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DEDICATED VOLUNTEER CELEBRATES ART, RUNNING, AND MARRIAGE

PHILADELPHIA, PA - - - John Groenveld has found a new way to celebrate an important milestone in his life, while raising funds for Art Sphere Inc., (ASI), the organization for which he volunteers. He will be running the Broad Street Run in May, the largest ten-mile race in the United States with over 40,000 participants. He said of the race, "it is a wonderful opportunity for me to celebrate my wedding and also support our great city and its vibrant, thriving neighborhoods."

Funds will support Art Sphere Inc.'s creative mural painting projects and clean up events in the Fishtown area of Philadelphia where they have been working to revitalize the Fishtown Recreation Center, community pool playground, basketball court and roller hockey rink. It is the heart of city's Fishtown neighborhood and hosts many pre-school, after-school, and summer-school health, education, and sports programs.

Petty Officer John Groenveld is a selected reservist for the Naval Reserves and was awarded an Army Commendation Medal for his 2009 service in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He has been an ASI board member for over a decade. He is an associate research engineer for the Penn State Applied Research Laboratory. An avid runner, he has raced the Broad Street Run in 2011 and 2013.

Founded in 1998, Art Sphere Inc. is a Philadelphia-based non-profit, established to teach art to inner-city low-income youth. Its mission is to engage the creative in communities, empower neighborhoods to explore the positives in peoples' lives and heal the mind, body and spirit through art. ASI uses art as a tool to empower individuals to take civic responsibility and restore neighborhoods so that communities can provide safe and nurturing environments for all of their residents.

More information about ASI or to donate in support of John's run can be found at www.artsphere.org

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