach is a curriculum-based program of school visits, museum tours, and workshops with artists. ArtReach also offers in-depth teacher training as well as Advanced Placement portfolio reviews to help students prepare for college. LEAP provides middle school students with semester-long and structured after-school mentoring by artists as they explore different artistic disciplines in a focused and collaborative atmosphere each semester.

About the Dana Brown Charitable Trust

The Dana Brown Charitable Trust provides for the health, education, and welfare of disadvantaged children and the health and welfare of animals in the St. Louis metro area. The Dana Brown Charitable Trust is focused on high-impact, low-risk funding and places high importance on those organizations that work collaboratively with other nonprofits.

About the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis

The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis presents, supports, and celebrates the art of our time. It is the premier museum in St. Louis dedicated to contemporary art. Focused on a dynamic array of changing exhibitions, CAM provides a thought-provoking program that reflects and contributes to the global cultural landscape. Through the diverse perspectives offered in its exhibitions, public programs, and educational initiatives, CAM actively engages a range of audiences to challenge their perceptions. It is a site for discovery, a gathering place in which to experience and enjoy contemporary visual culture. CAM is located in the Grand Center Arts District.

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