Fishtown Rec. Beautification Project
Your Support Makes All the Difference!

The Fishtown Neighbors’ Association Beautification Committee in conjunction with Art Sphere, Inc. is working to preserve the beauty and character of Fishtown by discouraging graffiti and vandalism in our local parks, recreation centers and playgrounds.

Please help us continue this important community project by pledging your financial support. Supporters will receive recognition in all relevant program literature and on our website www.artsphere.org. We encourage you to visit the Fishtown Recreation Center to view the recently completed community paint and stencil project. Before and after photos are included below.

Give us your feedback at info@artsphere.org!

Fishtown Diaries
Memoirs of our Neighborhood

This neighborhood diary has been created to celebrate and commemorate Fishtown and is a joint partnership of Fishtown and Art Sphere Incorporated.

This book form zine or Diaries is a collection of artistic /poetic /historic /current events/ project feedback used to create mural designs and imagery at Fishtown Recreation Center -combining words, dreams, photos, design icons and sketches.

Please enjoy and share with a friend!
Fishtown’s namesake, the American or Atlantic Shad (A. sapidissima) is a valued food. Shad or Alosa fishes related to Herring in the family Clupeidae. They are distinct from others in that family by having a deeper body and spawning in rivers. The several species frequent different areas on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean and in the Mediterranean Sea. The shad live for a year or two in Fresh Water.**** Let’s have a Fountain at Rec. center.

Fishtown is Great

Fishtown is the best, from the east or west. I love Fishtown so much, it has a special touch. It doesn’t matter if it’s a little small, cause the houses won’t even fall. I love the Fishtown playground, cause I go with my friends. I hope the fun never ends.

How can I donate paint? Can we bring our friends to volunteer?
“When you fish for love, bait with your heart, not your brain”
Mark Twain

My **W**hole **F**amily is out here today! ****
THANKS for keeping our park and Rec. CLEAN!!!

So what does **Fishtown** mean to **YOU**?
What does a **b**eautiful fish look like to you?
Can you draw any **i**mages of fish?
Have any favorite fish themed ideas for **m**ural?
Know any Fishtown **f**olk **l**ore or **h**istory and **p**oems, songs, **s**ayings, **m**yths, stories that include fish?

What are the **s**cales and **t**ales of Fishtown?
Can you make up your own?
Have any feedback on projects, workshops or events?
How do we **w**ork **t**ogether for **p**ositive **c**hange?

“Many men go fishing all of their lives without knowing it is not fish they are after.” Henry David Thoreau

“Give me a fish and I eat for a day.
Teach me to fish and I eat for a lifetime.” Chinese Proverb
Shad was king in **pre-industrial** Philadelphia.

**Family** fishing dynasties shaped society on both sides of the Delaware in the communities of **Fishtown** and Gloucester.

In the 19th century, shad harvests reached **16 million pounds** a year.

Anything not eaten or sold was **salted and smoked** for later consumption. After 1916, the harvest fell dramatically. The **Shad Festival** is still celebrated today upstream at **Lambertville, NJ**.

**Community** matters & lives in **Katawaz**.
“The sea hath fish for every man.” William Camden

**STENCILS** can be:

- participant made to suit time limitations
- made from a sent in or emailed picture
- made from literary references as well as visual
- text or easily identifiable images
- used as central themes within murals or as borders
- used on non-traditional mural areas
- reproduced to make t-shirts
- given to a printer to make posters
- printed with a roller
- made in combination to make a collage
- rotated making symmetrical design mirror reflections or complicated mathematical patterns
- painted to make murals installed at other sites using parachute cloth or used to make a banner
- made quickly to suit young and old attention spans alike made over time with finer execution to take months
- made as layers of texture and pattern
- painted to cover graffiti easily and prevent future

Public made **PUBLIC ART** creates **OWNERSHIP**. Developing stencils is a fun way to promote park bench **SPONSORSHIP** and community awareness with **ART EDUCATION** while increasing business and civic **INVOLVEMENT**.
Shad weigh between 3 and 8 POUNDS and have a delicate flavor when cooked.

Shad fishing in New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey: Look no further than the Delaware River. With a shad run exceeding 300 miles, this river offers many, many places to catch shad, though most of the better WADING FLY WATER is above PORT JERVIS, NEW YORK.************ A good MAP of this area can be found at http://www.gonefishing.com/RiverMap.htm.

Cool kids INTERACTIVE fish website: http://www.seussville.com/games/lb_one_fish_concentration.html

Neat Fish ORIGAMI and fish art projects for all ages: http://www.activityvillage.co.uk/origami_fish.htm

Traditionally Shad were CAUGHT along with SALMON in set nets which were suspended from POLES driven into the river bed reasonably close to shore in TIDAL WATER.

Shad were especially important in EARLIER TIMES. However many of the rivers where Shad were common now suffer from POLLUTION.

