

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GoggleWorks Folds Arts and Generations Together

Collaborative Event Held with Berks Encore, Reading Musical Foundation and RACC's Miller Center for the Arts

On Thursday, March 11, the GoggleWorks After School Arts Program (ASAP) will blend generations in a mix of origami and music. Berks Encore and the Reading Musical Foundation have partnered with the GoggleWorks to bring together 10 ASAP students and 15 seniors for this special evening. ASAP allows students from the Reading Area School District, ages 6-17, to take free art courses in a safe and constructive environment.

The intergenerational activities will begin at 3:30 p.m., when GoggleWorks ASAP Origami instructor, Alan Cernak, and Manga instructor, Lily Cernak, will combine their students with Berks Encore seniors for a special origami project. The ASAP students will share their paper-folding skills with the adults.

Following the class, from 5:30-7 p.m., the group of children and seniors will enjoy dinner together in Cucina Café at the GoggleWorks. They can also use this time to explore the GoggleWorks Center for the Arts.

At 7:00 p.m., the students and adults will walk together to RACC's Miller Center for the Arts, alongside GoggleWorks staff and chaperones. They will attend a performance, beginning at 7:30 p.m., of "Time for Three," a self-described "classically trained garage band" that combines classical themes with bluegrass-style fiddling, gypsy and jazz idioms. After the performance ends, the group will return to the GoggleWorks.

Reading Musical Foundation provided funding for this collaborative program to purchase tickets to the performance and to provide dinner for the participating ASAP children and Berks Encore seniors.

ABOUT BERKS ENCORE:

The mission of Berks Encore is to engage the community to enable older adults to achieve a better quality of life by providing a comprehensive program of services, referrals, education and advocacy.

ABOUT READING MUSICAL FOUNDATION:

Over 80 years old, the Reading Musical Foundation (RMF) is a public charity that provides financial support for music presenters in Berks County, music scholarships by audition and in response to financial need, and extensive music outreach, including programs in most of Berks County's public and parochial schools. RMF is governed by a self-perpetuating board of

volunteer trustees and is administered by two full-time employees. The Foundation depends upon the public's support each year.

ABOUT THE GOGGLEWORKS AND ASAP:

ASAP, which has been in place at the GoggleWorks since 2006, is held each fall and spring for an eight-week session. Classes are held weekdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Each session of ASAP enables the children to experience various techniques, mediums and gain a fulfilling education in the arts while at the GoggleWorks. Every year, the GoggleWorks provides financial assistance to hundreds of children who participate in ASAP and take free classes in such varied subjects as ceramics, digital arts, drawing, painting, fibers, photography, jewelry, glass, wood, dance, creative writing, weaving, wheel throwing and theater.

The support of the community is pivotal in providing the funding for these programs. The GoggleWorks ASAP program is made possible by generous contributions from the GoggleWorks Giving Society; Young Hearts for Arts; Carpenter Technology; St. Paul Travelers Foundation; Bon Ton Stores Foundation; The Reading Royals Charities of the Berks Community Foundation; Capital BlueCross; Reading Musical Foundation; and the Teleflex Foundation.

The GoggleWorks Center for the Arts is a community art and cultural resource center for Berks County and 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. For more information, call the GoggleWorks at 610-374-4600, or visit the website at www.goggleworks.org.

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