

HISTORY

In the late 1960s, a group of public-spirited citizens, under the leadership of Howard Baer, sought to establish a cultural district, funded by property taxes from both the City and the County of St. Louis. At that time, the Saint Louis Zoo and Art Museum received tax support only from the City of St. Louis. The Science Center (formerly the Museum of Science & Natural History) received no tax support.

Circuit Judge Thomas F. McGuire, Howard Baer's successor as Chairman of the Zoo Board, helped the group propose the statute that established the District. Through the passionate efforts of prominent St. Louisans, H.B. 23 was enacted by the Legislature. H.B. 23 authorized City and County residents to vote on a tax levy for the Zoo, Art Museum and Science Center. As a result of a successful vote, the Metropolitan Zoological Park and Museum District was created.

The voters of St. Louis City and County allowed the Missouri Botanical Garden and the Missouri History Museum to enter the District in 1983 and 1988, respectively.

The District Board sets the Subdistricts' annual tax rates, not to exceed their statutory limits, based on financial data contained within budgets and other reports submitted by each entity. Recently, tax revenues totaling more than \$72 million have been generated for the annual operation of the cultural institutions.

Annual reports detailing the financial operations of the District and each Subdistrict are forwarded to the City Mayor, the County Executive and the Missouri State Auditor.

The District Board approves all proposed tax rate increases before a proposition is placed on the County and City ballots.

METROPOLITAN ZOOLOGICAL PARK AND MUSEUM DISTRICT

CITY BOARD MEMBERS

Robert A. Powell
David S. Weber
Gloria Wessels
Thelma V. Cook

COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS

Adrienne B. Morgan
Ben Uchitelle
Thomas J. Campbell
Donna G. Knight



ZOOMUSEUMDISTRICT

Metropolitan Zoological Park and Museum District

7733 forsyth boulevard, suite 550
clayton, missouri 63105

314.862.4222
www.mzdstl.org



ZOOMUSEUMDISTRICT

Metropolitan Zoological Park and Museum District



Saint Louis Science Center



Saint Louis Art Museum



Missouri History Museum



Missouri Botanical Garden



Saint Louis Zoo

Serving the
Citizens of
St. Louis City and
St. Louis County
Since 1972

SUBDISTRICTS AND AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS: INFORMATION AND LEADERSHIP

SAINT LOUIS ZOOLOGICAL PARK

Jeffrey P. Bonner, Ph.D., *Dana Brown President & CEO*
314-781-0900 www.stlzoo.org

SAINT LOUIS ART MUSEUM

Brent R. Benjamin, *Director*
314-721-0072 www.slam.org

SAINT LOUIS SCIENCE CENTER

Douglas R. King, *President and CEO*
314-289-4424 www.slsc.org

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

Peter Wyse Jackson, Ph.D., *President*
Peter H. Raven, Ph.D., *President Emeritus*
314-577-5100 www.mobot.org

MISSOURI HISTORY MUSEUM

Robert R. Archibald, Ph.D., *President and CEO*
Missouri Historical Society
314-746-4599 www.mohistory.org

SAINT LOUIS ZOOLOGICAL PARK



When the Saint Louis Zoo was founded in 1910, its mission was almost identical to what it is today – to conserve animals and their habitats through animal management, research, recreation and educational programs that encourage the support and enrich the experience of the public.

The Saint Louis Zoo attracts 3,000,000 visitors a year. Always a popular destination for both our local community and for tourists, the Zoo has served many generations. Admission to the Zoo is free and accessible to all.

Visitors come to connect with more than 24,000 animals and to learn about the natural world. With nearly 700 species, many of them rare and endangered, the Zoo represents the major continents and biomes of the world. The Zoo has been a leader in naturalistic habitats, such as Penguin & Puffin Coast and River's Edge.

About 400,000 children, families and adults take part in formal Zoo programs and presentations each year. Classes, overnights, lectures, outreach and other programs reach a wide variety of interests and ages.

The Saint Louis Zoo meets the high standards of Association of Zoos and Aquariums accreditation and maintains a world-class status. It has been named America's #1 Zoo by Zagat Survey and Parenting Magazine.

Today, with animal species disappearing from the earth every day, the need for wildlife conservation is greater than ever. "The longer I work in zoos, the more I have come to believe that connecting visitors with the animals they see right in front of them is still the best service we can render," says Dr. Jeffrey P. Bonner, Dana Brown President & CEO of the Saint Louis Zoo.

