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HISTORIC PHILADELPHIA, INC.
WINTER 2011 FACT SHEET

DESCRIPTION:

Historic Philadelphia, Inc. makes our nation’s history relevant and real through interpretation, interaction, and education, strengthening Greater Philadelphia’s role as the destination to experience American history. Historic Philadelphia, Inc.’s **Once Upon A Nation** is a unique program for bringing history to life, featuring Adventure Tours (walking tours), History Makers, Storytelling Benches throughout the Historic District and at Valley Forge, and the Benstute to specially train all staff. **Franklin Square** is an outdoor amusement oasis with Philadelphia-themed Mini Golf, the *Philadelphia Park* Liberty Carousel, and SquareBurger, hosting birthday parties and many special events. *Liberty 360* in the PECO Theater, a new digital 3-D experience, is open for its first full season as a year-round indoor attraction housed at the remodeled Historic Philadelphia Center as Phase I of the all-new completely re-imagined **Lights of Liberty**. **The Betsy Ross House** allows visitors a personal look at the story and home of a famous historical figure, with newly remodeled and reinterpreted rooms and changing exhibitions.

LIBERTY 360:

Liberty 360 immerses the viewer in the symbols of freedom. Benjamin Franklin appears in a groundbreaking 360-degree, 3-D show unlike anything that has ever been seen before, and escorts the audience on a journey of discovery and exploration of America’s most beloved symbols. The 15-minute, 3-D film surrounds the audience in the new customized state-of-the-art PECO Theater.



Historic Philadelphia Center, 6th & Chestnut Streets

Open daily, year-round, 363 days a year

Shows every 20 minutes

Sept 6 – March 31, 2012: 10 am - 6 pm, Mon – Sat; 11 am - 5 pm, Sun (Open December 24, 10 am – 5 pm)

Closed Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day

\$6 adults, \$5 senior/military/student and children 12 & under, \$20 family four-pack

Duration: 15 minutes

HISTORIC PHILADELPHIA CENTER:

Opened in September 2010, the **Historic Philadelphia Center**, across the street from Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell, is now a new focal point of Independence Mall, as visitors are drawn to the building with a glimpse of the technology that awaits them inside. The Center is the headquarters for all of Historic Philadelphia’s programs including the box office, providing tickets for Once Upon A Nation tours, *Liberty 360* in the PECO Theater, as well as the nearby Betsy Ross House and Franklin Square. The Center also serves as the departure point for all Once Upon A Nation tours, provides guest services such as restrooms, and offers expanded retail operations by Aramark.
6th & Chestnut Streets

– more –



Winter Special Events at the Historic Philadelphia Center

Friday, November 25, 1 - 3 pm – Fly, Eagles, Fly...into the Historic Philadelphia Center – Come in from the cold and check out *Liberty 360* in the PECO Theater inside the Historic Philadelphia Center for fun football make-and-take crafts and special surprise guests! Come dressed in your most “fan”-tastic Eagles outfit and children are free for *Liberty 360*, plus win a chance at free Eagles tickets!

Saturdays & Sundays in December (through Dec. 24) – Liberty Bells & Silver Bells – Celebrate the season with a variety of fun and festive events each weekend. Send holiday greetings to our troops overseas thru 12/11. Each weekend from 11 am – 5 pm, enjoy free make-and-take crafts. The holidays are in full swing on **Saturday, December 17** when Mrs. Claus visits from 2 - 5 pm. Visitors will also enjoy candle-making and Colonial crafting demonstrations that day. Plus, bring a new unwrapped toy for **Toys for Tots** and receive one free ticket to *Liberty 360*.

FRANKLIN SQUARE:



Fun family entertainment and a beautiful park are just steps away from the Liberty Bell, in one of William Penn’s original five squares, now celebrating its **5th Birthday Season**. Award-winning Franklin Square is an outdoor amusement oasis located in the heart of Historic Philadelphia, featuring Philly Mini Golf, a renovated vintage marble fountain, playgrounds, the *Philadelphia Park Liberty Carousel*, and the acclaimed SquareBurger, with offerings from Starr Restaurants. After a day of experiencing the treasures of Philadelphia’s history, putt through some of the city’s most famous icons, take a ride on hometown racehorse heroes Afleet Alex or Smarty Jones aboard the carousel, enjoy a rest next to the refreshing fountain, and dine on the finest burgers and shakes in town. **Awarded Best of Philly® two times by**

