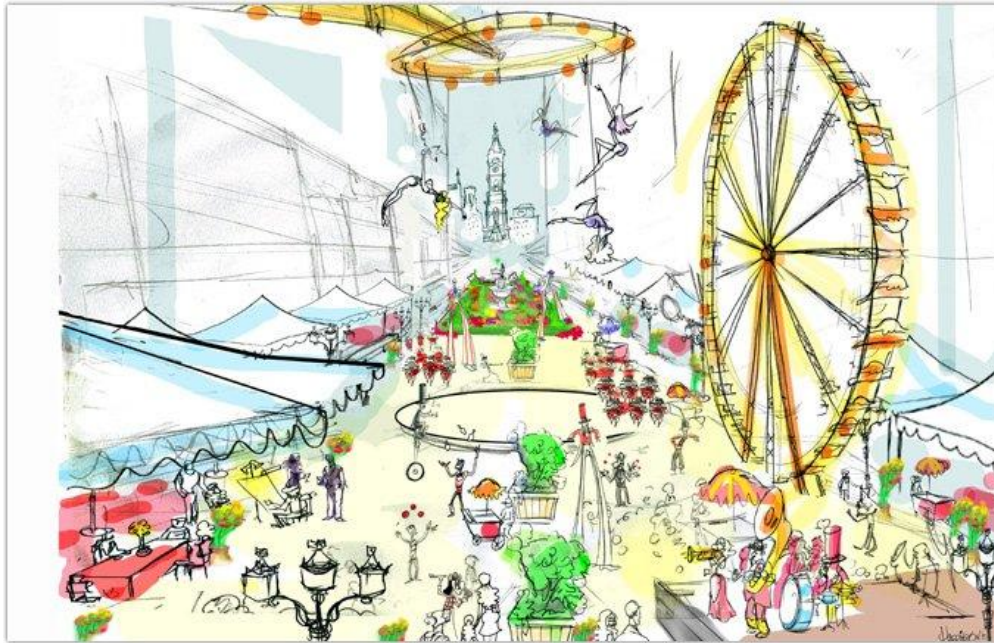


L'art pour tous (Art for All): Art-Reach Celebrates Access with PIFA April 7 – May 1, 2011

Our region is lucky enough to be hosting the Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts (PIFA) this month through May 1 with over 130 events presented by local arts and cultural venues inspired by Art-Reach Arts Partner and Avenue of the Arts giant The Kimmel Center. Art-Reach members, staff and volunteers are enthusiastically attending performances, free events and the sure-to-be amazing culminating event, the PIFA Street Fair.



The theme is Paris 1910-1920. It is a tribute to the innovation and creativity that flooded the French capital at that time and it celebrates the thriving arts of Philadelphia. If you have not already seen it, an 81-foot fully lit Eiffel Tower has been erected inside the Kimmel Center's Commonwealth Plaza. It features an incredible (and FREE!) light and sound show twice daily during the festival at 7pm and 10pm. Other free events happening in the plaza include an Easter Egg Hunt on April 24th from 11am-1pm and the Kimmel Center Youth Jazz Ensemble on May 1st at 1pm.

Art-Reach members are attending performances all month that are part of the PIFA festival. Many have French themes and all are a testament to our city's wealth of artistic innovation. Performances include the Pennsylvania Ballet's Building on Balanchine, Alchemy Dance Company's Rite of Passage, Ballet X's Proliferation of the Imagination, Black Pearl Chamber Orchestra's Paris - When it Sizzled: Stravinsky, Milhaud and "Le Jazz Hot", the Arden Theatre's Wanamaker's Pursuit and Orchestra 2001's The Genius of 20th Century Paris & 21st Century Philadelphia.



PIFA has encouraged us at Art-Reach to stretch our own boundaries of accessibility, as well. In the first week of the festival, we partnered with [Scribe Video Center](#) to present 8 short documentaries called Precious Places Community History Project, which featured Art-Reach's first ever real-time English to Spanish audio-description to make the event more accessible for Spanish-speaking patrons.

The festival will culminate on Saturday, April 30th with a giant Ferris Wheel, outdoor cafes, street performers, a children's park and - the Pièce de résistance - a French aerial theatre troupe performing 100 feet in the air, all in the middle of Broad Street, which will be blocked off to traffic from Chestnut Street to Lombard. Art-Reach will have a booth at the Street Fair all day which will be manned by staff and volunteers, so be sure to visit us! The fair is Free and Open to the Public from 11am-7pm.

For a list of more events going on during the festival, click [here](#) or download the free [PIFA guide book](#).