

## Find Your Fountain in the City of Fountains Challenge

Kansas City, Missouri, is known as the City of Fountains. These unique and varied water sculptures and statuary do more than just give our neighborhoods and public spaces vitality and a special sense of place, they commemorate and celebrate the visions, deeds, and generosity of generations of Kansas Citians who helped make so many of our community's wishes come true. We challenge you to "find your fountain" by visiting some of the most historic and popular fountains on your visit to Kansas City, Missouri.



*Find Your Fountain in the City of Fountains Challenge is sponsored by **Kansas City, Missouri, Parks and Recreation**. Kansas City, Missouri, Parks and Recreation provides facilities, programs and recreational opportunities for the community that contribute to an aesthetically pleasing environment and enhanced quality of life. The department maintains 221 parks, 12,242 acres of parkland, 158 miles of trails and bikeways, 29 lakes, hundreds of athletic fields and tennis courts, 106 playgrounds, and five public golf courses. Miles of scenic boulevards and parkways crisscross the city, where 48 fountains and 122 monuments and sculptures surprise and delight.*



**Find Your Fountain in the City of Fountains Challenge ... Visit at least 6 sites. Remember: Missouri Explorers must be registered in the program, and they are responsible for checking hours and availability of sites. Upload your verification photographs using the online submission form at <https://missouri2021.org/missouri-explorers/> to receive your merit badge button.**

*Share and tag your photos with hashtag #KCParks and #COFF on social media.*

**Remember**, Missouri Explorers, you are responsible for checking hours and availability of sites before arriving.

### **Bernard Powell Memorial Fountain**

Brooklyn Avenue and E. 28<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kansas City, Missouri  
816-513-7519

*Bernard Powell, an activist who founded the Social Action Committee of 20, was slain in 1979. After his death, the statue was commissioned and \$170,000 raised by Maxine McFarlane (Powell's aunt and head of The Action Committee for Social Change) for a fountain in his memory. The fountain and plaza were installed in 1985. The bronze likeness of Powell was installed in 1991. Snap your photograph in front of the fountain.*

<https://kcparks.org/places/powell-bernard-memorial-fountain/>

### **Children's Fountain**

N. Oak and E. 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue

Kansas City, Missouri

816-513-7519

*Playful, happy, challenging, thoughtful – all are terms that can be used to describe Kansas City's Children's Fountain. The fountain was designed to celebrate children, and Kansas City children were used as models for the figures. Local sculptor Tom Corbin created the six figures: Joy, posing happily on one pedestal; Meeting Challenges, represented by a boy with crutches; a ballerina; a boy playing soccer; a boy standing on his head and a girl wading into the pool of the fountain. They are each 8 to 9 feet tall. Snap your photograph in front of the fountain.*

[https://kcparks.org/places/children\\_s-fountain-2/](https://kcparks.org/places/children_s-fountain-2/)

### **David Woods Kemper Memorial Fountain**

Main and E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street

Kansas City, Missouri  
816-513-7519

*Also called the “Muse of the Missouri,” Mr. and Mrs. James Kemper, Sr. of a prominent Kansas City banking family presented this memorial to the city in honor of their son, Lt. David W. Kemper, who was killed in action in Italy during World War II. Snap your photograph in front of the fountain.*

<https://kcparks.org/places/kemper-david-woods-memorial-fountain/>

### **Delbert J. Haff Circle Fountain**

Meyer Boulevard and Swope Parkway  
Kansas City, Missouri  
816-513-7519

*In the 1890’s, Delbert Haff became an essential influence on the direction that the Kansas City Park Board has evolved towards today. A circle outside Swope Park was dedicated to this pioneer. The mirror pool was designed with a low retaining wall of coursed stone. In 1966, it was equipped with a center spraying ring and seven vertical jets that operate year-round. This fountain welcomes visitors to the entrance of Swope Park and pays tribute to one of Kansas City’s most influential proponents of the local parks system. Snap your photograph in front of the fountain.*

<https://kcparks.org/places/haff-delbert-j-circle-fountain/>

### **Firefighters Fountain and Memorial**

Pennsylvania Avenue and W. 31<sup>st</sup> Street  
Kansas City, Missouri  
816-513-7519

