

PASSPORT

News from Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts

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whitakercenter.org
A Member Benefit

The mission of Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts is to serve as the center for scientific, artistic, cultural and educational activities to enhance the region's quality of life and economic vitality.

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**Whitaker
CENTER**
For Science and the Arts

Thanks PNC Bank and Grow Up Great!

Thanks to a major grant from the PNC Foundation to Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts, area preschool teachers at Capital Area Head Start (CAHS) will have opportunities to learn how to teach hands-on science basics in their classrooms.

The grant supports *Grow Up Great with Science*, PNC's new initiative to help foster a foundation in science for area preschoolers. A study by the National Research Council recognized that providing young children with research-based mathematics and science learning is likely to pay off with increased achievement, literacy, and work skills in these critical areas.



"We understand the critical need for teachers and their students to have a stronger base in science in today's technology-driven society," said Dr. Michael Hanes, Whitaker Center President and CEO. "Our partnership with CAHS and the PNC Foundation greatly enhances our programming and will enable us to create a curriculum to teach age-appropriate science and model best practices. This unique program includes parents and builds a new resource model that can be replicated by other programs."

Whitaker Center was one of 15 recipients in seven states and the District of Columbia to receive funding through PNC Grow Up Great. The 10-year, \$100 million investment in early childhood education includes up to \$6 million in grants to fund regional science centers.



After the press conference announcing the new program on 8/19/09, President and CEO Dr. Michael L. Hanes (left), Capital Area Head Start Executive Director Jo Pepper, and Emeritus Board member and PNC President Central PA Denny Brenckle watch as children from Head Start classrooms play with new toys, provided by local PNC employees.

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“Our support of Whitaker Center is another strategic investment to help our nonprofit partners, preschools and caregivers develop stronger, smarter and healthier families and communities,” said Denny Brenckle, President of PNC for Central Pennsylvania. “These grants will allow children to experience educational opportunities that would otherwise not be possible.”

Whitaker Center will use the funding to train local preschool teachers and introduce families to science through visits to the Center’s interactive exhibits. In addition, Science Center staff will travel to classrooms to help teachers carry out an integrated teaching model. Many of the activities will receive assistance from PNC employees as volunteers.

10th Birthday was a Bash! New Website Went Live

Hundreds of friends and supporters celebrated Whitaker Center’s 10th Anniversary on Wednesday, 9/9/09. In addition to a delightful evening filled with great food and birthday cake, recollections of the past 10 years, and visions for continued excellence and innovation in the future, guests participated in the public launch of the new website.

“Internet technology has come such a long way since we initially developed our website,” noted Whitaker Center President and CEO Dr. Michael Hanes. “This new site is easy to navigate and full of guest services that people have been asking us for. There are pull-down



menus for upcoming events and links to social networking sites. We’re thrilled with all the capabilities. The 10th Anniversary was the perfect time to go live.”

Speakers commemorating the event included

President and CEO Dr. Michael Hanes, Board Chair Jack Stover, Esq., and City of Harrisburg Mayor Stephen R. Reed, who initiated the downtown arts center project that became Whitaker Center more than 25 years ago. Whitaker Center acknowledged the donors, sponsors, friends, Board of Directors and Emeritus members who supported the organization, and noted a few of its many milestones.

Some of Whitaker Center’s landmark achievements include:

- 1993** The Capital Center for Arts, Science and Education was incorporated by Founding President and CEO Dr. Thomas R. Stone, who launched the project with an \$18,000,000 grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- 1994** The Whitaker Foundation made the naming gift in honor of Uncas A. and Helen F. Whitaker, and the facility became known as Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts.
- 1995** The John Crain Kunkel Foundation named the Kunkel Gallery.
- 1996** Sunoco, Inc., named Sunoco Performance Theater.
- 1997** The block between Court Street and 3rd Street on Market was razed and construction began.
- 1998** The Topping Off Ceremony was held on 5/15/98, permanently securing a steel beam filled with Founder signatures at the top corner of Sunoco Performance Theater.
- 1999** The Founders Gala, hosted by Lois Lehrman Grass and Hal McInnes, was held on 9/8/99 with 1,100 people, and the Ribbon Cutting took place on 9/9/99, followed by the opening performance, The Amazing Kreskin.
- 2000** The GEMS CLUB was launched as the newest facet of membership.
- 2001** Harsco Corporation named Harsco Science Center and Sunoco Performance Theater hosted the National Community Theater Conference AACT/Fest.

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- 2002** Byron Quann became President and CEO, Select Medical Corporation and the Ortenzio Family named Select Medical IMAX® Theater, and the region's only IMAX Theater began to offer digitally-remastered Hollywood movies.
- 2003** The Benjamin Olewine III Family named the Gloria M. Olewine Gallery, and the Philadelphia Orchestra performed in Harrisburg for the first time in 20 years.
- 2004** More than 1,000,000 people saw 138^{1/2} art cows (located all over town) during the wildly popular CowParade Harrisburg, and the Slate & Stone Society for planned gifts launched on the Center's 5th Anniversary.
- 2005** The Whitaker Foundation contributed the lead gift of \$5,000,000 to the Excellence & Innovation Campaign, and the R.M.S. Titanic docked in the Gloria M. Olewine Gallery.
- 2006** Miles J. Gibbons presented a \$1,000,000 check from The Helen F. Whitaker Fund to Interim President and CEO Kristen Olewine Milke, and the portraits of Whitakers were hung in AMP Grand Lobby.
- 2007** Dr. Michael L. Hanes joined the organization as President and CEO and was visited by *Aliens* in Harsco Science Center.
- 2008** *KidsPlace* gallery, for children under age 5, opened on 3/8/08; *OUR BODY: THE UNIVERSE WITHIN* opened on 6/7/08, the Administrative Office became known as the Benjamin Olewine III Center at 225 Market Street on 9/5/08; and Tony Bennett performed at The Forum on 9/27/08.
- 2009** *Forces of Nature* gallery opened on 2/10/09 to rave reviews, and *Surgery Live!* launched on 3/5/09 with partners Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center and Highmark.

