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ART MAKING A NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DIFFERENCE

PHILADELPHIA, PA - - Art Sphere Inc. welcomes 40 Fulbright Foreign Students from around the world to volunteer and help make the Towey Recreation Center in Philadelphia a better place for the community on Saturday, May 7, from 9:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

The Fulbright Foreign Students, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, come from cities and institutions around the United States where they are currently studying and conducting research. The students have gathered in Philadelphia for a three-day enrichment seminar. As part of their experience, the students will join Art Sphere Inc. to paint over graffiti and transform a classroom into a forest mural, brighten benches, poles, and playground equipment, sweep and clean trash from the surrounding park and playground, and make the Towey Recreation Center a safer, brighter, and happier place to be. "It is our hope that the Fulbright Foreign Student volunteers will be inspired to start their own art cleanup events in their host cities around the U.S. and eventually also their home countries while utilizing our free online art curriculum to make a difference in neighborhood education centers and schools," said Kristin Groenveld, Art Sphere's Executive Director.

Founded in 1998, Art Sphere Inc., (ASI) a Philadelphia-based non-profit, uses art as a tool to empower neighborhoods to take civic responsibility and restore neighborhoods so that communities can provide safe and nurturing environments for all of their residents. ASI Volunteers in past years have said, "I feel like I changed someone's life just by just painting a wall" and "playgrounds and recreation centers are where children's memories are made - it's up to adults to make sure those early experiences are positive ones." Learn more by contacting Kristin Groenveld at 215-350-1968, or kristin@artsphere.org. Additional information can be found at www.artsphere.org.

The Fulbright Program, the U.S. government's flagship international educational exchange program, is supported by the people of the United States and partner countries around the world. Since 1946, the Fulbright Program has provided more than 360,000 participants from over 160 countries with the opportunity to study, teach and conduct research, exchange ideas and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns.

The Philadelphia Fulbright Foreign Student Enrichment Seminar is one of eight enrichment seminars hosted across the United States by the U.S. Department of State in 2016. These enrichment seminars are an integral part of the Fulbright experience for first-year Fulbright Foreign Students and support the overall mission of the Fulbright Program, building relations between the people of the United States and the people of other countries that are necessary to solve global challenges. For more information, please click here.