

PHILLY ON PARADE RELEASE



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**THE MANN PRESENTS ITS FIRST FREE, FAMILY ARTS FESTIVAL –  
PHILADELPHIA ON PARADE – WITH GRANT FROM PNC ARTS ALIVE**  
*Day-Long Celebration Emphasizes World Music & Stars More Than 1,000 Performers*

PHILADELPHIA (April 27, 2011) – Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> will mark an exciting first for Philadelphia-area families when the Mann Center for the Performing Arts presents PHILADELPHIA ON PARADE, a free “family, friends and fun festival” from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. featuring more than 1,000 performers. Funded through the PNC Arts Alive program, PHILADELPHIA ON PARADE will put the spotlight on the diversity of world music with a line-up that includes everything from classical, gospel, funk and swing to Asian-inspired rock, jazz, blues, African dance and drum and even an appearance by PBS Kids’ favorite RAGGS and their “Live Dance” party.

The PNC Arts Alive program 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.

The festival kicks off at 11 a.m. with a Mardi Gras-style parade, complete with a jazz brass band and an invitation for all to get in on the fun by strutting along behind the band. From there, the festival explodes throughout the Mann’s campus in Fairmount Park with artists and acts scheduled across five stages. The performances range from 15 to 30 minutes – perfect for the young and young at heart – and are staggered to ensure that audience members can catch as many shows as possible. In addition to music, the CIGNA Children’s Pavilion will feature storytellers, jugglers, balloon artists, and demonstrations for guests to try jump roping, Irish dance and Chinese lion dancing. There will also be arts and crafts stations for little hands, face painters and plenty of fun festival foods and concessions. Plus, families are welcome to bring picnics to enjoy.

“We are very proud to present a day at the Mann that belongs to families and friends of all ages and from all walks of life,” said Catherine M. Cahill, president and CEO of the Mann. “The Mann is known as Philadelphia’s summer music home and what better way to get the season started than by opening our doors – for free! – to the entire Philadelphia region for a day filled with music, dance and art. We are especially pleased that the PNC Arts Alive program embraced PHILADELPHIA ON PARADE by granting us

one of just 27 awards that they presented to arts organizations in Philadelphia and South Jersey. Certainly, PNC's generosity is helping us extend the reach and access for an event like this and helping us to further our community engagement work, which annually impacts more than 50,000 children in the tri-state region," she said.

"The PNC Foundation has a long history of providing grants to non-profit organizations that strengthen and enrich the lives of our neighbors," said Bill Mills, regional president of PNC for Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey, speaking on behalf of the PNC Foundation. "We understand the valuable return that investing in the arts can deliver. Today more than ever, the businesses we attract, the jobs we create and the visitors who extend their stay are drawn by what the Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey region has to offer."

Cahill noted that the Mann is also very grateful for additional support provided by CIGNA for PHILADELPHIA ON PARADE, which is making the CIGNA Children's Pavilion possible.

#### **PHILADELPHIA ON PARADE PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE**

**Saturday, May 21, 2011**

**11 a.m. – 6 p.m.**

##### PECO PLAZA

11 – 11:15 a.m.	Festival Opening / Mardi Gras Parade – UCC World Brass Band, Dancers, Stiltwalkers – All are invited to strut in the parade!
11:15- 11:30 a.m.	West Philadelphia Conestoga March Unit
2 – 2:30 p.m.	Universal African Dance & Drum Ensemble

##### MAIN STAGE

11:30 – 12 noon	PBS' RAGGS "Live Dance" Party
12:30- 1 p.m.	Philadelphia Youth Orchestra's "Tune Up Philly"
1:30 – 2 p.m.	Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church Mass Choir
2:30 – 3 p.m.	Rennie Harris PureMovement Presenting – Rennie Harris R.H.A.W.
3:30 – 4 p.m.	Philadelphia Boys Choir & Chorale
4:30 – 5 p.m.	The Rock School for Dance Education
5:30 – 6 p.m.	Urban Guerilla Orchestra

##### ROCK / RHYTHM & BLUES STAGE

12 – 12:30 p.m.	Pompadour Slim & The Delinquents
1 – 1:30 p.m.	Latino Jazz Band
3 – 3:30 p.m.	Shirley Lites Funk Band
4 – 4:30 p.m.	Plan B
5 – 5:30 p.m.	Frank Bey & the Swing City Blues Band

##### JAZZ COFFEEHOUSE

11:30 – 12 noon	Settlement Music School String & Saxophone Quartets
12:30 – 1 p.m.	Clef Club of Jazz Student Ensemble
1:30 – 2 p.m.	Minas
2:30 – 3 p.m.	Fabulous Shpielkes

3:30 – 4 p.m.	Eric Mintel Quartet
4 – 4:30 p.m.	Michael Ray & Cosmic Krewe
5 – 5:30 p.m.	Barbara Walker Jazz Story
5:30 – 6 p.m.	Kaliguardian

#### CIGNA CHILDREN'S PAVILION (12 noon – 5:30 p.m.)

Storytellers – Kala JoJo, Sandy Taylor

##### Group Activities

- The Plants (sing-a-long)
- Give & Take Little Circus and Jugglers
- Earth Rhythms (drum circle)
- Freedom Theater (creative dramatics)
- Chinese Lion Dancers
- Air-Brush Face Painter
- Balloon Designers
- Miss Amy Fitness Camp
- Arts & Crafts Workshops

##### Performance Workshops

- Department of Recreation Jump Rope Teams
- Coyle School of Irish Dance
- Zen One (Brazilian Capoeira)

Please note that the rain date for PHILADELPHIA ON PARADE is Sunday, May 22.

Performer bios and photos are available on request. For more information on the Mann's 2011 summer season, please visit [www.manncenter.org](http://www.manncenter.org).

#### ABOUT THE EDUCATIONAL & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS AT THE MANN

The mission of the Education Department at the Mann Center for the Performing Arts is to give every young person the opportunity to be exposed, inspired, and enlightened by the performing arts, providing the opportunity to experience the sights, sounds, and rhythms that are the magic and richness of live performances – often for the first time. Annually, the variety of programs offered reach approximately 50,000 participants in the tri-state region through the Young People's Concert Series and Greenfield Performance Treasures, Connecting Arts-N-Schools (CANS), Connecting Arts @ The Center, Arts Teach @ The Mann, and Community Engagement Festivals.

#### ABOUT THE MANN

Accessible, attractive, festive and fun, the Mann Center for the Performing Arts presents diverse, world class entertainment in a casually elegant and relaxing setting at affordable prices. Concerts and programs encompass all musical genres from pop, jazz, r & b, rock and contemporary, to dance theater, opera and classical. The summer home of the Philadelphia Orchestra since the 1930's, the Mann is located in Philadelphia's beautiful Fairmount Park. More than 170,000 visitors annually enjoy its rich tradition as the Philadelphia region's premiere outdoor cultural arts center. Dine under the stars in our tented restaurant or picnic on the lawn, overlooking the spectacular Philadelphia skyline. There are several bars and concession stands for food and beverages as well as an Encore booth for concert keepsakes.

For more information, visit [www.manncenter.org](http://www.manncenter.org).

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