

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 31, 2015

Lauren Kistner, Marketing & Communications Manager
314-615-5277, lkistner@laumeier.org

Laumeier Sculpture Park Enters Final Phase of *Sculpting the Future* Capital Campaign

(ST. LOUIS, MO)—Laumeier Sculpture Park announced that it has entered the final phase of its *Sculpting the Future* Capital Campaign. As of March 1, 2015, *Sculpting the Future* has achieved 92% of its total \$10 million goal through gifts from more than 175 contributors. Individual support currently accounts for approximately 38% of the total goal. Support from operating partners accounts for 30%, while corporate and foundation support accounts for 24%. Approximately \$800,000 is left to raise through additional appeals to individuals and corporations.

Laumeier Sculpture Park operates in partnership with St. Louis County Parks; however, the nonprofit organization raises funds from individuals, corporations and foundations to support temporary exhibitions, education programs, public events and sculpture conservation. St. Louis County is the single largest contributor to the *Sculpting the Future* Capital Campaign with its investment of \$3 million for the construction of the new Adam Aronson Fine Arts Center and the renovation of Laumeier's 1917 Estate House into the new Kranzberg Education Lab.

"On behalf of Laumeier's Campaign Leadership and Board of Directors, thank you to the partners, corporations, foundations and individuals who have already contributed significantly to the *Sculpting the Future* Capital Campaign," said Ken Kranzberg, Laumeier Board Member and Campaign Co-Chair, along with wife Nancy Kranzberg. "Now, so close to the finish line, is the perfect time to encourage Laumeier's friends and neighbors to help us bridge the final gap as we close the books on the most significant period of growth in Laumeier's history."

The new Adam Aronson Fine Arts Center, currently under construction and set to open in summer 2015, is the centerpiece of the *Sculpting the Future* Capital Campaign. Named in honor of a co-founder of the Park and designed by Trivers Associates, St. Louis, the new building will provide a compelling contrast to the existing historical buildings on-site at Laumeier, allowing for a renewed artistic and educational exploration of the relationship between art and nature, and enabling Laumeier to grow its presence as a national and international leader in contemporary arts programming.

With a budget of \$4 million, the Adam Aronson Fine Arts Center is right-sized and scaled for the organization in today's economy and will allow Laumeier to attract and present more internationally renowned artists than ever before. The building will serve as the new public focal point of the Park, featuring a large indoor gallery, reception area, collections storage, conservation space and event facilities. In creating ample indoor space for year-round exhibitions, education programs, event rentals and visitor services, Laumeier takes an important step in building its capacity to better serve the needs and interests of the St. Louis community.

"The new Adam Aronson Fine Arts Center will allow Laumeier to offer an expanded array of world-class exhibitions, performances, classes, lectures and special events," said Marilu Knode, Laumeier's Executive Director. "In addition, the building will serve as a one-of-a-kind rental venue for area weddings and special events, increasing visitation and providing a new revenue stream to support the sustainability of the organization."

Laumeier's 1917 Estate House, formerly used for exhibitions, the Welcome Center and Museum Shop, has been renovated into the new Kranzberg Education Lab, featuring spacious studios and meeting spaces for classes, lectures, workshops and other programs beginning this summer. This transformation allows Laumeier to both expand its year-round education program offerings for all ages and provide smaller rental spaces to organizations, community groups and individuals. Staff offices remain upstairs.

Laumeier Sculpture Park will celebrate the completion of the Adam Aronson Fine Arts Center, the renovation of the Kranzberg Education Lab and the success of the *Sculpting the Future* Capital Campaign through a variety of grand opening events and activities for donors, friends and the public throughout 2015.

***Sculpting the Future* Capital Campaign**

Campaign Goal:

\$10 million

Campaign Project Overview:

Construction of the New Adam Aronson Fine Arts Center	\$4 million (40%)	IN PROGRESS
7-Acre Land Acquisition for Park Land Preservation	\$3 million (30%)	COMPLETED ✓
Site Infrastructure Improvements & New Main Entrance	\$1.5 million (15%)	COMPLETED ✓
Renovation of the Kranzberg Education Lab	\$1 million (10%)	COMPLETED ✓
Education & Exhibition Program Support	\$0.5 million (5%)	IN PROGRESS

Campaign Leadership:

Nancy and Ken Kranzberg, Campaign Co-Chairs
 Josh Aronson, Alison Ferring, Matt Matthews, David Schlafly, Ken Steinback, Patricia Wycoff

Major Campaign Contributors:

St. Louis County	Grace Brod*
St. Louis County Convention & Recreation Trust Fund	Staenberg Family Foundation
Nancy and Ken Kranzberg	Wells Fargo Advisors
Aronson Family Foundation	Edward Jones
Whitaker Charitable Foundation	Ruth and Alvin Siteman
Alison and John Ferring	Kathy and Robert Williams
Emerson	Patricia and David Schlafly
Interco Charitable Trust	

*Deceased

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Laumeier Sculpture Park is a living laboratory where artists and audiences explore the relationship between contemporary art and the natural environment. Founded in 1976, Laumeier is one of the first and largest dedicated sculpture parks in the country, making it an institution of international significance as well as a unique complement to the cultural landscape of the St. Louis region. Laumeier is a nonprofit, accredited art museum that operates in partnership with St. Louis County Parks. Projects and programs are supported by the Mark Twain Laumeier Endowment Fund, the Regional Arts Commission, the University of Missouri-St. Louis, Missouri Arts Council and the Arts and Education Council of St. Louis. Laumeier presents 60 works of large-scale outdoor sculpture in a 105-acre park available free to the public year-round, and serves 300,000 patrons annually through temporary exhibitions, education programs, public events and sculpture conservation.