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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Main Line Art Center's Executive Director Judy Herman Announces Retirement

HAVERFORD, PA (January 10, 2012)—Main Line Art Center's Board of Directors announced today that longtime Executive Director, Judy Herman, will retire in August. Judy has led the Art Center for nearly 25 years, growing it from a small art center with an operating budget of \$200,000 and a staff of two to a mid-sized organization with an average operating budget of \$1.3 million and a professional staff of ten.

During her tenure, Main Line Art Center completed a \$2 million capital campaign in 1999 that increased the facility by 50% and matched a donor's challenge that established a \$1.4 million quasi-endowment. Judy created and continues to manage an exhibition program that includes ten annual community and stretch exhibitions and fine craft sales and fills a vacuum in the community for showcasing regional artists. She also led the four public art projects, including the very popular "Puttin' on the Dog," which helped establish the Art Center's reputation as a forward-thinking venue for exhibitions and community partnerships. Judy has been a big advocate for making the Art Center a welcoming place, and has spearheaded plans to renovate the building in 2013 to improve accessibility and renew the learning environment.

Judy has also grown the reach and depth of the Art Center's outreach programs including the Art Center's own Exceptional Art program for children and teens with developmental and physical disabilities. Throughout the years, she has helped bring art to diverse populations through partnerships with organizations such as Project H.O.M.E., Delaware County Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Elwyn, Presbyterian Children's Village, and CareLink Community Support.

Thanks to her nearly 25 years of dedicated service, Judy leaves behind an organization deeply rooted in the community, and a strong, professional staff eager to help the Art Center move to the next level. The Art Center's Board of Directors has convened an executive search committee and has retained the service of a well-known search consultant to help recruit the next executive director.

"There is no doubt that during her tenure, Judy has grown the Art Center into an important venue for art in our community," says Steve Holstad, Jr., Board President. "But perhaps more important is the welcoming and nurturing environment that she has fostered within Art Center. Her legacy really

cannot be measured, as is in the countless ways that the Art Center has transformed people's lives."

Main Line Art Center will celebrate Judy's accomplishments and the 75th anniversary with a 30s themed Spring Soiree on Sat., April 14 from 6:30 to 9 pm at Main Line Art Center. The event will feature hors d'oeuvres, period-themed cocktails, performances by swing band The Lounge Experience, and a silent auction of exciting goods and services including tickets to sporting events, antique jewelry and of course, art work. Tickets for the Soiree are \$75 and all proceeds benefit the Art Center's award-winning arts education and community outreach programs.

The Soiree will be set against the backdrop of the Art Center's Out of the Attic History Exhibition which highlights the deep history of the Art Center's programs, the "white house" they are housed in, and the impact that the Art Center has had on artists of all ages, levels and abilities in our community. The exhibition runs April 15-May 15 and is sponsored by Harmelin Media.

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

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