*This fountain, located at the south end of Penn Valley Park, is a collaborative effort from many private sources to pay tribute to the men and women of the Kansas City Fire Department and memorialize those who have given their lives in the line of duty. The fountain features two bronze figures surrounded by 48 streams of water falling into an 80-foot-wide basin. A bronze larger-than-life sculpture of a firefighter with his head bowed is directly to the north of*

*the fountain. Behind the sculpture is a curved stone wall with bronze plaques that list the names of the fallen firefighters. Snap your photograph in front of the fountain.*

[https://kcparks.org/places/firefighters\\_-fountain/](https://kcparks.org/places/firefighters_-fountain/)

### **Harold Rice Fountain**

Paseo and E. 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Kansas City, Missouri  
816-513-7519

*Harold Rice formed the City of Fountains Foundation in 1973 with the goal of adding one fountain per year. This fountain, dedicated to him, is a pedestal with its multi-tiered bowls resting in a pool basin. Located between 71<sup>st</sup> and 72<sup>nd</sup> Street in a grassy concourse of The Paseo, the red brick patio hosts benches on the north and south ends. Snap your photograph in front of the fountain.*

<https://kcparks.org/places/harold-rice-d-fountain-2/>

### **Ilus Davis Fountain**

E 11<sup>th</sup> Street and Locust Street  
Kansas City, Missouri  
816-513-7519

*Ilus W. Davis Park, named for the 1960s mayor who was associated with the city’s growth and progress, strengthens the north-south axis and adds softness and color to the government district, often called the civic mall, on the northeast side of downtown. Snap your photograph in front of the fountain.*

<https://kcparks.org/places/davis-ilus-w-fountain-2/>

### **Northland Fountain**

NE. Vivion Road and N. Oak Trafficway  
Kansas City, Missouri  
816-513-7519

*This fountain, located in Kansas City North in Anita B. Gorman Park, is one of two fountains that runs year-round. It has also been called the “Spirit of Cooperation,” because it illustrates the unified effort of the public and private*

*sectors worked together to achieve a common goal. Its benefactors range from Farmland's \$30,000 contribution to a three-cent donation from a schoolchild. An 80' circular base contains a center geyser which can propel water to a height of 35'. In winter, it becomes an ice sculpture attracting people to view varied shapes created by the frozen water. Snap your photograph in front of the fountain.*

<https://kcparks.org/places/northland-fountain/>

### **Spirit of Freedom Fountain**

Emanuel Cleaver II Boulevard and Cleveland Avenue  
Kansas City, Missouri  
816-513-7519

*A 5,000 lb. metallic free form sculpture sits on a pedestal in the middle of a retaining pool – elliptical in shape with raised platforms that support the sculpture. Water pours from the base of the platform, and there are six clusters of water jets in the interior of the basin. Snap your photograph in front of the fountain.*

<https://kcparks.org/places/spirit-of-freedom-fountain-2/>

### **The Women's Leadership Fountain**

Paseo and E 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kansas City, Missouri  
816-513-7519

*This is the second fountain built in Kansas City's and its oldest working fountain. Designed by George Kessler and John VanBrunt, it was completed in 1899. After a long period of non-use, the basin was excavated and repaired in 1970. And in 1989, the Central Exchange took leadership in raising money for a partial restoration and named it The Women's Leadership Fountain. Funds from the sale of other city property were used to complete the restoration in 2003. The names of thirteen women who have made notable contributions to Kansas City are featured. Snap your photograph in front of the fountain.*

[https://kcparks.org/places/the-women\\_s-leadership-fountain-2/](https://kcparks.org/places/the-women_s-leadership-fountain-2/)

### **Thomas H. Swope Memorial Fountain**

6900 Swope Memorial Drive  
Kansas City, Missouri  
816-513-7519

*A portion of the memorial to Thomas Swope is a 6' pedestal fountain. A 4' balustrade of white stone frames this classical pedestal. 84' to the east is the granite mausoleum. Thomas Swope was buried under the floor of the Thomas H. Swope Memorial near the Swope Memorial Golf Course in April 1918 about nine years after his death in 1909. This fountain was updated in 2003. Snap your photograph in front of the fountain.*

<https://kcparks.org/places/swope-thomas-h-memorial-fountain-2/>