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Contemporary Art  
Museum St. Louis

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**Rep. LaKeySha Bosley to Recognize ArtReach Students from Vashon, Sumner and Clyde C. Miller Career Academy at CAM on June 14**



ArtReach students at the opening of *ArtReach: The Art of Caring* at the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis on March 8, 2024. Photo: Wil Driscoll

**June 10, 2024 (St. Louis, MO)** – Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) invites you to attend a special reception celebrating [ArtReach: The Art of Caring](#) on **Friday, June 14, from 9:00-10:00 am at CAM (3750 Washington Ave, St. Louis, MO).**

[Missouri House Representative LaKeySha Bosley \(D-79\)](#) will present a House Resolution honoring students from Vashon, Sumner and Clyde C. Miller Career Academy High Schools whose work is currently on view at CAM in the exhibition *ArtReach: The Art of Caring*. The event will also include remarks by CAM Executive Director Lisa Melandri and CAM Education Manager Miriam Ruiz.

The [ArtReach initiative](#) started in 2017 as a collaboration with Vashon High School, providing weekly art classes throughout the year to ensure consistent art curriculum is available for students. Classes are taught by CAM's Resident Teaching Artists as well as museum educators. CAM expanded its ArtReach Partnership program in 2021 to include the historic Sumner High School, which came as part of a broader revival effort that CAM and other community partners infused into Sumner—the first African American high school west of the Mississippi—to prevent its closure. The reception will celebrate the annual exhibitions of student work made in these programs, as well as sessions at Clyde

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Hours  
10–5 Wed  
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C. Miller Career Academy, and recognize the positive impact of integrating arts curriculum on young people in the St. Louis community.

We hope you will join us in celebrating [ArtReach: The Art of Caring](#), and the transformative power of art and community in the lives of our youth. If you are interested in attending, we kindly ask that you RSVP to Alexia Majors at [amajors@camstl.org](mailto:amajors@camstl.org) by **Thursday, June 13**.

### **About the Exhibition**

*ArtReach: The Art of Caring* is the product of a semester-long focus on questions of social justice and healing with visual art students at Sumner and Vashon High Schools. Using the media of performance, photography, graphic design, and printmaking, Resident Teaching Artists Colin McLaughlin, Jeremy Rabus, and Rodrick Whetstone facilitated student exploration and consideration of key questions: *What makes a problem a societal issue? Why do these problems persist? What roles can visual art play in addressing these issues?* Students were asked to consider these questions and the role that they could play. The outcome is a collection of Nick Cave-inspired wearable art pieces, narrative photography, and both digital and print posters that document the students' research and the societal problems that concern them the most.

The exhibition is on view at the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis through August 11, 2024, and is organized by Miriam Ruiz, CAM's Education Manager.

### ArtReach Sponsors

ArtReach is generously supported in part by Berges Family Foundation, The Strive Fund; Missouri Arts Council, a state agency; Ann Yeatman Sheehan Charitable Trust; Ferring Family Foundation; Nancy and Ken Kranzberg; Anonymous; Crawford Taylor Foundation; The Saigh Foundation; Caleres Cares Charitable Trust; The Mary Ranken Jordan and Ettie A. Jordan Charitable Foundation; Reinsurance Group of America, Inc. (RGA); and The Terry and Phyllis Weiss Children's Education Fund.

### **About the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis**

The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis creates meaningful engagement with the most relevant and innovative art being made today. Founded by civic and cultural leaders in 1980, the Museum transformed from a small gallery into an internationally recognized arts institution, now permanently housed in a flexible, open, and inviting building designed by renowned American architect Brad Cloepfil. CAM's distinct architecture reflects the organization's values and supports a dynamic range of exhibitions, public programs, educational initiatives, and community collaborations. The only museum in the region solely dedicated to contemporary art, CAM is one of the preeminent non-collecting institutions of its kind in the United States. We are a site for discovery, a welcoming space, free and open to all. For more information, visit [camstl.org](http://camstl.org).

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