

Starr  
*Women's*  
HALL OF FAME

**2025 Induction Ceremony**

February 20, 2025

# Celebrating Extraordinary Women

The Starr Women's Hall of Fame is dedicated to recognizing extraordinary Kansas City women and preserving the history of their accomplishments. These women are social reformers, volunteers, philanthropists, civic leaders, activists and educators. They are movers and shakers, as well as vested neighborhood catalysts, whose tireless commitment to community has made Kansas City a better place to live. The Hall of Fame is a repository for their legacies. By sharing their stories, the Hall of Fame encourages and inspires women of all generations everywhere.

The Starr Women's Hall of Fame bears the name of the late Martha Jane Phillips Starr, a Kansas City philanthropist and champion of women's rights. She also helped start the University of Missouri-Kansas City Women's Council and their Graduate Assistance Fund, which provides financial assistance to female students. She died in 2011.



The Starr Women's Hall of Fame is made possible through the Starr Education Committee, Martha Jane Starr's family and the Starr Field of Interest Fund, which was established upon her death through the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation. The idea for the Hall of Fame stemmed from Starr Education Committee members. Twenty-seven civic organizations that advocate on behalf of women and family issues have signed on in support of the Hall of Fame.

## The Power of Women's History

Rachel Hoffman spent years of her childhood in the patient rooms, clinics and labs of Children's Mercy Kansas City. Her chronic health issues had robbed her of a typical childhood, but she was well versed in how the hospital functioned. Years later, as an undergraduate English major, she found herself enrolled in a Women's Rhetoric class at UMKC, where she was introduced to archival collections of Kansas City women throughout history.

Because of her experiences, she was immediately drawn to the papers of Katharine Berry Richardson, one of the founders of Children's Mercy. Rachel's analysis of Richardson's writing in the hospital's fundraising newsletter received honors and was ultimately published as *Getting Mouthy: The Displayed Authority of Dr. Katharine Berry Richardson* in the academic journal *Young Scholars in Writing*. Rachel's story clearly demonstrates the power of preserving Kansas City women's history.

## Home of the Starr Women's Hall of Fame Archive

The UMKC University Libraries' Special Collections and Archives Division is honored to serve as the repository of the stories and legacies of the Starr Women's Hall of Fame inductees. The papers of more than 15 Hall of Fame inductees have been donated to SCA for preservation and research access. SCA has also secured collections from many of the local women's organizations that sponsor the Hall of Fame. These collections make UMKC University Libraries the definitive resource for material culture and ephemera documenting Kansas City women's history.

## Extraordinary Research Opportunities

In addition to acquiring and preserving the legacy collections of Kansas City's leading women, SCA's work centers on getting researchers in front of the materials by:

- Providing regular archival research orientations to both undergraduate and graduate students across the campus.
- Sharing the Starr Women's Hall of Fame collections with visiting classes that center on the work of women.
- Sponsoring an annual research stipend that rewards graduate research in our women's and gender studies collections.

Furthermore, student and professional researchers in the Starr Women's Hall of Fame collections have presented their work in campus research symposia, at regional and national conferences, in scholarly and literary journals and at local and regional film festivals.

Longer-term goals include digital publication of collection materials from the Starr Intern Program and the development of curriculum guidance to incorporate Starr Women's Hall of Fame stories into K-12 classes throughout the region. These efforts will widen outreach and access initiatives for this important collection and the stories it tells.

*Your generous gift is needed to continue the mission to collect, preserve and make accessible the documents and artifacts telling the stories that earned these remarkable women a place in the Starr Women's Hall of Fame.*

## 2025 Induction Ceremony

Thursday, February 20, 2025 | 4–6:30 p.m.

Kauffman Center for  
the Performing Arts

Program, 4–5:30 p.m.  
Reception, 5:30–6:30 p.m.



