

## Spring 2006 in the Brandywine Valley: Feature Ideas for Writers

For immediate release; Wilmington, DE (March 10, 2006): The Brandywine Valley, where Pennsylvania and Delaware meet just thirty miles southwest of Philadelphia, is home to world-class gardens, museums, historic sites, and cultural activities. These are complemented by art galleries and antique shops, lovely backcountry roads, and a variety of accommodations and dining options.

Here are ideas for articles your readers will enjoy. Detailed information is available directly from the sites through the contacts and websites listed below.

### Experience Wyeth Country

Beginning April 1, the **Brandywine River Museum** offers tours of the Kuerner Farm, a major inspiration to Andrew Wyeth, as well as tours of the home/studio of famed American illustrator N. C. Wyeth, Andrew's father. Extraordinary draftsman skills are revealed in "Andrew Wyeth: Master Drawings from the Artist's Collection." The exhibit complements and coincides with "Andrew Wyeth: Memory and Magic" at the nearby Philadelphia Museum of Art from March 29 through July 16. "Something Waits Beneath It—Early Work by Andrew Wyeth, 1939-1969" comes to the **Delaware Art Museum** from March 29 through July 16. Many Wyeth family members, including Andrew and his son Jamie, still make the Brandywine Valley their home.

### 2. **Waltz of the Flowers is Music to the Eyes**

A symphony of color reaches a crescendo at local gardens in spring. **Longwood Gardens**, the world's premier horticultural display garden, bursts into blooms with "Acres of Spring." Longwood offers 1,050 acres of gardens, woodlands, and meadows; 20 outdoor gardens; 20 indoor gardens under glass; spectacular fountains; and more than 800 annual events. Nearby, spring arrives at **Winterthur Museum and Country Estate** on a carpet of blue as hundreds of thousands of bulbs cover the March Bank, followed by daffodils, magnolias, and cherry trees throughout the estate. The Sundial garden, fragrant with lilacs, is transformed into a larger-than-life garden bouquet. Other gorgeous local landscapes include **Rockwood Park**, with its mansion set among formal gardens and 72 acres of woods and meadows; **Hagley Museum and Library**, situated on 235 picturesque acres along the Brandywine River; and the wildflower garden at the **Brandywine River Museum**.

### 3. **Spring into Family Fun**

Children enjoy their own special space in the Enchanted Woods™ at **Winterthur Museum and Country Estate**. "Kid Stuff: Growing Up at Winterthur" takes modern children back in time. Hands-on exhibits and the parklike setting at **Hagley Museum and Library** bring a nineteenth-century milling community to life. **Rockwood Park** has a network of trails throughout its 72 acres of woods and meadows; older children might enjoy a Ghost Tour, scheduled for May 27 and June 24. **Longwood Gardens'** Bee A-mazed is an outdoor area especially for children, who also enjoy the outdoor fountain displays, the topiary garden, and the many other magical floral treats indoors and out. Parents will appreciate the stroller-friendly

atmosphere. Learn about dinosaur behavior at the “The Great Dinosaur Egg Hunt,” through April 30 at the **Delaware Museum of Natural History**. Beginning May 27, “Shoot to Thrill: The Wildlife Photography Adventures of Bob Caputo” relates captivating stories through the lens of an award-winning wildlife photographer.

#### 4. **The Creative Side: Brandywine Valley Art and Antiques**

The Brandywine Valley is a major venue for top-quality art and antiques. **Hagley Museum and Library** hosts an Art and Antiques Show March 25-26. Visitors to the restored worker’s village also see the site’s antique furnishings, decorative arts, and machinery. **Winterthur Museum and Country Estate’s** 175-room mansion is a world-renowned center for American decorative arts, with a variety of tours available. The **Brandywine River Museum** hosts its 35<sup>th</sup> annual Antiques Show, May 27-29. The **Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts** presents exhibitions that explore topical issues. Through June 4, “Old Media, New Visions” features 19<sup>th</sup>-century photographic techniques used in novel ways. From March 3 through June 18, “The Low Road” presents Katherine Kuharic’s paintings and drawings. A rare opportunity to see historic photographs, drawings, documents, and artworks is presented at “Schoonover Studios: A Place in Our History” at the **Delaware History Museum** through May 13. Frank E. Schoonover was one of the most significant and prolific students of illustrator Howard Pyle.

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Discover Brandywine Valley Public Relations Association Members  
([www.brandywinetreasures.org](http://www.brandywinetreasures.org)):

Brandywine River Museum U.S. Route 1, Chadds Ford, PA 19317;  
[www.brandywinemuseum.org](http://www.brandywinemuseum.org). Jennifer Maguire, 610-388-8337, [jmaguire@brandywine.org](mailto:jmaguire@brandywine.org).)

Delaware Art Museum 2301 Kentmere Parkway, Wilmington, DE 19806; [www.delart.org](http://www.delart.org). Rob Skomorucha, 302-351-8511; [rskomorucha@delart.org](mailto:rskomorucha@delart.org).

Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, 200 S. Madison St., Wilmington, DE 19801;  
[www.thedcca.org](http://www.thedcca.org). Larry Nagengast, 302-656-6466, [lmnagengast@thedcca.org](mailto:lmnagengast@thedcca.org).

Delaware History Museum and Delaware Historical Society (includes George Read II House and Gardens in New Castle), 504 Market St., Wilmington, DE 19801; [www.hsd.org](http://www.hsd.org). Megen Morris, 302-295-2390, [publicrelations@hsd.org](mailto:publicrelations@hsd.org).

Delaware Museum of Natural History, 4840 Kennett Pike, Delaware Route 52, Wilmington, DE 19807; [www.delmnh.org](http://www.delmnh.org). Joey Outten, 302-658-9111; [joutten@delmnh.org](mailto:joutten@delmnh.org).

Hagley Museum and Library, DE Route 141, Wilmington, DE 19807; [www.hagley.org](http://www.hagley.org). Suzanna D. Rogers, 302-658-2400, ext. 238; [srogers@hagley.org](mailto:srogers@hagley.org).

Nemours Mansion and Gardens, 1600 Rockland Rd., Wilmington, DE 19803;  
[www.nemoursmansion.org](http://www.nemoursmansion.org). Susan M. Maynard, 302-651-6912; [smaynard@nemours.org](mailto:smaynard@nemours.org).

Longwood Gardens, U.S. Route 1 at PA Route 52, Kennett Square, PA 19348;  
[www.longwoodgardens.org](http://www.longwoodgardens.org). Patricia Evans, 610-388-1000, ext. 442;  
[pevans@longwoodgardens.org](mailto:pevans@longwoodgardens.org).

Rockwood Park and Mansion, 610 Shipley Rd., Wilmington, DE 19805; [www.rockwood.org](http://www.rockwood.org).  
Carol Klaver, 302-761-4340, [cklaver@nccde.org](mailto:cklaver@nccde.org).

Winterthur, DE Route 52, Winterthur, DE 19735; [www.winterthur.org](http://www.winterthur.org). Contact Hillary Holland,  
302-888-4734; [hholland@winterthur.org](mailto:hholland@winterthur.org).

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