We would like to thank our 10th Anniversary Sponsors, whose generosity made this once-in-a-lifetime event possible.

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LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE KIDS THIS WINTER?

A Whitaker Center membership can pay for itself in practically one visit, and the savings continues throughout the year!

Contact us today at 717/724-3867 or email join@whitakercenter.org for details and to become a Whitaker Center member.



Thanks Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation

Whitaker Center is one of 19 organizations from throughout the Mid-Atlantic region to receive a grant through the Emergency Salary Program for Presenting Organizations (ESPPO). Grants were underwritten with economic stimulus funds received from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. ESPPO was designed to preserve positions crucial to the artistic mission of presenting organizations and will help to ensure the vitality of the arts landscape through this difficult economic period. The grant will be used to support existing staff in Sunoco Performance Theater.



Funding to Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts is provided by Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Thanks to Field Trip Sponsors

By special arrangement, we thank the following corporate sponsors who made it possible for students from York County to experience the exhibit, *How People Make Things*. Main exhibition sponsors were Bayer Healthcare and Phoenix Contact.

- Littlestown Foundry - Rolling Acres Elementary
- HACC, York Campus - Rolling Acres Elementary
- Pennsylvania School Boards Association, Insurance Services - Paxtang Elementary
- Manufacturers' Association of South Central Pennsylvania - Hannah Penn and Edgar Faus Smith Schools

Exciting Volunteer Opportunities

Whitaker Center is honored to have 165 dedicated volunteers who contribute their time and talent to a myriad of purposes, from greeting guests to working with children — volunteering is a great way to learn, teach, meet new people, and get to know more about the local arts scene. The following are some shared experiences from our own priceless volunteers.

“I think it’s a great joy to watch the light bulb go on when a child finally grasps a science concept! It’s even better when I know the child from previous visits and can share in his or her a-ha moment.”

“I made new friends with incredibly talented and interesting people who share my passion for the arts.”

VOLUNTEER

The Science Center is currently looking for volunteers to assist visitors/school children. Volunteers aid in explaining science concepts through informal and formal presentations. This is the perfect volunteer position for those who enjoy working with children. No science experience needed; training is provided.

Do you have a knack for answering phones and helping in an office setting? We are currently seeking volunteers for the Reception Desk. We offer great incentives, including free membership. This is the perfect spot for someone who prefers to volunteer during the workday.

If you are interested in becoming a Whitaker Center volunteer, please contact the Volunteer and Intern Coordinator at 717/724-3857 or mhornberger@whitaker-center.org. For more information please visit, whitakercenter.org/volunteers.

Thanks Neiman Group

For the last few months, Harrisburg's Neiman Group has been conducting extensive market research and developing recommendations to strengthen the Whitaker Center brand. On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, we thank them for donating a portion of the project cost and for far exceeding our expectations by providing an information-rich report that will help guide our planning for many years to come.

Fun Facts

- Whitaker Center has very strong name recognition throughout Central Pennsylvania.
- Families and schools give the Science Center high marks for its hands-on learning experiences and traveling exhibits.
- People who had not visited the Center because of anticipated problems with parking indicated that parking was "very convenient" in post-visit surveys.



WINES
from **SPAIN**

2009 Honoree
Jordi Von Krenski, Proprietor and Winemaker for Bodegas y Tritium
José Luis Villar of Frutos Villar
Karin Nylund, Marketing and Export Manager, Bodegas Hijos de Alberto Gutierrez

THE "WINES FROM SPAIN" WILL SHOWCASE THE GASTRONOMIC PLEASURES OF THE CULTURE OF THE MOST FAMOUS WINE REGIONS OF SPAIN. COME AND EXPERIENCE THE UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS THAT SET SPANISH WINES APART.

VINTNER'S TASTING - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009
GALA WINE AUCTION AND DINNER - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2009

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ATTENDING THE EVENTS OR BECOMING A SPONSOR, PLEASE CONTACT TRÈS BONNE ANNÉE AT 717.237.6462 OR TRESBONNEANNEE.ORG.

Presented by *Très bonne année*

Far From Ordinary



Thanks PCA!

Whitaker Center receives state arts funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

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Registration does not imply endorsement.

Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts is a 501(c)(3) organization. Your gift is tax deductible to the extent allowed under the law.

HOLIDAY HOURS OF OPERATION

Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 26) – IMAX Theater **only** opens at 2pm.

Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) – Center closes at 5pm.

Christmas Day (Dec. 25) – Center closed.

REGULAR HOURS OF OPERATION

Tuesday – Saturday 9:30am-5pm

Sunday 11:30am-5pm

Monday (Dec. 28) – Center **open**, including Science Center and IMAX® Theater.

IMAX® films and live theater performances will be held on Mondays as scheduled.

Tickets for Monday IMAX films may be purchased at the Concession Stand.

The Box Office opens 1 hour prior to live theater performances.

For up to date showtimes and events, call 717/214-ARTS or visit whitakercenter.org

Hours, films, performances, Science Center programs and showtimes are subject to change without notice.

Check whitakercenter.org for updates.

Thank You!

We gratefully acknowledge our Sponsors, Donors, Underwriters and Gems Members whose generosity make Whitaker Center programs affordable for the entire regional community.

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