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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Main Line Art Center Celebrates 50 Years of Programs for Children & Adults with Disabilities with Exhibitions and Sensory Garden Party

**Sensory Garden Party and Closing Reception
Saturday, May 31, 1-3 pm**

Accessible Art Exhibitions: *Growing Through Art*

**Main Line Art Center
Bryn Mawr Hospital
Ludington Library
Philadelphia's City Hall**

HAVERFORD, PA (April 29, 2014) — This year, Main Line Art Center in Haverford celebrates the 50th anniversary of Accessible Art Programs for children and adults with physical and cognitive disabilities, at-risk youth, and low-income families. Over the years, these programs have transformed thousands of lives and have positioned Main Line Art Center as a resource for individuals in our community as well as organizations across the country.

In celebration of the milestone, the Art Center is celebrating the installation of a new Sensory Garden

that appeals to all five senses so that it can be enjoyed by artists with any level of ability as well as the general public. The Sensory Garden will be a meaningful addition to the beautifully renovated Art Center to further enhance its role as a community gathering place and natural home for artists of any ability and all interests to enjoy art and collaborate. The Sensory Garden is one of the ways the Art Center is able to fulfill its mission of *Art for Everyone* in an integrated and shared natural environment.

The Art Center is concurrently presenting the colorful artwork created in these Accessible Art programs throughout Main Line Art Center, as well as at Ludington Library, Bryn Mawr Hospital, and Philadelphia's City Hall. The Accessible Art 50th Anniversary Exhibitions, *Growing through Art*, feature work by participants in the Art Center's Exceptional Art Program for children, adults, and teens with disabilities, as well as programs with partner organizations Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Elwyn, and theVillage (formerly Presbyterian Children's Village). These programs are made possible thanks to the generosity of the following supporters (as of April 1, 2014): Art Outreach Development Funds for Elwyn, Christian R. & Mary F. Lindback Foundation, Elsie Lee Garthwaite Memorial Foundation, Harriet G. Fredericks Foundation, Louis N. Cassett Foundation, Rosenlund Family Foundation, The Patrons and Sponsors of Art Works for theVillage, and The Karen & Herbert Lotman Foundation.

Main Line Art Center will honor the inspiring artists in these programs and unveil the Sensory Garden on Saturday, May 31 from 1 to 3 pm, with celebratory remarks at 2 pm. The Sensory Garden Party is free and open to the public and will feature artist demos, a craft for all ages and abilities, music by DJ Mikey Mike, party fare, and wine courtesy of Barefoot Wine & Bubbly. An artist reception will run concurrently in the Center's award-winning galleries for *Jewels & Treasures*, a fine art exhibition and sale running May 9 through June 6, which benefits the Center's Accessible Art Programs and educational offerings. Overflow parking is available at The Haverford School, Brandywine Senior Living, and Ringpfeil Advanced Dermatology.

Main Line Art Center in Haverford is a welcoming and inclusive creative home where everyone is encouraged to create, experience, and discover the value of art. Committed to making art more accessible, the Art Center has over 75 years of experience presenting art programs for individuals of all ages and abilities, including a unique series of Accessible Art programs, now celebrating their 50th anniversary, for children and adults with developmental and physical disabilities, at-risk youth, and low income families. Throughout the year, Main Line Art Center presents innovative, contemporary art exhibitions in their award-winning gallery, as well as exhibitions that celebrate community. Last year over 16,000 people chose Main Line Art Center as their home for creativity.

Main Line Art Center is located at 746 Panmure Road in Haverford, behind the Wilkie Lexus dealership just off of Lancaster Avenue. The Art Center is easily accessible from public transportation and offers abundant free parking. For more information about Accessible Art Programs or the Sensory Garden Party, please visit www.mainlineart.org or call 610.525.0272.

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Images are attached to this email and are available upon request.



Artwork created by child participants in Main Line Art Center's Exceptional Art Program for children with cognitive and physical disabilities.