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Thirty Area Executives Named to 41st Kansas City Tomorrow Leadership Class

The Civic Council of Greater Kansas City has announced its 41st Kansas City Tomorrow (KCT) leadership class. Potential participants were nominated earlier this year and were selected through a competitive process that included in-person interviews.

“This year’s KCT class is a very strong and diverse group of Kansas City professionals,” said Paul Holewinski, President & CEO of Dickinson Financial Corporation and chair of the KCT Leadership Group, the Civic Council committee that selected the 2019-2020 participants. “We are excited about the upcoming programming and KCT year, and our Civic Council members are looking forward to interacting with the KCT class.”

The thirty business, nonprofit and public sector executives began the ten-month program on August 23, 2019 and complete the experience in June 2020. KCT’s curriculum focuses on the region’s most pressing issues, such as education, economic development, diversity and inclusion, and the KC Rising initiative. The goal of the KCT program is to prepare its participants for civic leadership roles in the Kansas City region. More information about the KCT program can be found online at: www.kcciviccouncil.org/initiatives/kc-tomorrow.

“The Civic Council created the KCT program to help educate rising executives about the key challenges and opportunities facing our region,” said Civic Council chair Bill Gautreaux. “Ultimately, we hope that many of these KCT participants will go on to take a leadership role on an important community issue,” he added. “That could mean serving in appointed or elected office, joining a nonprofit board or community task force, or stepping up in some other way in our region.”

Once they complete the program, participants are eligible to join the KCT Alumni Association (www.kctaa.org), an independent, non-profit organization that allows the more than 900 graduates of the program to stay connected and explore opportunities for civic leadership.

About the Civic Council of Greater Kansas City:
The Civic Council of Greater Kansas City was formed in 1964 with the goal of aggregating the resources of the leaders of the region’s largest employers to address major challenges and opportunities. As a privately-funded, nonprofit membership organization of business CEOs, the Civic Council focuses on long-term issues that impact the economic prosperity and quality of life of all Kansas City residents in the region. For more information, visit www.kcciviccouncil.org.
KANSAS CITY TOMORROW (KCT)

41st CLASS 2019-2020

Kim Wallace Carlson, Director of Engagement – Entrepreneurship, Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation
Jeffrey Cathey, Vice President – Operational Controller, Crestwood Equity Partners
Andre Davis, Corporate Engagement Executive, Built
Brian Dietz, Vice President – Regional General Counsel, JE Dunn Construction Co.
Carly Diane Duvall, Of Counsel, Spencer Fane LLP
Benjamin Frerichs, Business Development Manager, Burns & McDonnell
Clayton Fulghum, General Counsel, Park Hill School District
Ghadeer M. Garcia, Executive Director, The BrandLab KC
Dean Gray, Director, MRI Global
Jason Grill, Founder, JGrill Media & Consulting
Cokethea N. Hill, Chief Executive Officer, StoneHill Firm
Franci Erdmann Himes, Vice President – Client Insights, Service Management Group (SMG)
Sheri Johnson, Vice President Marketing, McCownGordon Construction
Edward J. Lada, Jr., President and CEO, Goodwill of Western MO & Eastern KS
Tara Markley, County Extension Director, K-State Research & Extension Johnson County
Laura S. McCarthy, Director – Client Partnership, Global Prairie
Lindsey J. McDonald, Director – Product Configuration Management, ScriptPro
Ryan Mulvany, Sr. Director – Operations, Analytics & Support, KCP&L/Evergy
Kristen A. Page, Partner and Practice Managing Partner, Shook Hardy & Bacon LLP
David L. Rambo, Chief Commercial Banking Officer, Academy Bank NA
Brian Roberts, Vice President Operations, Lockton Companies
Mark Christian Scharosch, Vice President, Bicknell Family Holding Co.
Andrea Sellers, Partner, Stinson Leonard Street LLP
Eric Sidler, Partner, Lathrop Gage LLP
Ashley Anne Smith, Sr. Technical Mgr – Advanced Manufacturing Engineering, Honeywell
Susan Smith, Sr. Managing Director/Principal, Newmark Grubb Zimmer
Jason Spacek, Chief Innovation Officer, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas City
Alison Troutwine, Project Manager, Truman Medical Centers
Ingrid F. VanBiber, Shareholder, Polsinelli PC