

Art-Reach

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Join Art-Reach for the 2018 Cultural Access Awards Brunch as we celebrate the work of our partners, highlight their achievements and shine a light on the work Art-Reach does to expand cultural accessibility every day.

This year Art-Reach honor Thomas Earle, Overbrook School for the Blind, and LiveConnections with Cultural Access Awards, and announce our first ever Kimmel Award for Accessible Experience to the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society for the Accessible PHS Flower Show.

Art-Reach's 2018 Cultural Access Awards on March 24th from 12-3pm at FringeArts will also feature the debut an original dance called "Live Out Loud" featuring students from Overbrook School for the Blind (OSB) and the Pennsylvania Ballet's Second Company. This anticipated performance stems from a collaboration with the Pennsylvania Ballet's Community Engagement Program and Art-Reach, where six students from OSB and six professional dancers from PA's Ballet Second Company choreograph a tap dance together for the first time over a series of ten dance rehearsals. Additional performances include spoken word artist Jamal Parker and folk musician Ami Yares. The award ceremony also acts as an annual fundraiser for Art-Reach, providing essential support to continue its work in mobilizing thousands of individuals to engage with the vibrant arts in the Philadelphia Region. For more information and to purchase tickets to the 2018 Cultural Access Awards visit: **www.art-reach.org/CAA**

About the Awardees:

Individual Impact Award: Thomas Earle

Current CEO of Liberty Resources, Inc., and licensed attorney involved in the legal rights of people with disabilities for nearly 25 years. Thomas is the Chairperson of the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations and an active member and supporter of ADAPT.

Arts Partner Award: LiveConnections

LiveConnections prioritizes accessibility for people with disabilities who face barriers to participation in the arts. They present Bridge Sessions and in-facility workshops to targeted youth and adults with

cognitive and physical disabilities and their interactive, adaptive approach means individuals may fully engage at their own ability levels.

Member Agency Award: Overbrook School for the Blind

Overbrook School for the Blind prepares their students- all of whom are blind, visually impaired or living with disabilities- to have the greatest opportunity to experience active and fulfilling lives.

Kimmel Award for Accessible Experience: Accessible PHS Flower Show

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society provides tickets to guests who are deaf, blind, or low-vision, to the Philadelphia Flower Show for an adaptive ASL interpreted and verbally-described tour of the displays so that guests can engage and enjoy the show.

About Art-Reach:

Founded in 1986, Art-Reach creates, advocates for and expands accessible opportunities in the arts so the full spectrum of society is served. Art-Reach is solely devoted to increasing cultural participation among traditionally underserved audiences in both the disability and low-income sectors of the Philadelphia region. In 2017, Art-Reach empowered over 160,000 people to experience arts and culture who otherwise would not have the opportunity. Art-Reach is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization. For more about Art-Reach, visit www.art-reach.org

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