SAINT LOUIS ART MUSEUM



The Saint Louis Art Museum is one of the nation's leading comprehensive art museums containing more than 30,000 works of art. Its collections include works of exceptional quality from virtually every culture and time period. Areas of notable depth include Oceanic art, pre-Columbian art, ancient Chinese bronzes and European and American art of the late 19th and 20th centuries, with particular strength in 20th century German painting. Highlights of the collection include the largest public collection of Max Beckman prints in the world, Henri Matisse's *Bathers with a Turtle*, George Caleb Bingham's *Election Series*, Hans Holbein the Younger's *Mary, Lady Guilford*, Vincent van Gogh's *Stairway at Auvers* and Bartolomeo Manfredi's *Apollo and Marsyas*.

In December 2009, the Museum broke ground on the most exciting expansion plan in its history. Designed by British architect David Chipperfield, the 200,000-square-foot expansion represents a thirty percent increase in the Museum's gallery and public space and will more than double its former parking capacity. The Museum will remain open to the public throughout construction and will continue to operate on its regular schedule. A public opening of the David Chipperfield-designed expansion is anticipated in late 2012 or early 2013.

Designed by architect Cass Gilbert as the Palace of Fine Arts for the 1904 World's Fair, the Museum is the only permanent building remaining from the Fair. The Beaux-Arts style structure bears the inscription *Dedicated to Art and Free to All*.

SAINT LOUIS SCIENCE CENTER



The Saint Louis Science Center is one of the top five science centers in the United States, serving 1.2 million visitors annually. The museum was recently named one of the "Top 10 Science Centers for Families" by *Parents Magazine* and one of America's most visited museums by *Forbes Traveler*. The Science Center's free galleries feature more than 750 hands-on exhibits, and its complex includes a four-story OMNIMAX® Theater, which offers amazing giant-screen film experiences, the air-supported EXPLORADOME, which houses popular traveling exhibitions, the James S. McDonnell Planetarium, and the Taylor Community Resource Center. Its mission is to ignite and sustain lifelong science and technology learning, and the Science Center is dedicated to improving science literacy through innovative programs and exhibits.

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN



Founded in 1859 by Englishman Henry Shaw, the Missouri Botanical Garden is the nation's oldest botanical garden in continuous operation and a National Historic Landmark. The Garden's 79-acres of exquisite horticultural display includes the Climatron® rain forest geodesic dome, one of the largest authentic Japanese gardens in the Western Hemisphere, a comprehensive home gardening center, and Shaw's 19th-century home, Tower Grove House. The Missouri Botanical Garden's EarthWays Center is a regional leader in promoting sustainability through environmental education and green living.

More than just a lovely place to visit, the Missouri Botanical Garden is a world-renowned center for botanical research and science education, widely considered among the top such institutions in the world. Through its mission "to discover and share knowledge about plants and their environment in order to preserve and enrich life," the Garden seeks to preserve plant diversity in the face of deforestation, degradation and global warming.

Nearly fifty Ph.D. Garden scientists work in more than thirty-six countries to record and preserve biodiversity. The Garden houses a botanical research library that includes a rare book collection and one of the world's largest herbariums with more than six million plant specimens. The Garden also maintains Tropicos®, the world's largest botanical database which is utilized by scientists around the world.

The Garden's family of attractions encompasses additional St. Louis area campuses; the Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House in Chesterfield and the 2,400-acre Shaw Nature Reserve in Gray Summit.

MISSOURI HISTORY MUSEUM



The Missouri History Museum seeks to deepen the understanding of past choices, present circumstances and future possibilities, strengthen the bonds of community and facilitate solutions to common problems.

The Missouri History Museum has been active in the St. Louis community since 1866. Founding members established the organization "for the purpose of saving from oblivion the early history of the city and state."

The Missouri History Museum in Forest Park also operates the Library and Research Center located at 225 South Skinker Boulevard near the Washington University campus.

The Missouri History Museum offers programs and outreach services including traveling exhibitions, tours, theatrical and musical presentations, programs for school classes and youth groups, family festivals, special events, workshops and lectures. The Missouri History Museum also features Bixby's, a fine dining restaurant with a spectacular view of Forest Park.