WINTERPROOF
LOCAL EXPERTS WEIGH IN ON
MUST-HAVE SKINCARE PRODUCTS

A FAIRY TALE AFFAIR
PEEK INSIDE THE GATES OF
KANSAS CITY'S CAMELOT

36 GLORIOUS GIFTS
OUR ANNUAL GIFT GUIDE HAS
PERFECT IDEAS FOR EVERYONE
ON YOUR NICE LIST

SHINE LIKE A STAR IN
DAZZLING GOWNS FROM
OPULENT TO "OH MY!"

LOVE THIS LOOK? IT'S ALL LOCAL!
SEE PAGE 7 FOR DETAILS.
Lucky number seven. The seventh inning stretch. The seven years it takes the cells in a human body to regenerate—all seven billion or so of them.

For Kansas City, the past seven years have been a glorious renaissance. The art world welcomed the spectacular Bloch Building and the Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art. We watched Mayor Peggy Dunn operate an earth mover to dedicate the site of Leawood’s new town square, Park Place. Nearby, the shops and restaurants at One Nineteen and Mission Farms also gave Johnson Countians plenty of reasons to applaud, and Wyandotte County continues to amaze us with new retail and entertainment venues.

At New Independence Square, you can get a history lesson and a new outfit before slipping into a booth at any number of restaurants. Overland Park has picked up the pace with a resurgence of shopping and dining choices, and Prairie Village Shops and Corinth Square are following suit.

The Crossroads Arts District continues to thrive with new dining spots, growth in condos, offices and galleries, and expansion to the east. Union Station (finally in the black!) and locals with a vision on Pershing Road have added exciting enterprises including the Bolender Center, Portfolio Kitchen & Home and the fascinating World War I Museum at the Liberty Memorial. The Power & Light District—along with the Sprint Center—has re-energized our downtown, which has even more on the horizon. Hotel Phillips reveals a glamorous renovation this month that blows a kiss to its Art Deco past.

The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts opened with a splash in September. During his dedication speech, Governor Jay Nixon praised Julia Irene Kauffman and her team for their refusal to stop at good enough, which makes the difference, he says, between “a good performer and a virtuoso; an ordinary building and an icon.” Mayor Sly James bequeathed the Kauffman something beyond cool when he called it “frosty.”

And KC Magazine has been there to document and celebrate them all. This issue marks our seventh year under this title, part of a legacy of more than 30 years of publishing excellence. It’s an exciting time to be our city’s magazine, and the fireworks will continue as Kansas City accepts praise from national and international press, revels in productions by world-renowned and local performers at our outstanding theaters, and adds to our lifestyle venues throughout the metro.

So, happy anniversary to KC Magazine. You never know what wonderful surprises the next seven years will bring, but one thing’s for sure: it’ll be frosty.

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