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Newest Exhibit at The Philadelphia Foundation Community Art Gallery
Highlights Works Created Through Art-Reach
Featured Artists Are Living With Intellectual or Cognitive Disabilities

PHILADELPHIA, PA – *How Art Makes Me Feel* -- a new exhibit opening Mon., May 9, 2016 -- will be on display through Fri., Aug. 26, 2016 at the Community Art Gallery of The Philadelphia Foundation, 1234 Market Street, Suite 1800.

The exhibit features work created by individuals living with intellectual or cognitive disabilities who have participated in Art-Reach programs. It will include photos, works on paper, sewn artworks and watercolors.

Art-Reach increases access to the arts for traditionally under-served audiences, including people with disabilities, at-risk youth, the economically disadvantaged and elderly in need.

Much of the art on display was created during a day-long workshop in January at Magic Gardens during which Art-Reach brought together teaching artists and clients of human service agencies that work with low-income individuals or those with disabilities.

“Cultural engagement doesn’t only mean being in an audience for a performance of music or theater or visiting an art exhibit – it also means feeling the joy of making art,” said John Orr, Executive Director of Art-Reach.

“We were excited to see many come together to create the art for this exhibition,” he added. Participating organizations included Bancroft, Camphill, Center for Creative Works, COMHAR, Elwyn Inc., Haldeman-Grant, Penn Foundation, SpArc Philadelphia and the Warren Smith Health Center.

Teaching artists Diane Podolsky, Jessica Curtaz and Averil Smith Barone led three workshops, using art supplies donated by the Dick Blick art materials store on Chestnut Street in Philadelphia.

“This exhibit celebrates the unifying power of art as a form of self-expression,” said Pedro A. Ramos, President & CEO of The Philadelphia Foundation. “We are proud to showcase the talents of the participating artists.”

The gallery at The Philadelphia Foundation's offices is free and open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Groups wishing to tour the gallery are asked to contact The Foundation two weeks in advance of their visit.

About Art-Reach

Founded in 1986, Art-Reach partners with over 170 arts and cultural organizations and 160 human service agencies throughout the Delaware Valley, including southeastern Pennsylvania, Delaware and southern New Jersey. Each year it provides arts and cultural opportunities to over 45,000 individuals who would not normally have access to the arts. Through Art-Reach's unique programs, people of all ages, economic backgrounds and physical capabilities can enjoy cultural events and benefit from the richness of the arts. Art-Reach serves as a public resource and advocate for cultural accessibility while also ensuring that cultural organizations serve the full spectrum of society with innovative and inclusive programming.

About The Community Art Gallery

How Art Makes Me Feel is the 49th exhibition to be held in the Community Art Gallery, which was established in 2000 as a shared space where local arts organizations, artists and patrons can gather to build greater support for the arts. The Gallery also highlights The Philadelphia Foundation's Arts & Culture Fund, a permanent endowment that supports local arts organizations' efforts to build community through the arts.

About The Philadelphia Foundation

One of America's oldest community foundations (founded in 1918), The Philadelphia Foundation (TPF) is committed to improving the quality of life in the Pennsylvania counties of Greater Philadelphia (Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia). A foundation and a public charity, TPF connects philanthropic resources to societal needs. TPF manages assets of approximately \$370 million and more than 900 charitable funds established by its fund holders. It distributes about \$25 million annually to nearly 1,000 nonprofits as grants and scholarships, and promotes greater philanthropy and stronger nonprofits in service to community needs. To learn more, visit www.philafound.org.