Our Mission
The Green Center is an arts and environmental education organization dedicated to helping people understand the natural world through hands-on experiences, restoring native habitats, and encouraging artistic expression inspired by nature.

Our Approach
The Green Center provides educational programming tailored to the needs of individual student and community groups. Our unique arts-integrated science curriculum sets the Center apart from other local organizations. Youth programs utilize a novel hands-on approach and inquiry-based methodologies. Students at The Green Center don’t just learn about science—they do science. Restoration events at the Center enable members of local communities to make a meaningful connection with nature.
From the Executive Director

The Green Center celebrated its fifteen year anniversary in 2013. I have enjoyed a tenure of eight years with The Center and have been excited to see the growth and expansion of programming each year.

Realizing the critical need to re-connect children to nature, we have greatly expanded our early childhood programming to address this need and in our efforts, have reached out to more and more schools and families in the St. Louis area.

Our Nature Play and Connecting with Nature programs help participants develop and nurture lasting relationships with the outdoors.

The Center’s growth and continued success is made possible through partnerships and collaborations with other organizations in the community, an active and engaged Board and our group of dedicated volunteers who share our vision and mission.

Jan Oberkramer
Executive Director

From the President

The Green Center is a true natural oasis located in an urban setting. Our innovative Science and Art curriculum sets us apart. Year round early childhood programs engage our youngest students. We know these early experiences are critical in the development of life long connections with nature.

Our restoration efforts continue in our learning gardens as well as the prairie, wetland, Ruth Park and Kaufman Woods. Our Board of Directors is a dynamic group of committed individuals who give countless hours to the implementation of our mission. Jan Oberkramer continues leading the center as the Executive Director and Kathleen Evans is our program coordinator. We have seen much growth over the past 2 years and will continue always looking forward in our shared passion of connecting children with nature and restoring native habitats.

It has been a pleasure serving as Board Chair.

Laura Streett
President, Board of Directors

It is not half so important to know as to feel when introducing a young child to the natural world.
--Rachel Carson
Youth Education and Outreach

The Green Center’s educational programming has three unique facets, including utilization of 1) a 30-acre outdoor classroom, 2) an arts-integrated science curriculum, and 3) an inquiry-based instructional approach for both student and adult learners.

Making Connections
Challenges faced by our students…
• Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunches: 82%
• Income: 10% of families earn 50% below poverty level
• Graduation Rate-St. Louis Public Schools: 61%
• Lead Poisoning Rate Among Children: 14%
• Children Living in High-Poverty Neighborhoods: 69%
• Youth Ages 16-19 Neither in School nor Working: 15%

Our Programs:
Field Experiences
Nature Play (Early Childhood)
Scout Badges
Science & Arts Summer Experience (SASE)
Spring & Summer Camps
Connecting with Nature
Service Learning
Outreach
Professional Development for Educators

2012-13 Highlights:
• Over 2750 youth in grades K-12 annually participate in our Field Experiences, scout and seasonal programs, conducting hands-on investigations in the Center’s outdoor learning spaces and Missouri State Parks
• 100 educators in the St. Louis Public School and University City School districts participated in professional development workshops at the Center
• Developed a school vegetable garden workshop for educators wanting to incorporate their school gardens into their curriculum
• Offer additional camp opportunities in the spring and summer to different age groups
• Expanded our “Nature Play” Early Childhood education program to the winter, spring and fall; utilizing our certified Nature Explore Classroom
• Provided outreach and service learning programs to schools in the metro region
• Offer monthly enrichment opportunities to Center volunteers
• Participated in area school, city and partnering organization events
• Began to host a new Speaker Series about the impact early childhood experiences in nature had on a professional career
Habitat Restoration

Our outdoor learning spaces are a living laboratory in which students of all ages do investigations and make discoveries. They also provide critical wildlife habitat, serving as a home to over 100 species of birds, as well as coyote, fox, and innumerable smaller creatures, including swallowtail and monarch butterflies.

