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### Teen Artists Thrive in Main Line Art Center's Summer Teen Programs

HAVERFORD, PA (June 13, 2012)—Summer can be so much more than a time to work at a part-time job or work on a tan. At Main Line Art Center, teen artists can spend the summer stretching their creative limits, building their artistic skills or even prepare for a career or further studies in the visual arts. With Teen Studios, the Art Center's popular program exclusively for young artists ages 13-18, the possibilities for summer can stretch far beyond imagination.

Unlike the Art Center's popular Summer Art Camp which gives campers a taste of a variety of media, Teen Studios afford young artists the opportunity to study a specific medium in-depth with professional Teaching Artists in a real art studio. This year the Art Center is offering 1 week and 9 day studios Monday through Fridays, in the areas of drawing and painting, acrylic and mixed media, jewelry and metalwork, black and white and digital photography, fashion design and illustration, glassblowing and portfolio preparation. Studios are held in the mornings, afternoons and evenings so teens can find time to schedule art into their schedules. Perfect for teens considering a career in the art, or simply those who want to try something new, Teen Studios are kept small to provide individualized attention.



Jeni Bennett (in green) works with children at the June 9 Arts Alive Mobile appearance at Alex's Original Lemonade Stand in Wynnewood.

For 16-year-old Jeni Bennett, who took Summer Art Camp at Main Line Art Center for several years before moving up to Teen Studios, the experience of working with high-quality materials and tools alongside professional artists really helped her grow as an artist.

"I learned more at Main Line Art Center than I did with 9 years of school art classes," said Jeni. "They helped me grow as an artist, plus the classes are tons of fun, and I met some really cool people there over the years."

Jeni takes classes at the Art Center throughout the year as well, dabbling in jewelry, ceramics, drawing and painting. She was particularly impacted by her experience in Teen Studio Photography, and was even inspired to build a darkroom in her basement. Her love of art has also led her to volunteer her time with *On the Road with Arts Alive*, an exciting year-long project, sponsored by PNC Arts Alive, taking art "to the streets" via the Arts Alive Mobile. Jeni volunteered on June 9 at the

Arts Alive Mobile's appearance at Alex's Original Lemonade Stand at Penn Wynne Elementary School. She assisted Street Squad Artists who led children in 2 free art activities and handed out prizes and discounts.

Main Line Art Center also offers week long half day and full day Summer Art Camp for ages 4-13-years-old with convenient options like early drop off and late pickup. For select sessions, the Art Center is running special Pre-Teen Studios for ages 11-13. Modeled after Teen Studios, pre-teens select a morning and/or afternoon intensive to focus on. During the rest of the summer, pre-teens join the Art Center's award-winning camp and experience a variety of 2 & 3-D media. Adults can also get a taste of summer camp in one of the Art Center's many adult classes. With classes in the day, evening and weekends, for all levels from beginners to advanced artists, there's something for every skill level and schedule.

Each year, many of the summer programs at Main Line Art Center sell out, so families are encouraged to register early by calling 610.525.0272 or visit [www.mainlineart.org](http://www.mainlineart.org).

For 75 years, Main Line Art Center has enriched the lives of artists of all ages, levels and abilities through high quality visual arts classes led by professional Teaching Artists, community outreach programs serving diverse audiences, cutting-edge exhibition and events, and artistic development opportunities. The Art Center continues to support the mission originally set forth by its founders: To inspire and engage artistic creativity for all ages and abilities and to celebrate and strengthen the essential role of visual art in community life. Last year alone nearly 15,000 individuals, ages two to senior citizens, participated in our programs and chose the Art Center as their home for creativity and growth, just as generations of community members have before them.

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 the Art Center's programs, please visit [www.mainlineart.org](http://www.mainlineart.org) or call 610.525.0272

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