

VOLUNTEER eBriefs

NEWS, EVENTS AND SUCCESS STORIES

March 2010



Fee Generating Referrals

Some artists and arts organizations can afford to pay for professional services. To help match them with the lawyers and accountants on our roster, we operate a referral service for fee-generating clients. When those clients request assistance, they are given a complete list of lawyers/accountants based on areas of specialization as indicated on our volunteer registration forms.

Unlike *pro bono* referrals, which are made by our office, fee-generating clients contact you directly. We do not get involved in setting fees nor do we ask for a percentage of fees collected. If you would like to make your name available for fee-generating work, please [download a form](#) and return it with your 2010 registration fee of \$25.

Thank you for volunteering and supporting the arts in our community.

QuickBooks Training Success Story



Lorri Rippelmeyer and Julia Buser Welch
(photo: Benjamin Trevor Photography)

"I can't begin to tell you what a godsend it was to attend the VLAA sessions on QuickBooks for nonprofit organizations," said Julia Buser Welch, a [Philharmonic Society of Belleville](#) board member.

Welch and 19 other arts administrators attended our annual training, which was conducted by Lorri Rippelmeyer, Erin Fann and Robert Berger of Anders, Minkler & Diehl LLP at Webster University's downtown campus on Jan. 26 and Feb. 2. The AMD team covered basic nonprofit accounting concepts and QuickBooks basics, including payroll.

For Welch, the timing was fortuitous. "The Philharmonic is losing our longtime treasurer," she said.

Several participants, including [Very Special Arts of](#)

[Missouri](#) Executive Director **Kit Bardwell**, who traveled across the state from Liberty, Mo., said the hands-on approach made the workshops worth the time and effort to attend.

And there was kudos for the three CPAs. "Your volunteer accountants were clear and patient with us non-accountants in showing us how to use QuickBooks specifically for arts organizations," Welch said.

Thanks to grant support and annual donations from law and accounting firms, tuition was a very affordable \$35. Students received thick QuickBooks manuals and complimentary copies of a nonprofit accounting textbook. They also had the option of purchasing the 2010 software package for just \$100.

"Our Board greatly appreciated the discount on the QuickBooks program," Welch said. "With finances being stretched to the limits these days, that saving was most helpful."

[More VLAA success stories](#)

Missouri Arts Council: Support the Arts



Missouri Arts Council

The State of the Arts

Nearly 20 percent of our operating budget comes from the [Missouri Arts Council](#), a state agency. Please contact your elected officials and ask them to appropriate funding for the arts and arts education programs.

For more information about the state's arts advocacy agenda, visit the [Missouri Citizens for the Arts](#) website.

Become a Fan. We're on [Facebook](#)

Board of Directors

Jennifer Alley, G. Harley Blosser, S. Richard Gard Jr., Susan Hagen, David B. Jennings, Steven D. Korenblat, Bruce Lindsey, Janette Lohman, K. Curtis Lyle, Lisa D. McLaughlin, Linda Paradis, H. Frederick Rusche, Kerry Ryan, Nancy S. Starnes, Rebecca Jannin Thomas and Freida Wheaton
Sue Greenberg, Executive Director

St. Louis Volunteer Lawyers and Accountants for the Arts (VLAA) serves the arts community by making referrals to lawyers and accountants; mediating arts-related disputes; publishing concise how-to guides; sponsoring seminars and public forums; arranging for guest speakers; maintaining a library and Web site (www.vlaa.org); collaborating on arts advocacy initiatives; and providing access to the the national volunteer lawyers for the arts network.

St. Louis Volunteer Lawyers and Accountants for the Arts

6128 Delmar, St. Louis, MO 63112; 314/863-6930; vlaa@stlrac.org

www.vlaa.org

Donate Now

The arts community counts on us and we count on you. Your generosity will enable us to provide free legal

and accounting services and affordable educational programs that go a long way towards sustaining the arts in our region.

This e-mail was sent
from St Louis VLAA
Immediate removal
with **PatronMail**[®]
[SecureUnsubscribe](#).



To forward this e-mail to a friend or colleague, [use this link](#).

To change your e-mail address or update preferences, [use this link](#).