***Philadelphia Magazine*, named one of the City’s Best Family Outings by *Philadelphia Style*, and called one of the top ten playgrounds in the United States by *Dream On Travel*. Franklin Square: 6th & Race Streets. All hours are weather permitting.**

November 25 – 27: 12 - 5 pm

November 29: 5 - 7 pm (open for holiday celebration)

December 3 – 18: 12 - 5 pm, Saturdays & Sundays

December 24: 12 - 5 pm

December 26 – 30, January 1 - 2: 12 - 5 pm, daily

December 31: 12 - 6 pm

SquareBurger operates at the same hours as other attractions on these dates.

What did you do on your 5th birthday? Celebrate Franklin Square’s 5th all season long!

- **Philly Mini Golf:** Putt around the city on this Philadelphia-themed miniature golf course! \$8 adults/\$6 children (3-12), **FREE** for children under 2
- **Philadelphia Park Liberty Carousel:** A zebra, a lion, an eagle, horses and more! Hop on this spectacular all-American style carousel with hometown racehorse heroes Afleet Alex and Smarty Jones. \$2.50 per person (adult or child), **FREE** for children under 2
- **Playgrounds:** Slides, swings, and spinners...bring the kids and enjoy two playgrounds! Open year-round and **FREE**.
- **SquareBurger:** Starr Restaurants presents a delicious menu featuring burgers, hot dogs, french fries, salad, southern-fried chicken fingers, and delectable frozen treats such as the *Philadelphia Magazine* Best of Philly 2011 winner Cake Shake with Tastykake Butterscotch Krimpet© and a Shake-of-the-Month! **For winter, now with hot chocolate! Winter Shake-of-the-Month: Candy Cane Shake!**

Winter Special Events at Franklin Square

November 25, 26, & 27, 2 - 5 pm – Visit with Santa Claus – Bring your Christmas list and visit with Santa, FREE!

November 29, 5 pm – Franklin Square Holiday Celebration – Holiday celebration with Santa Claus and Benjamin Franklin. Attractions open 5 – 7 pm.

December 3 – 18 and 24, Saturdays and Sundays, 2 - 5 pm – Visit with Santa Claus – Bring your Christmas list and visit with Santa, FREE!

December 31, 6 pm – Kids' New Year's Eve Countdown – A kids' version of the famous New Year's Eve celebration with a dropping "square" in lieu of the famous ball, FREE! Penn's Landing Fireworks visible from Franklin Square.

Franklin Square is available for birthday parties, special events, and group outings!

TIPPLER'S TOUR: On Historic Philadelphia, Inc.'s weekly tavern tour of Colonial and modern day watering



holes, a Colonial hostess or host shares historical facts about the traditions of drinking and leads guests in Colonial drinking songs and toasts. With drinks and snacks at each of the four stops: Salon 401 at Omni Hotel, National Mechanics, Triumph Brewery, and the historical City Tavern, the tour guide entertains guests with songs and stories of the drinking traditions from Colonial times, and shares some of Benjamin Franklin's most fun phrases for someone who is intoxicated, including "nimptopsical" and "tipsicum grave."

April 14 – December 29: 5:30 pm, Thursdays

NEW!! November 17 – December 29: Tippler's Tour: Yuletide Cheers & Beers: 5:30 pm, Thursdays (except Thanksgiving)

It's the most wonderful time... for a beer! Raise a glass of cheer on Once Upon A Nation's Colonial pub crawl through Historic Philadelphia. It is 1777 and the British are occupying Philadelphia... will there be holiday celebrations during this tumultuous time? Step with us into the holiday season in charming Old City, whilst enjoying winter brews and festive libations. Huzzah!

Departs from the Historic Philadelphia Center, 6th & Chestnut Streets

\$35 adults, \$30 senior/military/student. (tastings & gratuity included, 21 and over with valid I.D.) Duration: 2½ hours. Recommended to arrive 30 minutes in advance to pick up tickets and see the new Liberty 360 show for only \$5.