Our Restoration Projects:

Learning Gardens
Discovery Garden
Prairie-Wetland Complex
Urban Bird Corridor
Ruth Park Woods
Kaufman Woods

2012-13 Events:

Free the Forest-April
• Volunteers included students from local schools, community groups and scout groups
• Removed bush and vine honeysuckle from the Urban Bird Corridor
• Planted native prairie plants in the Ed Murray Prairie in the Prairie-Wetland Complex

National Public Lands Day-September
• Removed invasive species, euonymus and bush honeysuckle, from Kaufman Woods

2012-13 Highlights:

• Expanded on-site vegetable garden space for use by the community, volunteers and educational programming
• Expansion of our Discovery Garden where children can engage in nature play and exploration
• Trained restoration volunteers in invasive species removal and control, plant propagation and general gardening practices, ecological monitoring, and other topics
• Expanded the Center’s native plant production using our solar-powered greenhouse
• Installed ADA compliant raised bed Diversity Garden

Volunteers

The Green Center has a wonderful, diverse group of dedicated folks who give tirelessly of their time, talent, and treasure. Our volunteers work with students of all ages, improve and maintain our learning gardens, improve local native habitats, propagate native plants and countless other projects.

The commitment from our volunteers enables us to provide enriching programming utilizing our 30 acres of richly diverse outdoor spaces.
## Financial Overview

### STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue and Public Support</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
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<td>Contributions:</td>
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<td>Individuals</td>
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<td>Program Services Fees</td>
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<td>Grants and Contracts- Federal and State Agencies</td>
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<td>Other Program Service Fees</td>
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<td><strong>Total Revenues and Public Support</strong></td>
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<td><strong>5,682</strong></td>
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<td><strong>198,942</strong></td>
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<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Fundraising</th>
<th>Management and General</th>
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<td><strong>191,800</strong></td>
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</table>

| Change in Net Assets | 1,460 | 5,682 | - | 7142 |

| Net Assets, Beginning of Year | 149,625 | 44,498 | 50,000 | 244,123 |

| Net Assets, End of Year | $151,085 | $50,180 | $50,000 | $251,265 |

### Public Support Revenue

- Contributions: 61%
- Corporations and Businesses: 13%
- Nonprofit Organizations: 8%
- In-Kind Contributions: 2%
- Program Services Fees: 2%
- Other: 7%

