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MEDIA ADVISORY

GoggleWorks Celebrates the Opening of The Willson History Project

On Sunday, January 10, GoggleWorks Center for the Arts will open the doors to The Willson History Project, a new permanent exhibit in the VIST Financial Gallery, 3rd floor.

The Willson History Project is a retrospective showcasing the 130-year history of Willson Goggles. Historical artifacts and interactive learning activities depict the groundbreaking innovations of a company that led the world in the development of safety products. Explore the industrial history of Reading along with the personal histories of Willson Goggles factory workers. In addition this exhibit connects the history of Willson Goggles to pivotal highlights in national and world history, as well as key moments from arts and pop culture.

Sunday's opening will feature a panel discussion moderated by GoggleWorks Executive Director, Diane LaBelle, beginning at 1 p.m. and featuring:

- Thomas A. Willson III, Vice President, Willson Products, Inc.
- Sime Bertolet, Executive Director, Historical Society of Berks County
- Susan Small, GoggleWorks and Willson History Project Artist
- Gerald F. Ronning, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History, Albright College

This exhibit has been supported in part by the Pennsylvania Humanities Council (PHC) and the National Endowment for the Humanities' We the People initiative on American history. Also special thanks to Allegro Arts and Custom Framing.

The GoggleWorks Center for the Arts is a community art and cultural resource for Berks County, central and southeastern Pennsylvania, and is the largest, most comprehensive interactive arts center of its kind in the country. The GoggleWorks is open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Free parking is available in the GoggleWorks parking lot.

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