BETSY ROSS

HOUSE: The Betsy Ross House is dedicated to preserving the legend of the first



flag and the story of Betsy Ross, and all Colonial working-class women. The House, just blocks from Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell, is one of Philadelphia's most popular historic attractions with nearly 300,000 visitors annually. The House is two and a half stories with eight rooms and was originally built in 1740. The House is restored to the period from 1773 to 1785, when Betsy Ross, as the story tells it, created the first American flag. The house is furnished with period antiques and some reproduction furniture. Highlights include several objects known to have belonged to Betsy Ross. Visit Betsy Ross in the country's only interactive colonial upholstery shop and get an up close look at the parlor, where she

famously received the Flag Committee, and her bedroom where the first flag was secretly stitched. Kids will love the interactive exhibits in the House's basement. See changing exhibits in the gallery and meet Betsy Ross, in person. See the current exhibit, *Rally 'Round the Flag* in the gallery, which features a Civil War-era flag sewed by Betsy's daughter, and meet Betsy Ross, in person. Starting December 1, check out **The Betsy Ross House Walk of Fame**. As you tour the House, search for the "stars" and learn about some of the celebrities who've paid Betsy a visit over the years.

April 1 – November 30: 10 am - 5 pm, daily

December 1 – February 28: 10 am - 5 pm, Tuesdays - Sundays

The Betsy Ross House will be closed January 23 – 30, 2012, for renovations.

March 1 – 31: 10 am - 5 pm, daily

239 Arch Street

Admission is \$4 adults, \$3 children/students/seniors/military. Audio tour available for \$6 adults, \$5 children/students/seniors/military, includes admission. Duration: 25 minutes.

2011 Special Events at the Betsy Ross House

November 25 – 27, 11 am - 4 pm – Chocolate-making Demonstrations

December 2, 6-8 pm – Home for the Holidays – The choir from Waldron Mercy Academy performs followed by a special candlelight tour of the House beginning at 6:30 pm. Learn about Colonial holiday traditions, visit with Betsy Ross, and enjoy seasonal refreshments. *Tickets are \$10 for adults; \$8 for children 2-12.*

December 26 – 31, 11 am - 4 pm – Chocolate-making Demonstrations

December 31, 11 am - 4 pm – Betsy's Birthday Bash – Birthday cake and crafts for kids. FREE!

PARTNERS:

Historic Philadelphia, Inc. is led by President and CEO Amy Needle, in partnership with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, City of Philadelphia, Independence National Historical Park, Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corporation, Fairmount Park Commission, and Valley Forge National Historical Park.

FUNDERS:

The Lenfest Foundation and H.F. Lenfest, PECO, Delaware River Port Authority, PARX Casino, William Penn Foundation, ACE Charitable Foundation, Lincoln Financial Group Foundation, ARAMARK, Connelly Foundation, Philadelphia Eagles Go Green, Avery Foundation, Brett's Pony, Cash Is King Racing Stable, Team Smarty and the Chapman Family, Lewis Katz, Esq., Wayne S. Spilove, Friends of Valley Forge, The McLean Contributionship, Thomas Skelton Harrison Foundation, Google, Valley Forge Convention & Visitors Bureau, 1956 Otto Haas Charitable Trust, American Express, PNC Foundation, Philadelphia Cultural Fund, Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation, Blank Rome LLP, Hersha Hospitality, Starr Restaurants, Hotel Monaco Philadelphia, National Constitution Center, Max & Me Catering, Capital Wine & Spirits Company and media partners CBS, KYW Newsradio, WHERE Magazine, WPVI-6ABC, and WXPB's Kids Corner.

BACKGROUND:

Historic Philadelphia, Inc. makes our nation's history relevant and real through interpretation, interaction, and education, strengthening Greater Philadelphia's role as the destination to experience American history. Historic Philadelphia, Inc.'s programs include the Betsy Ross House, Once Upon A Nation storytelling and Adventure Tours, Franklin Square, and Lights of Liberty.

MORE

INFORMATION:

For all **Historic Philadelphia, Inc.** event information, call 215-629-4026, 877-462-1776, or visit www.historicphiladelphia.org to buy tickets online. Tickets available in person at the Historic Philadelphia Center, Betsy Ross House, Franklin Square, or the Independence Visitor Center. Follow HPI at twitter.com/HistoricPhilly and <http://twitter.com/FranklinSqr> or on Facebook at <http://tinyurl.com/facebkHPI> or <http://tinyurl.com/facebkFnkSq>.

All events, prices, and dates are subject to change.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: High-resolution photographs are available for media usage at: <http://tinyurl.com/HPIphoto>. Email cari@reliefcomm.com for login information.