



Academy for Integrated Arts  
7910 Troost Avenue, Kansas City, MO 64131  
phone: (816) 444-1720 fax: (816) 444-1721

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October 3, 2018

Dear AFIA Community,

The Board of Directors and I would like to make you aware of a change regarding our sponsor. This change will not impact the daily experiences of our students, faculty and families or the daily operations at AFIA.

As you might be aware, AFIA is sponsored by the University of Missouri – Kansas City (UMKC). UMKC sponsors eight local charter schools in Kansas City. The role of the charter school sponsor is to provide oversight and accountability. As of May 2019, UMKC will no longer sponsor charter schools. In response, AFIA has been working with the Missouri Charter Public School Commission (MCPSC) to move our charter from UMKC to MCPSC. Effective October 2018, MCPSC will be AFIA's sponsor. MCPSC sponsors schools in both Kansas City and St. Louis. You can learn more about the Commission at [www.mcpsc.mo.gov](http://www.mcpsc.mo.gov).

We are proud of our robust partnership with UMKC. For example, we work with the UMKC School of Education as a host site for early childhood and elementary education courses, as well as host practicum students and student teachers. We also partner with researchers at UMKC and have published and presented our work at national conferences. Nearly half of our staff members have at least one degree from UMKC. We look forward to not only continuing our partnership with UMKC, but to deepening this partnership as UMKC is a vital community partner to AFIA.

On behalf of our board, faculty and families, I thank UMKC for their partnership. UMKC has been instrumental to our work at AFIA. We look forward to working with MCPSC and we look forward to continuing our partnership and work with the university. UMKC will remain as one of our important community partners.

Please contact me with any questions at [816-444-1720](tel:816-444-1720) or [tricia.degraff@afiakc.org](mailto:tricia.degraff@afiakc.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tricia DeGraff'.

Tricia DeGraff, Ph.D.  
Executive Director