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Main Line Art Center Honored with Award for Accessible Art Programs for People with Disabilities



Experienced Teaching Artists work alongside volunteers to provide one-on-one instruction and attention.

Main Line Art Center in Haverford is announcing that the Center is a 2015 recipient of Art-Reach's Commitment to Cultural Access Award for their Accessible Art Programs. Now in their 51st year, these programs serve children and adults with disabilities, at-risk youth, and low income families both on-site at Main Line Art Center and through community partners including the Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired in Chester, Elwyn, Judith Creed Homes for Adult Independence (JCHAD), the Village, and PA School for the Deaf.

Each year, Art-Reach honors organizations or individuals in the Greater Philadelphia area who are doing extraordinary work in alignment with their mission to make the arts accessible. In addition to Main Line Art Center, People's Light and Theatre Company in Malvern has been named a recipient of the award this year. Both organizations will be recognized at the 2015 Commitment to Cultural Access Awards Celebration on

Saturday, **March 28**, at Main Line Art Center from 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Main Line Art Center is recognized as a leader among its peers due to its longstanding commitment to fostering the inclusion of people of all ages, abilities, and skill levels. Within the Art Center's historical building in Haverford, Main Line Art Center offers the Exceptional Art Program for children, teens, and adults with cognitive and physical disabilities. Working with a variety of media like clay, paint, and collage, students build cognitive, physical, and social skills and are given an important outlet for self-expression. Experienced Teaching Artists work alongside a team of volunteers to provide one-on-one instruction and attention. Participants flourish in this supportive and fun environment and often stay with the program for many years. Main Line Art Center also partners with organizations in the Greater Philadelphia area to provide visual arts programs for their participants.

"We are so honored to receive this Commitment to Cultural Access Award from Art-Reach as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of our Accessible Art Programs for children and adults with disabilities," says Amie Potsic, Executive Director, Main Line Art Center. "It is especially meaningful to be recognized for these programs because it is also a testament to the teaching artists, volunteers, and supportive partner organizations who share our commitment to arts accessibility and fulfilling our mission of Art for Everyone."

This Spring, Main Line Art Center will present exhibitions featuring the work Accessible Art participants in their Welcome Gallery, as well as Ludington Library and Bryn Mawr Hospital. The Center will host a Sensory Garden Party and Ice Cream Bowl Fundraiser on Saturday, **May 30**, from 1 - 3 p.m. The event is free to the public, and will be held in the Center's Sensory Garden which was unveiled last spring in honor of the 50th anniversary of Accessible Art Programs. For information about Main Line Art Center's Accessible Art Programs, visit www.mainlineart.org or call 610-525-0272.

Immaculata University Showcases Academic Achievement at Annual SEPCHE Conference

Approximately 150 College Students Participating

Immaculata University is hosting the 17th Annual SEPCHE (Southeastern Pennsylvania Consortium for Higher Education) Honors Conference on Saturday, **March 28**, from 9:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. Events are held in Alumnae Hall, Loyola Hall, and Good Counsel Hall. The Honors Conference is an academic symposium enabling students to present their research scholarship, performance and culminating work to peers across all eight member institutions which include Immaculata University, Arcadia University, Cabrini College, Chestnut Hill College, Gwynedd-Mercy University, Holy Family University, Neumann University, and Rosemont College.

After Opening Remarks by Immaculata University President Sister R. Patricia Fadden, IHM, Ed.D., several Immaculata students will perform musical selections as part of their SEPCHE presentations. Art Presentations by all member institutions will be on display in Loyola Hall, third floor. The students' Academic Presentations begin at 11 a.m. in various classrooms in Loyola and Good Counsel halls. Several faculty members from each college/university will serve as facilitators for the presentations.

Program Schedule for the Day:

9:45 a.m. - Welcome, Introduction and Open Remarks - Alumnae Hall Theater; 11 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. - Art Presentations available in Loyola Hall (3rd floor); 11 - 11:50 a.m. - First Session (A) of Academic Presentations; 12 - 12:50 p.m. - Second Session (B) of Academic Presentations; 1 - 2:05 p.m. - Lunch; 2:15 to 3:05 p.m. - Third Session (C) of Academic Presentations; 3:15 - 3:45 p.m. - Closing Program - Alumnae Hall Theater.

SEPCHE is a consortium of eight independent higher education institutions in the Greater Philadelphia region that collaborate to improve the quality and efficiency of academic programming, student access, faculty development, institutional operations and community outreach, through a range of shared activities, services, technology and information.

Immaculata University is a Catholic, comprehensive, coeducational institution of higher education, located on the Main Line between Malvern and Exton, 20 miles west of Philadelphia.

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