



Art brings people together

Educators from the GuangXi Arts Institute in Nanning, China, are working at the Kansas City Art Institute in a program called Studio Nong, named after founder Bangmin Nong (left). The program pairs four Chinese artists with four Americans, three from KCAI, to create sculptures of people. Nong and Jessie Fisher discussed different approaches Thursday. Go to KansasCity.com for a photo gallery and video.

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Local

SENATOR DETAILS WINS AND CLASHES

STEVE KRASKE



COMMENTARY

The story of the 2012 U.S. Senate race in Missouri that saw Democrat Claire McCaskill run TV ads aimed at boosting the primary prospects of Republican Todd Akin already is the stuff of political legend.

Now McCaskill reveals in a new autobiography, "Plenty Ladylike," that her campaign helped Akin in another way that proved pivotal to him winning the GOP

EXPANDING POLICE TRAINING

Gov. Jay Nixon announces goals to improve officer education, helping avoid profiling and shootings.

By GLENN E. RICE
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Gov. Jay Nixon wants law enforcement officers across Missouri to be better trained on how to respond to dangerous situations, avoid racial profiling and take care of themselves.

Nixon announced his peace officer training goals at Kansas City

police headquarters Thursday — three days before the one-year anniversary of the police shooting of unarmed black teenager Michael Brown in Ferguson, Mo. While a grand jury and federal authorities maintained Darren Wilson did nothing wrong, civil rights activists and others questioned how the officer used deadly force.

"Events here in Missouri and across the country have prompted a national dialogue about the need to build greater trust between law enforcement officers

and the communities they protect and serve," Nixon said.

Many law enforcement agencies nationwide, including Kansas City's, already teach their officers how to delay or even prevent shootings by backing away or finding cover until other officers arrive.

Officers also must be trained to use critical thinking and problem-solving skills to avoid racial or cultural profiling as well as situations where they may have to shoot someone who is threaten-

ing them, Nixon said.

"On any given day, they face challenges that demand toughness, discipline and courage, but also the compassion of a counselor, the legal acumen of a lawyer and the discernment of a negotiator," he said.

Nixon has directed Lane Roberts, the state's public safety director, and the Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission to convene a series of meet-

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