**Michelle Wimes**  
Chair



**Karen Daniel**  
Honorary Chair

## 2025 Class of Inductees

### **Eliza Burton Conley Jr.\***

First Native American to argue a case in the Supreme Court

### **Muriel Irene McBrien Kauffman\***

Philanthropist who helped shape the arts and healthcare delivery in Kansas City; also established the first center dedicated to women's heart health in the United States

### **Roshann Parris**

Communications firm founder who has led the first family of multiple U.S. presidential administrations on diplomatic tours in dozens of countries

### **Clara Reyes\***

Founded the first bilingual newspaper in the four-state region

### **Annabeth Surbaugh\***

First at-large chair of the Board of County Commissioners in Johnson County, Kansas

### **Marian E. Washington**

First woman named as president of the Black Coaches Association and the first African American woman to coach the Olympic women's basketball team

### **Marjorie A. Williams**

First African American superintendent of the Hickman Mills School District

*\* Posthumous recognition.*

For more information about the 2025 Class of Inductees, please visit [umkc.edu/starrhalloffame](http://umkc.edu/starrhalloffame).



# 2025 Sponsorship Opportunities

## \$25,000 Glass Ceiling Buster

- 40 premier seating event tickets
- VIP exclusive Starr Women's Hall of Fame archives tour hosted by Chancellor Mauli Agrawal for 8 participants
- VIP pre-event Patron Party invitations for 25 participants
- Logo or name recognition in printed program
- Logo or name on e-invitation
- Logo or name on event web page
- Logo or name on post-event thank you in print media ad
- Logo or name as sponsor in a social media post\*
- Logo or name on signage at the reception as a sponsor

## \$15,000 Grit & Grace

- 25 premier seating event tickets
- VIP exclusive Starr Women's Hall of Fame archives tour hosted by Chancellor Mauli Agrawal for four participants
- VIP pre-event Patron Party invitations for 15 participants
- Logo or name recognition in printed program
- Logo or name on event web page
- Logo or name on post-event thank you in print media ad
- Logo or name as sponsor in a social media post\*
- Logo or name on signage by the valet station

## \$10,000 Empowerment

- 20 premier seating event tickets
- VIP pre-event Patron Party invitations for 10 participants
- Logo or name recognition in printed program
- Logo or name on event web page
- Logo or name on post-event thank you in print media ad
- Listing as sponsor in a social media post\*
- Logo or name on the back of the printed program

## \$5,000 Legacy

- 10 premier seating event tickets
- Listing as sponsor in printed program
- Listing as sponsor on event web page
- Listing on post-event thank you in print media ad
- Listing as sponsor in a social media post\*

## \$3,000 Persistence

- Seven premier seating event tickets
- Listing as sponsor in printed program
- Listing as sponsor on event web page

## \$1,500 Friends of the Hall

- Four premier seating event tickets
- Listing as sponsor in printed program
- Listing as sponsor on event web page

\* 171K followers.

# Sponsorship Commitment

2025 Induction Ceremony | February 20, 2025

## SPONSORSHIP LEVEL

- Glass Ceiling Buster (\$25,000)
- Legacy (\$5,000)
- Grit & Grace (\$15,000)
- Persistence (\$3,000)
- Empowerment (\$10,000)
- Friends of the Hall (\$1,500)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name

Company

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone ( Home  Office  Mobile)

Email

Name (as you would like for it to appear in printed materials)

## PAYMENT INFORMATION

- My payment is enclosed  
Make checks payable to: UMKC Starr WHOF\*
- Invoice me on Dec. 1, 2024
- My payment will be made online  
Visit [go.umkc.edu/WHOFsponsor](https://go.umkc.edu/WHOFsponsor) to make your payment
- Please charge my credit card
  - Discover
  - Mastercard
  - Visa
  - American Express

Card number

Expiration date

CCV

Name on card

Donor signature

\*When providing a check as payment, you authorize UMKC to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your account or to process the payment as a standard check transaction.

Please remit the completed sponsorship commitment form to:

[umkcstarrhof@umkc.edu](mailto:umkcstarrhof@umkc.edu)

UMKC Starr WHOF

5115 Oak St. AC-300B | Kansas City, MO 64112

Questions or need more information?

Contact Courtney Forkum at [umkcstarrhof@umkc.edu](mailto:umkcstarrhof@umkc.edu) or 816-226-7643 | Relay Missouri: 800-735-2966 (TTY)

**THANK YOU!**



*The Starr Women's Hall of Fame and this event are organized by the  
Division of External Relations and Constituent Engagement.*