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The Exchange receives grants from Youth in Philanthropy for the Art Cart

Bloomsburg, Pa. – The Exchange gratefully announces that it has received grants from two of the Community Giving Foundation's Youth in Philanthropy affiliates in support of our Art Cart. Students at Berwick Area High School and Danville Area High School evaluated applications from many non-profits in their districts and chose The Exchange among other organizations that serve the Berwick area and Montour County.

Since the summer of 2015, The Exchange's Art Cart has visited fifty venues throughout our region, bringing and fun and educational projects including painting and drawing, cut-out paper, collage, and sculpture, often using recycled materials. Our facilitators tailor the projects to any age group and any size group. The Exchange provides the Art Cart for free, thanks to contributions from individual, corporate, and foundation donors.

Reaching everyone from preschool children to seniors in nursing facilities, the Art Cart helps to bring out the beauty that everyone has inside – and in the process, it brings happiness. "It thrills us that Youth in Philanthropy students have chosen to support the Art Cart," says The Exchange's executive director, Oren B. Helbok. "As an occasional Art Cart facilitator myself, I have seen what a difference it makes in people's lives to have the opportunity to make the world more beautiful by sharing artwork with each other."

In Montour County, we have visited the Gatehouse, Danville Child Development Center, Danville State Hospital, Emmanuel Care, Nazareth Memory Care, Danville Elementary School, and the Thomas Beaver Free Library, as well as events in downtown Danville; in the Berwick area, we have gone to the Teen Center, the McBride Memorial Library, the S.M.I.L.E. and Prime Time programs, the Evan Owen Apartments, Celebration Villa (Elmcroft), and Celebrate Berwick. The Art Cart also visits many venues in Bloomsburg and elsewhere in Columbia County as well as the Weis Center at Bucknell University and the Milton YMCA, among others.

Community Giving Foundation's Youth in Philanthropy program provides high school students in eighteen districts across the region the opportunity to learn about philanthropy and participate in the grantmaking process. Focused on the meaning of giving and the importance of getting involved, students gain experience in the assessment of community needs, teamwork, building consensus, nonprofit finance, and the local non-profit world.

Community Giving Foundation helps people create funds that change lives. A 501(c)(3) public charity, the Foundation offers the opportunity for donors to make lasting charitable legacies that will impact the needs and enrich the lives of people in the Central Susquehanna region.

The Exchange, also a 501(c)(3), is an organization dedicated to bringing the arts to all communities throughout our region. In addition to providing art-making experiences for people of all ages and abilities with the Art Cart, The Exchange operates the year-'round Exchange Gallery on Main Street in Bloomsburg; produces Listening Room and Coffeehouse Series concerts; runs ArtOfPA.org, a comprehensive Web site and calendar of arts and culture in our region; and, in collaboration with many other organizations, produces Bloomsburg's annual summertime ArtFest, downtown window painting in the fall, and the BOO!burg Halloween event on 7th Street.

Find us on the Web at ExchangeArts.org and Facebook.com/ExchangeArtsDotOrg.