



The Artists for Life Project
P.O. Box 11893
Kansas City MO 64138
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Press Release – The Artists for Life Project

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE!

Artists Tackle Handgun Violence in Kansas City with Unique Artwork

March 16, 2014

1. Presenting The Artists for Life Project

If someone called you on the telephone every 3.5 days and told you that someone had died from measles, you would be concerned. You would talking about this to everyone you knew and you would describe it as an epidemic. Yes, you might even be ready to move to another location. The murder rate in Kansas City has reached epidemic proportions! When most people think of murder rates, Chicago Illinois comes to mind. However, Kansas City's murder rate is 1.5 times greater than Chicago! Even more so, the murder rate in Kansas City is nearly 5 times the national average. In Kansas City a handgun murder is committed every 3.5 days.

2. What is The Artists for Life Project?

The Artists for Life Project is collaboration of artists that is directed by Kansas City artist Darryl A. Chamberlain. The artists are creating thought-provoking posters that speak to different audiences to address handgun violence in the Kansas City area. It is intended that the posters will cause people to contemplate the role that each can play in minimizing handgun violence in our city. These compelling and provocative posters will be placed in locations across the Kansas City area and will be directed to the various audiences of the community.

3. Endorsements of the project:

People are getting excited all over the city as they hear about *The Artists for Life Project!*

- The Artists for Life Project is funded by the 2014 Rocket Grant as administered by The Charlotte Street Foundation and the Spencer Museum of Art.
- Kansas City mayor Sly James is excited about the project and is wanting to place some of the artwork in his office at city hall. The mayor will be speaking at the opening reception.
- The KC No Violence Alliance is giving their support and partnership.
- The Kansas City Star featured *The Artists for Life Project* on the front page of the newspaper on January 18. The article may be found at the link below.
- Several college professors and ministers across the nation have given their endorsement to The Artists for Life Project.



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URL for Kansas City Star front page article on The Artists for Life Project:
<http://www.kansascity.com/2014/01/17/4760121/art-takes-aim-at-gun-violence.html>

4. What you can do to help:

Help us to get the word out! The Artists for Life Project will host its opening reception for the public to view the artwork on March 28 at The Artis Events reception hall. We wish to invite the public and to inspire them to find their voice in addressing this pressing epidemic in our city. Come out and meet the mayor as he will be speaking on this important issue. Please refer to our Public Statement below for our official information to the public. The attendance information is as follows:

Reception Location:	Artis Events Reception Hall
Address:	3016 Cherry Kansas City Missouri 64108
Date:	March 28, 2014
Time:	5:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Special presentations: 6:30 PM. Mayor Sly James and KC No Violence Alliance will address the audience.

5. Public Statement:

Presenting The Artists for Life Project. Handgun violence in Kansas City, Missouri is at an epidemic level! While most people think that Chicago Illinois has the highest murder rate in the country, the murder rate in Kansas City is 1.5 times greater than Chicago. What's even more shocking is that the murder rate in Kansas City is almost five times the national average. The artists of The Artists for Life Project want to change that.

The Artists for Life Project is a collaboration of artists who are creating compelling and provocative artwork to address the pressing epidemic of handgun violence in Kansas City. You are invited to attend the public reception of the artwork at The Artis Events Reception Hall at 3016 Cherry on March 28 from 5:00 to 9:00 PM. The doors will open at 5:00 PM with special presentations at 6:30 PM. Mayor Sly James and representative from KC No Violence Alliance will address the audience in regards to the pressing epidemic of gun violence in our city. Come and view the beautiful artwork and meet the artists who created it! The reception will also feature local poets and musicians throughout the evening. It's going to be an exciting and intriguing experience! Plan to attend on Friday, March 28 from 5:00 to 9:00 PM.



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6. The Artists for Life Project Constraints:

The Artists for Life Project is focused on minimizing or eliminating handgun violence in the Kansas City area. However, this project is not promoting the removal of ownership of handguns but rather, hopes to promote wise and prudent use of handguns. Our goal is to promote responsible gun ownership and prevention of tragedy.

7. The Artist for Life Project Directives:

The artists are creating compelling and provocative posters that address the various aspects of handgun violence which will be displayed in businesses, churches, and community centers around the Kansas City area. A specially-framed set of the art work will be displayed as a group in galleries around the Kansas City area where this artwork will change locations monthly. In the fall of 2014, a special art competition will be held in Kansas City high schools to encourage high school student artists to create artwork to address handgun violence. This artwork will be displayed in diverse locations around the city in the same manner as the professional artists.

We each have a responsibility and a voice in addressing the epidemic of murder in Kansas City. *The Artists for Life Project* is the voice of artists as they lend their talents towards solving this pressing epidemic. The artists of The Artists for Life Project hope to inspire others to find their own voice to address this pressing epidemic in Kansas City.

8. Contact Information:

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