### Expenditures

- Program: 80%
- Fundraising: 5%
- Management and General: 15%
Our Supporters

Kay and Leo Drey

Jan Adams
Scott Avetta
Ruth Ayers
Alex and Sara Babich
Bob and Nancy Baglan
Linda and Jim Ballard
Max and Carol Barnett
Thomas Barry
Donna Baudendistel
Ellen Bern
Mary Berger
Stephen and Joyce Best
Henry and Teresa Biggs
Edith Binder
Marsha Bohm
Caroline and James Boldt
Jerry and Lynne Breakstone
Russell and Elizabeth Brightman
Stefany and Fred Brot
Connie Buehre
Penney Bush-Boyce
Elizabeth Calvin
James and Linda Chambers
Elizabeth Ann Cohen
Laura Cohen
Ron Coleman
Sue Collins
James and Jean Davis
Jeffrey and Susan Dee
Saul Dien
Eleanor Drey
Thomas Ebenhoh
Joe Edwards
Robert and Sarah Elgin
Rory and Linda Ellinger
Dorsey and Sondra Ellis
Harold Ellis
Lawrence Enkoi
Linda Eisenberg
Sandra Faber
Kathryn Fischer
Vicki Flier
Linda Fried
Pat and Nick Frederiksen
Margaret Garb
Lisa Greening
Susan Grigsby
Gary and Lillian Giessow
Elsie Beck Glickert
Gerald Greiman
Jackie Grosklos
JC and Susanne Hagan
John Hambene
Sarah Harly
Judith Harmon
Rochelle Harris
Frank and Ruth Haspiel
Jordan Heiman
Cecille and Richard Hein
Page and Fonda Hereford
Hilarie Hunt
Leon and Cathy Jameton
Eric Jefferson
June and Matthew Jeffries
Jan Jensen
Bill and Maria John
Peg and Henry Kaltenthaler
Eric Karch
Elizabeth Kibourz
Dorothy Kinscherf
Newell and Janet Knight
Tiffany Knight
John and Melissa Kreishman
Ron and Anne Krone
Nancy Laney
Susan Lammert
Jerrold Lander
David and Cynthia Leventhal
Randy Lewis
Joy Lieberman
Joseph and Jennifer Light
Leslie Lihou
Leslie Limberg
John Lizzo
Irv and Sharon Logan
Mary MacDonald
Steve and Parker McMillan
Tim and Wanda Michels
Dolores Miller
Mary Carol Millspa
David Motherwell
Heather Navarro
Paul Nishimoto
Barbara Novak
James Nyberg
Brad Oberle
Marypat O’Gorman
David and Jitska Olander
Rudolf and Frances Oppenheimer
Craig and Hollins Palmer
Amy Patrick
William and Carolyn Polk
Mark Peterson and Ryia Ross
Sheena Petty
Philip and Dorothea Polster
Carol Portman
Bryan Puskar
John and Susan Rava
Edward and Sigrid Renner
Mare and Renner
Paul and Vera Rhiney
Lynn Ricci
Bill and Cherie Roddy
Benji Rowan
Arlene Sandler
Joy Sandweiss
Caroline Sant
Lisa Santa Cruz
John and Fay Scandrett
Norma Schechter
Gary and Christine Schimmelpfenig
Ed Schmidt
John Schmieder
Paul and Suzanne Schoomer
Larry and Gerace Self
Ankoor Shah
Magalyn Sharpe
Mary Ann and Dick Shaw
Scott Shippey
Ruth and Alvin Siteman
Steve and Linda Skrainka
Malinda and Michael Slagle
Ted and Lisa Slap
Theodore and Calla Smorodon
Lee and Kristin Sobotka
Thomas and Susan Sontag
John and Nancy Solodar
Judy Spector
Mike and Caryn St. Claire
Mary and Lary Stacey
Phyllis Stevenson
Charles and Emma Stobaugh
Maxine Stone
John and Laura Streit
Ken Street
Lee Street
Wendy Surinsky
Dennis and Adele Tuchler
Emily Ullman
Mary Voges
Bob and Nancy Wagner
Rick Walters
Phyllis Weber
Jane Weissman
Alvin Werner
Jim and Mary Wertsch
Gertrude and James Wiart
Joyce Wilks-Love
Linda Wigen-Kraft
Miriam Wilhelm
David and Karla Wilson
Marylo Wittry
Carol and Dan Wofsy
Rafia and William Zafar

EarthShare of Missouri
Ladue Garden Club
Missouri Department of Conservation
Missouri American Water
Missouri Botanical Garden
Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation
Missouri Parks Association
Missouri State Parks
Pfizer Foundation
U City in Bloom
University City
University City-Memorial Day Run

Alpha Brewery
Blueberry Hill
BMO Harris Bank
Butler’s Pantry
Charleville Vineyard
Chuvani Bellydance & Sheherazade
Companion
Cornerstone Financial
Droegoe Tree Service
Hereford Printing
Mama Lisa
Missouri Arts Council
Missouri Brewers Guild
Montelle Vineyard
Pete’s Shur Sav
Renewal by Andersen
Schnallly Beer
Sloat Construction
Smoke & Mirrors
St. Louis Composting
STL Hoop Club
Sullivan Farms
Tracie Moore Graphics
Urban Chestnut Brewery

the green center annual report 2012-13
“Every child needs nature. Not just the ones with parents who appreciate nature. Not only those of a certain economic class or culture or set of abilities. Every child.” —Richard Louv