How about making your own POEM?
Youth Book recommendations:
The RAINBOW Fish by Marcus Pfister
One FISH Two FISH RED FISH BLUE FISH by Dr. Seuss

Fish Art Project #1: HUNGRY PICNIC FISH
a. Take a paper plate and cut a triangle out for mouth. b. Staple triangle to other side for a tail. C. Use markers and decorate!

Fish Art Project #2: WOVEN COLLAGE FISH
There are a few land-locked varieties of Shad, one from Killarney in Ireland and two from lakes in northern Italy. There are also species native to the Black Sea and Caspian Sea, as well as the Persian Gulf.

The Lenape called the bony Shad "porcupine-fish-turned-inside-out". The Marvelettes recorded Norman Whitfield and Eddie Holland's song "Too Many Fish In The Sea".

"Fish say, they have their Stream and Pond; But is there anything Beyond?" - Rupert Brooke

Shad serve a peculiar symbolic role in Virginia state politics. On the year of every gubernatorial election, would-be candidates, lobbyists, campaign workers, and reporters gather in the town of Wakefield, Virginia for Shad Planking.

"Taught my mother how to paint and my brother, too.

Shad is also a term used pejoratively inside the Canadian Navy for Naval Reservists."
Now people can see that **people care** and will want to **help**. 
#It's time to get more people **involved**!

Old time picture of people **shad fishing** on **Delaware**

**Cleaning the park is better than** cleaning my bedroom!

Though the Shad is bony, its worth the effort, and indeed many esteem it above the famous **Atlantic Salmon**. It is considered flavorful enough to not require sauces, herbs or spices. It can be boiled, **filleted** and fried in butter or baked. Traditionally a little **vinegar** is sprinkled over it on the plate. In the eastern United States **roe** shad (females) are prized because **the eggs** are considered a delicacy.

Fish are **fun to draw**. I never made **stencils** before. Painting is made **easy** with stencils.
Art workshops increase family participation to increase usage by families of park, Fishtown Library, and Fishtown Recreation Center.

Drawing writing and booklet making, origami making, art lesson plan packet making and community distribution, stencil making and painting raising community self esteem and activities for all ages.

Morning group – only half of the 250+ volunteers that came out from Arcadia University and Community on August 30th.

Cleaning of graffiti and trash, and engaging college students, artists and adults to work with graffiti writers/youth to maintain recreation center and repaint with murals on walls, trash cans, benches and playground equipment. Together with community art workshops, we beautify neighborhood and transform memorials to dead youth into positive places for adults to bring their children to play.
By engaging our network of volunteers with 140 volunteers from the community and outside the community including: 200 from Arcadia University, 70 from local church groups, High School Friends, Middle School Friends, Brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, and Friends Neighborhood Guild and others, we have been successful.

Celebrating events like MLK Day at Fishtown Recreation Center with only some of the many volunteers that came out has brought positive publicity and cultural awareness to the community.

Murals are already in process. Sketch for front doors – with more to be completed on upcoming events and art workshops.

Saturday, March 24- Neighborhood Volunteers, Friends Guild and the Friends Work Camp

Saturday, May 5th Volunteer Event …..with our youngest volunteer!
Fishtown Diaries
Memoirs of our Neighborhood
This neighborhood diary has been created to celebrate and commemorate Fishtown with art.

This book is dedicated to all the heroes of Fishtown. Whether your contributions were a minnow, great catch, fish bate, shining star fish, hometown shad fish (the native Fishtown fish species) bright sun fish great king fish, mighty sword fish, big tuna, king or queen of the sea… thank you for participating in our projects and enlarging our school of fish.

You can still contribute to our project. If you don’t have an image, come out and make one… materials will be provided. Submissions will continue to be collected and posted on Art Sphere’s website (www.art_sphere.org), used for stencil / mural projects at the Fishtown Recreation Center and possibly even be reproduced in second zine form for distribution in the neighborhood!

The Fishtown Neighbors Association Beautification Committee thanks Art Sphere, Inc. for making this project. This project was awarded support by Starbucks through the Ben Franklin Coffeehouse Challenge, a joint project of Starbucks and the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary.

Thank you to our Sponsors and Old City Publishing!!!
- ORIGAMI FISH PROJECT -

CUT, FOLD, COLOR, NAME, DESCRIBE, DESIGN ENVIRONMENT, SHARE!

Artsphere Inc.
Changing Lives Through Art

Vocabulary
1. Origami - Japanese word derived from ori - to fold, and kami - paper
2. Symbol - Anything that communicates a fact or an idea, or that stands for an object
3. Repetition - The process in art which emphasizes an idea, form, color, or order by restating the idea
4. Pattern - A design that repeats an order of organization and often repeats in shape, form, size, color, or position

www.artsphere.org
A non-profit teaching inner city youth through art experiences