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kemperMUSEUM
of contemporary art

Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art Named a Semifinalist for National Award

President's Committee on the Arts Recognizes "ArtReach" Program

Kansas City, MO - The Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art has been named a semifinalist for the national arts award, Coming Up Taller, for its "ArtReach" program from the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities and its partner agencies, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, National Endowment for the Arts, and National Endowment for the Humanities.

ArtReach was selected as one of the top 50 programs in youth after-school and out-of-school arts and humanities learning out of more than 320 nominations from 47 states and the District of Columbia.



A collaborative program, started in 2002, between the Center for Child Health and Development (CCHD) at the University of Kansas Medical Center and the Kemper Museum, ArtReach offers workshops for children with and without various developmental disabilities. The objective of ArtReach is to provide opportunities for self-expression and communication through the visual arts. Each workshop relates to specific works of art on display at the Kemper Museum.

"ArtReach serves a very special audience of children, and we believe the program

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Page 2 of 2...ArtReach at the Kemper Museum

can be a model for other museums and cities around the country," says Dawn Taylor, development officer for the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art. "ArtReach currently receives grant support from the R.A. Long Foundation and is also supported by general operating funds from sources like the ArtsKC Fund, a program of the Metropolitan Arts Council of Kansas City."

The selection as a semifinalist distinguishes ArtReach as one of the top arts-and-humanities-based programs in the country serving youth beyond regular school hours.

Notification of this year's award recipients will be announced by the end of June. If ArtReach is selected to receive a Coming Up Taller award, the Kemper Museum will receive a plaque and a \$10,000 award at a ceremony later this year. The Kemper Museum would also have the opportunity to participate in the fifth annual Coming Up Taller Leadership Enhancement Conference this August in Washington, DC.

For more information about the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, visit www.kemperart.org. For more information about the Coming Up Taller award, visit www.pcah.gov.

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