

## Julia Irene Dennie - Kauffman

Julia Irene Dennie - Kauffman is Chairman, President & Chief Executive Officer of the Muriel McBrien Kauffman Family Foundation. The Foundation was established in 1987 by her mother, Muriel Irene McBrien Kauffman, to support and enhance the performing arts in the greater Kansas City community. In 1995, Julia was designated Chairman of the Board of the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts. She spearheaded the effort to build the Center in downtown Kansas City, fulfilling a dream of her late mother, Muriel. The celebrated opening of the Kauffman Center took place in September 2011. Spanning more than fourteen years of successful operation, the gleaming glass structure is now a staple of the Kansas City skyline and is internationally acclaimed for its stunning architecture and precision acoustics.

Ms. Kauffman's civic and philanthropic activities include serving as Vice Chairman of the Kansas City Symphony Foundation Board of Directors, Chairman of the Board of Kansas City Ballet, and Legacy Director Emeritus to the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. She was a member of the Kansas City Royals Baseball Club Board of Directors from 1997 until 2019. Ms. Kauffman was appointed to the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art Board of Trustees in 1997, serving until 2016. She previously served on the Board of Trustees of the University of Missouri-Kansas City. In 2012, Ms. Kauffman was awarded a Doctor of Music *Honoraris Causa* by the UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance.

Other civic recognition includes being awarded the Silver Beaver Award for Philanthropy in 2005 by the Boy Scouts Heart of America Council. In 2011, Ms. Kauffman was honoured as the recipient of the J. Philip Kirk, Jr. Award for Community Vision and Downtown Stewardship, presented by the Downtown Council of Kansas City. That same year, the UMKC Henry W. Bloch School of Management Council for Entrepreneurship and Innovation named Julia Irene as the 2011 recipient of the Marion and John Kremer Award for Entrepreneurship in Volunteer Community Service. In 2014, Julia Irene was presented the Second Annual UMKC Foundation Award of

Distinction. She is a past recipient of the Kansas City Council on Philanthropy Philanthropist of the Year Award and the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce ATHENA Award. Her distinguished service in the arts was also recognized by William Jewell College with the William F. Yates Medallion. In 2016, Ms. Kauffman was named as the recipient of the Henry W. Bloch Human Relations Award by the Jewish Community Relations Bureau | American Jewish Committee. In 2019, Julia received the Saint Luke's Visionary Award in recognition of her extraordinary vision, leadership, and support to advancing women's heart health. Also in 2019, the Muriel McBrien Kauffman Family Foundation was awarded the Pillar Award by the Regional Arts Council for its significant investment in arts and culture. In 2025, the Muriel McBrien Kauffman Family Foundation was recognized as a Champion of Philanthropy by the Saint Luke's Foundation for its significant philanthropic efforts towards improving community health.

Julia Irene's diverse interests include having served as a member of the Board of Directors of the PBS Foundation. She is a member of the Visiting Committee to The Costume Institute at the Metropolitan Museum of Art of New York City, as well as a past member of the Board of Directors of the Soldiers', Sailors', Marines', Coast Guard, and Airmen's Club in New York City from 1995 – 2018.

[9.4.25]

