



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 29, 2013

**STROKE OF SUPPORT FOR ART SPHERE, INC PAINTS OPTIMISTIC
PICTURE: A NEW TOOLKIT ON ARTS EDUCATION FOR CITY'S YOUTH!**

PHILADELPHIA, PA -- Community groups, recreation centers, after-school programs, and schools throughout the city will now be able to educate and empower children in culturally underserved areas with free access to a robust arts education program.

“Creating Legacies Thru Art”, conceived by Art Sphere, Inc. (ASI), is one of the winning projects to receive a \$20,000 grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, as part of the Knight Arts Challenge. The challenge funds innovative projects that engage and enrich Philadelphia’s communities.

The “Creating Legacies Thru Art” project will directly serve children in communities where budgets for visual arts programs have been significantly scaled back or cut completely. A free online catalog of curricula and resources will be developed and offered to learning partners seeking to provide their own unique arts education program. ASI will train teachers and volunteers to assist learning partners with hands-on instruction. The program will encourage a blended learning environment – fostering increased engagement of innovative technology and encouraging users to share feedback online, while preserving the undisputed value of face-to-face lessons.

“The most successful cities are often those where all people see themselves as creative beings, an approach they can use to both solve their own and the community’s toughest challenges. With this program, Art Sphere is poised to help instill that belief in the city’s youth,” said Dennis Scholl, VP/arts at Knight Foundation.

About Art Sphere, Inc.

Changing lives through art since 1998, ASI is the only non-profit of its kind to deliver a range of artistic and human services to culturally underserved youth throughout the Philadelphia region. ASI uses art as a strategic tool to educate and create meaningful experiences for people of all ages. With the support and partnership of public institutions and private organizations, ASI mobilizes a diverse volunteer base to focus on beautifying public spaces and encouraging flourishing communities. For more visit artsphere.org.



About the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Knight Foundation supports transformational ideas that promote quality journalism, advance media innovation, engage communities and foster the arts. The foundation believes that democracy thrives when people and communities are informed and engaged. For more, visit KnightFoundation.org.

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