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PHILADELPHIA AREA GALLERIES SET THE SCENE FOR PICTURE-PERFECT GARDENS *Art Often Comes With A Side of Floral Beauty In Philadelphia*

PHILADELPHIA, February 28, 2019 – Throughout the Philadelphia region, art galleries and museums sit amid colorful gardens, quiet woodlands and serene meadows that accentuate the art found in both indoor and outdoor galleries. Here's a look at some of the region's museums and attractions that celebrate beauty inside and out:

Philadelphia:

- **The Barnes Foundation** – The Barnes Foundation honors its horticultural legacy with landscaped lawns, trees, a park, fountain, contemplative walkways and outdoor seating on its 4.5-acre site. That location's Garden Restaurant also features outdoor courtyard dining, while internal gardens throughout the building encourage visitors to imagine they are strolling directly into the landscapes they're admiring on the walls. 2025 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, (215) 278-7200, barnesfoundation.org
- **Penn Museum** – After viewing the impressive collection of international art and artifacts inside this historic University of Pennsylvania museum, visitors can relax in two magnificent gardens. The Warden Garden, now wheelchair accessible, features a classic koi pool, expansive lawns and mosaics created by Louis Comfort Tiffany. The Stoner Courtyard, built on the philosophy that places for nature are necessary in our built-up world, includes sculptural pieces by A.S. Calder, a cobblestone walkway and a beautiful marble fountain. Inside, guests marvel at ancient objects, including Egyptian mummies, classical sculpture and pottery and the royal burial jewelry of Queen Puabi. 3260 South Street, (215) 898-4000, penn.museum
- **Philadelphia Museum of Art** – Best known for its international exhibitions and collections of more than 240,000 works, the crown jewel of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway is more than a museum. It's also the unofficial gateway to Fairmount Park. The bi-level Sculpture Garden, with its combination of terraces, lawns, flora and water features, showcases an ever-changing sculpture collection overlooking Fairmount Park, the Schuylkill River, the four-acre Azalea Garden and the grand, neoclassical Fairmount Water Works. Works on display include large-scale pieces by Claes Oldenburg, Ellsworth Kelly, Sol LeWitt, and, through summer 2020, *Now She* by Ursula von Rydingsvard. 2600 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, (215) 763-8100, philamuseum.org
- **Rodin Museum** – Movie-theater magnate, philanthropist and Rodin collector Jules Mastbaum, known for his eye for elegance, hired architects Paul Cret and Jacques Gréber to create this jewel-box museum. The venue's intimate settings are perfect for taking in the extensive collection, one of the greatest such examples of Rodin's work outside of Paris. A new installation, *Rethinking the Modern Monument*, explores Rodin's once-controversial approach to public sculpture. Visitors can enjoy the front garden's reflecting pool and tapestry of magnolia trees, shrubs and colorful flowers—some dating back to the 1920s—as well as *The Thinker* and *Eternal Springtime*. 2151 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, (215) 763-8100, rodinmuseum.org

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- **Second Bank of the United States** – Inside this Parthenon-like structure is a first-rate collection of approximately 200 historic portraits of Founding Fathers, early leaders, explorers and others, many by Charles Willson Peale. Just steps away, the Signers' Garden, with native plants and trees, commemorates the creators of *The Declaration of Independence*. The nearby 18th-Century Garden replicates formal English gardens of the day with geometrically patterned raised flowerbeds, walking paths and a pergola. The Rose Garden and Magnolia Garden are secluded, colorful and fragrant refuges. Second Bank, 420 Chestnut Street; Signers', 5th & Chestnut Streets; 18th-Century, Walnut Street between 3rd & 4th Streets; Rose and Magnolia, Locust Street between 4th & 5th Streets; (215) 965-2305, nps.gov/inde
- **Woodmere Art Museum** – At the top of Philadelphia's Chestnut Hill neighborhood, this gem of a venue tells stories of Philadelphia's art and artists, including N.C. Wyeth, Benjamin West and Violet Oakley, as well as new and emerging contemporary artists. The 19th-century stone Victorian mansion sits on six acres dotted with sculptures by Dina Wind and other Philadelphia-area artists, including Harry Bertoia's sinuous fountain sculpture, *Free Interpretation of Plant Forms*, and, as of this spring, the late sculptor Robinson Fredenthal's majestic stainless-steel *White Water*. 9201 Germantown Avenue, (215) 247-0476, woodmereartmuseum.org

Suburbs:

- **Abington Art Center** – This vibrant cultural organization, known for its summer concert series, occupies part of the 27 acres of historic Alverthorpe Manor in Montgomery County. Inside, three galleries show as many as six regional and national art exhibitions annually. Outside, katsura trees dot a meandering walkway through the Sculpture Park, which is open and free to the public 365 days a year. 515 Meetinghouse Road, Jenkintown, (215) 887-4882, abingtonartcenter.org
- **The Barnes Arboretum at Saint Joseph's University** – In suburban Merion, the 12-acre arboretum here is astonishingly diverse for its size, with more than 2,500 varieties of woody and herbaceous plants, many rare. The arboretum opens to visitors May through September. 41 Lapsley Lane, Merion, (610) 660-2801, barnesfoundation.org
- **Brandywine River Museum of Art** – It takes just one glimpse of the Virginia bluebells, cardinal flowers and holly and bayberry bushes that border this onetime gristmill to understand why this landscape has served as a muse for so many local artists. The Brandywine River Museum of Art is known for its unparalleled collection of works by three generations of Wyeths and its fine collection of American art. Outside, visitors can join guided walks through the wildflower and native plant gardens, which were dedicated by Lady Bird Johnson and, during the annual plant sale on Mother's Day weekend, take home seeds cultivated right on the grounds. 1 Hoffman's Mill Road, Chadds Ford, (610) 388-2700, brandywinemuseum.org
- **Michener Art Museum** – This Bucks County destination is home to the Edgar N. Putman Event Pavilion, a 2,700-square-foot indoor-outdoor space designed by esteemed architecture firm KieranTimberlake. The pavilion showcases museum programs—jazz nights, lectures, family events—within an all-glass structure that extends into the Patricia Pfundt Sculpture Garden. Inside, the museum's eight galleries accommodate special exhibitions and a 3,000-piece permanent collection. 138 S. Pine Street, (215) 340-9800, Doylestown, michenerartmuseum.org

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