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JUNIOR LEAGUE OF SPRINGFIELD PARTICIPATES IN ARTS IN THE PARK SUMMER WORKSHOPS

SPRINGFIELD, MO, Sept. 10, 2014—Members of the Junior League of Springfield (JLS) participated in the Springfield Regional Arts Council's "Arts in the Park" 2014 summer poetry and symphony workshops on July 7 and 14, respectively – the final days of each workshop.

Arts in the Park workshops provide eight weeks of arts education to Springfield Community Center students aged 5 – 13 years. The program's goal is to build a stronger future workforce, minimize poverty and increase civic engagement by instilling cultural and academic confidence and a lifetime appreciation for the arts in area at-risk youth.

JLS provided volunteers each day to help set up for performances and, as audience members, to support the students who presented their work.

"The arts are an important part of a healthy, thriving community," said JLS President Katie Moore. "JLS is proud to support continue to support SRAC's Arts in the Park summer programming that addresses red flag issues concerning at-risk youth."

JLS participates in Arts in the Park each year as part of its ongoing focus on the prevention of child abuse and neglect in the Springfield area through advocacy, direct service and volunteer time.

To this end, Arts in the Park was the first of many collaborative community projects in which JLS plans to participate in its 2014-2015 year. JLS also participated in August in the Salvation Army's Back-to-School Assistance Program, and in the coming months JLS will assist with additional community-enriching programs organized by the Doula Foundation, Ozarks Counseling Center, Foundation of Springfield Public Schools, Isabel's House crisis nursery and Habitat for Humanity of Springfield.

About the Junior League of Springfield

The Junior League of Springfield is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. The Junior League of Springfield reaches out to women of all races, religions and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and a commitment to voluntarism. Its purposes are exclusively educational and charitable.

Since 1959, the Junior League of Springfield has contributed over \$4 million and more than 1.3 million hours of volunteer service to the Springfield community. For more information, please visit the Junior League of Springfield website at www.jlspringfield.org.