



# Fountains of Life

Kansas City is said to be the home of more fountains than any other city in the world, except Rome. Exactly how many fountains Kansas City has is not known, for public and private fountains are added regularly. Yet, it's not only the number of fountains that make Kansas City the city of fountains, but the craftsmanship and presentation of these celebrations of water. Spending a day leisurely touring these stunning structures adds to the Kansas City experience. Here are a few popular waterworks in Kaycee:

Purchased in 1929 in Florence, Italy, the Boy and Frog Fountain has impressed and amused visitors to the Plaza. A young boy is delighted and surprised by the shower he receives from a friendly bronze frog.

Kansas City's fountain of youth is The Children's Fountain, which features six bronze sculptures of children playing in the water.

The Crown Center fountains occupy 2,000 square feet and consist of a cobblestone-paved area with no nozzles or plumbing. The water, which seems to erupt from the ground, is propelled by 49 water jets. The fountains shoot water approximately 30 feet in the air, and are colorfully lit at night.

The Firefighters Fountain is among the larger fountains in the city. The fountain has an 80-foot diameter basin that holds 76,000 gallons of water. There is also a memorial terrace with names of the city's fallen firefighters carved in granite.

Photo: ©John Elk III

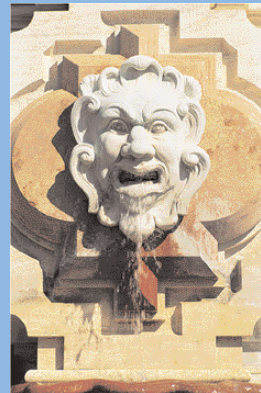
## The J. C. Nichols Memorial Fountain's four equestrian figures each represent a famous river of the world.

The J. C. Nichols Memorial Fountain's four equestrian figures each represent a famous river of the world. Water sprays up 30 feet from the center of the fountain. The fountain is a memorial to Plaza developer J. C. Nichols.

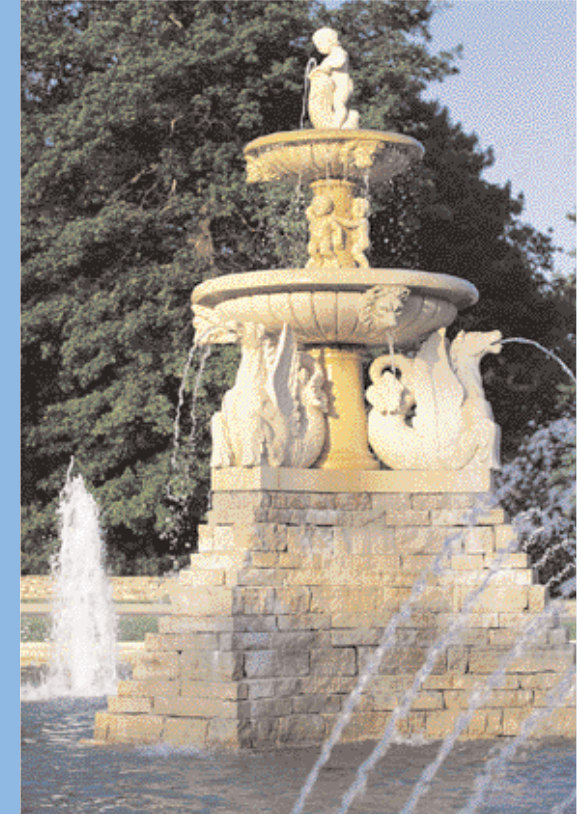
The Meyer Circle Sea Horse Fountain contains Cararra marble that was purchased in Venice in the early 1920s. Meyer Boulevard and Meyer Circle were named

after August R. Meyer. He is looked upon as the originator of the system of parks and boulevards for which Kansas City is famous.

shaft is 30 feet tall and carved from several kinds of marble. Water flows from the four masked faces, located near its 20-foot square base. The Vietnam Veterans Fountain was dedicated in 1986 to those who served in the Vietnam War, with a special salute to veterans from the Kansas City area. The fountain includes a memorial wall with the names of 336 area soldiers who were killed or declared missing in action, which is quite moving.



The J. C. Nichols Memorial Fountain (far left) at the Country Club Plaza. On this page, clockwise from the top are: the Little Mermaid Fountain, the Meyer Circle Sea Horse Fountain and the Seville Fountain.



Photos: (from top) @Roy Inman; @Andrea Wells; @Eric R. Bernst/Unicorn Stock Photos