

## Art-Reach's Oktoberfest: full of tricks and treats

On October 13th new In-Facility Artist Julia Blaukopf led a photography program for children at the [Project H.O.M.E. Honickman Learning Center and Comcast Technology Labs](#). The program, entitled [“Pride of Place”](#), empowered participants to explore their neighborhood within a one-block radius and to find something that makes Philadelphia unique and their own neighborhood beautiful or special.



(above left) Students learn to use digital cameras.



(above right) Julia leading students to transfer their images to postcards.



(above left) student captures images of his block.

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Julia is an established photographer who has traveled to Kenya, Ghana and, most recently, Germany. She’s exhibited her work at Nexus Foundation for the Arts and Moore College of Art Gallery in Philadelphia; Pittsburgh Center for the Arts; the Camera Club in New York; and Maryland Art Place in Baltimore. When developing her photography program for Art-Reach, the need for providing cameras to participants proved to be quite an expensive trick, but the Honickman Family Foundation came to the rescue and sponsored the purchase of 12 cameras and 3 photography programs for Art-Reach members. The Honickmans’ generosity and sponsorship definitely qualifies as a treat! The first program, appropriately held at the Honickman Learning Center, was a big success, and every child walked away with a postcard of their work. Embracing the task and the experience, they saw their neighborhood in a different way. “I took a picture of the trash. I think it looks cool.” Another student offered, “I like taking pictures. This is really cool.”



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On October 14th Art-Reach Ambassadors gathered at [Philadelphia's Magic Gardens](#), located at 1020 South Street, to celebrate their service contributions over the past year. [Art-Reach Ambassadors](#) assist the staff in bringing the arts to those we serve, and they do it with grace and compassion. Be it hosting a group attending a performance to distribute tickets and explain the premise of the performance, interning side-by-side with our staff, heading special projects such as writing for our blog and newsletter or working administratively in our office, we rely on these dedicated individuals to reach the greatest number of people and do the most good.

On this rainy evening, ambassadors enjoyed the largest installation of artist Isaiah Zagar's work. Known for his use of mosaiced tile and found objects, the Gardens house a fully mosaiced indoor gallery and a massive outdoor labyrinthine mosaic sculpture--what we consider a pretty good trick! Covering half a city block, it entertained our ambassadors for the evening and offered plenty to see. "It is almost impossible to take it all in," said one ambassador standing wide-eyed

with his arms stretched as he gazed at the tiled ceiling also covered with glass bottles and wheels.  
“You could come back here again and again and notice something different every time.”



(Left to right) Susan, Celeste, Falami, Marlene, Ashely, Barry and Kenya  
*We rely on these dedicated individuals to reach the greatest number of people and do the most good.*



Marlene shows her grandson his first museum, and also shows off her grandson!



Barry stands next to a 12 foot tall puppet displayed at the gardens.

“You could come back here again and again and notice something different every time.”





The rain did not stop us from enjoying the outside portion of the gardens .



Falami congratulates Susan on her Ambassador of the Year Award.



All of our ambassadors are amazing individuals, and we genuinely thank them all and consider them treats!  
-Art-Reach Staff

After thanking our ambassadors, Michael Norris announced that Susan Pachkes will be honored at this year's Jazz Brunch as the Ambassador of the Year. This honor is bestowed upon the ambassador who best exemplifies our mission participating in a variety of activities throughout the year and showcasing stellar Art-Reach values. Susan was present for the announcement and thankful for the award. She has been involved in all aspects of the program, working on special projects, serving on the brunch committee, volunteering at the brunch, leading sensory tours, running technology to provide open captioning and hosting groups who attend cultural performances. All of our ambassadors are amazing individuals, and we genuinely thank them all and consider them treats!

On October 15th Art-Reach received a monetary treat of \$500 from the Performing Arts Council of the University of Pennsylvania. Students of the [Platt Student Performing Arts House](#) performed *Charitable Laughter*, a showcase of student comedy acts. They continued their charitable giving by donating \$500 from their ticket sales to Art-Reach.



October 21st brought another treat to Art-Reach when [Associated Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired \(ASB\)](#), a longtime member, honored Art-Reach for providing its clients the opportunity to enjoy cultural experiences that they may not otherwise have encountered. Stated President & CEO Patricia C. Johnson and Dr. Roy Fitzgerald, Chairman of the Board, “Your contribution in this regard has left a positive and lasting impression, which will be valued for years to come.” Continuing ASB’s exposure to deeply discounted arts opportunities, 29 ASB participants attended *Curtains* at the [Walnut Street Theatre](#) on Sunday, October 24th.



Derby Ewing and Patricia C. Johnson present Michael Norris with the award to Art-Reach

That same evening Art-Reach hosted a fabulous event in celebration of this year’s annual fundraiser. Our Brunch sponsors, Host Committee, Event Committee, staff and Board of this

year's brunch gathered at the [Barnes Foundation](#) in Merion Pennsylvania during the Art-Reach VIP Brunch Preview Party and were treated to great food, camaraderie and private tours of the art-work housed at the Barnes including an extraordinary number of masterpieces by Renoir, Cézanne, Matisse and Picasso. This was a definite treat for our supporters who work tirelessly making this event successful, especially because the Barnes is scheduled to relocate to Center City and will be closing in January. For more information on joining Art-Reach as a sponsor or Host Committee participant contact Development Manager [Rachel Robbins](#) at 215-568-2115 x2.



*Our Brunch sponsors, Host Committee, Event Committee, staff and Board of this year's brunch gathered at the [Barnes Foundation](#)*

We conclude this month with a very big trick: preparing for our largest fundraiser held on Sunday, November 7th. Our staff, Event Committee, Host Committee, board members, staff and ambassadors are feverishly gathering auction prizes and firming up details to make this event the most successful brunch ever and there are quite a few treats to be had including a sports getaway that provides admission for four to [Trump International Golf Club](#) in Rio Grande, Puerto Rico. This 36-hole championship course boasts four highly unique nines in a setting of unparalleled tropical grandeur that hosted the Puerto Rico Open as part of the 2008 PGA Tour. The new club is a spectacular place to play and enjoy the incomparable touch of the Trump name. Comedy Central has also provided 4 VIP tickets to a live taping of [The Daily Show](#) with Jon Stewart and 4 VIP tickets to a live taping of [The Colbert Report](#) (each set of tickets will be auctioned separately).

[The 19TH ANNUAL JAZZ BRUNCH AND SILENT AUCTION – “In The Mood:” A Celebration of Swing](#) takes place from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom at the Hyatt at the Bellevue in Center City, Philadelphia. Cocktails, a delicious brunch, and a silent auction featuring travel, memorabilia, arts and culture, fashion, food, wine and more will all be treats to be enjoyed. The sounds of swing will be provided by the 11-piece [John Hoey Orchestra](#), and [Lindy and Blues](#) will provide swing-dance lessons. With something for

everyone, Art-Reach invites all who support our work to come enjoy a fabulous event for a fabulously important cause. October has certainly been a fun-filled month, and fall will bring only more good experiences. Be sure to follow our activities and join in the fun!

-By Stephanie Borton