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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Free Family Arts Festival Celebrates Community Roots and Art Center's 75th Anniversary
Saturday, September 10, 10 am-3 pm

HAVERFORD, PA (July 7, 2011)—Main Line Art Center is celebrating 75 years of “Art for Everyone” and invites the community to help commemorate this special occasion with a free Family Arts Festival! Kicking off the anniversary year, the Family Arts Festival is Saturday, Sept. 10 from 10 am-3 pm and features family-friendly entertainment, hands-on art projects, face painting, food and refreshments and a special unveiling of the Arts Alive Mobile.

The Family Arts Festival, made possible by a grant from PNC Arts Alive, celebrates the global roots of our community. Projects are geared to reach a variety of ages and abilities, employ a wide of media and explore the many cultures that make the greater-Philadelphia region vibrant and rich. Examples of projects include Iroquois Wampum beads, Japanese carp windsock, Galimoto African wire sculpture, Mexican folk art and a family cultural doll.

The Art Center has also planned an exciting lineup of entertainment for the Family Arts Festival. At 11 am, John Cassidy, magician, comedian and world-recording holding balloon sculptor will perform. The Cat's Pajamas, a high-octane kids' band that blends a concert with stories, dance, puppets and props, will take the stage at 12:30 pm.

At 1:30 pm, prior to The Cat's Pajamas taking the stage for a second time, Main Line Art Center will hold a special presentation to kick off *On the Road with Arts Alive*, an exciting year-long project taking art "to the streets." During the presentation, the Art Center will unveil the Arts Alive Mobile which will make 2-3 spontaneous and scheduled stops per month throughout the year at school and community events to engage children in free art activities led by Street Squad Artists. Participants at the stops will also have an opportunity to contribute to a collaborative art project that will be permanently installed at Main Line Art Center and win cool prizes and discounts.

On the Road with Arts Alive is also supported by a PNC Arts Alive grant. PNC Arts Alive is a five-year, \$5 million investment from The PNC Foundation that supports visual and performing arts groups with the goal of increasing arts access and engagement. Only twenty-six arts organizations in the Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey region were selected for bold thinking around increasing arts access and engagement. For more information on PNC Arts Alive and the grant recipients, visit www.pncartsalive.com.

For 75 years, Main Line Art Center has strengthened community and enriched the lives of artists of all ages, levels and abilities through high quality visual arts classes led by professional Teaching Artists, extensive outreach programs, exhibition opportunities, and artistic and professional development programs. 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, please visit www.mainlineart.org or call 610.525.0272.

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