Summer 2006 in the Brandywine Valley:
Feature Ideas for Writers

For immediate release; Wilmington, DE (June 1, 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 and recreational 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.

1. Summer Festivals

Longwood Gardens celebrates its centennial this year. "Founder's Day" weekend begins July 20th with behind-the-scenes tours, entertainment, and a spectacular cake modeled after the Conservatory. The annual "Festival of the Fountains" opens May 27, with daytime displays, evening shows every Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday, and fireworks on selected dates. **Rockwood Park**'s popular "Ice Cream Festival," with live music, family fun, historical demonstrations, and plenty of the cold stuff returns on Saturday and Sunday, July 15 and 16. Rockwood also hosts the "Delaware Shakespeare Festival" outdoors on selected July and August evenings. The **Historical Society of Delaware** celebrates Separation Day at its New Castle location on June 3. Jazz things up at **Winterthur Museum and Country Estate** on June 4 with the kickoff concert of the DuPont Clifford Brown Jazz Festival.

2. Keep the Kids Busy this Summer

The **Delaware Art Museum** presents "Glory of Stories" on the first and last Friday of each month at 10:30 a.m., an hour of storytelling, discussion about artwork related to the story, and a hands-on project for ages 4-6. At the **Brandywine River Museum**, kids ages 3 to 10 accompanied by an adult will enjoy "Museum Explorer Mornings" on July 6, 13, 20, and 27, featuring a museum tour followed by an art project. Children ages 10 to 14 can sign up for "Advanced Explorer Mornings," scheduled for July 11 and 18. **The Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts** offers a "Summer Arts Camp," with programming in visual and performing arts. One-week sessions start July 10 and July 17; a two-week session begins July 24.

Imagine living in Rockwood Mansion 100 years ago...then experience it, courtesy of the "Summer History Camp" at **Rockwood Park**. **Hagley Museum and Library** invites children to participate in activities related to nineteenth-century life on Tuesday afternoons starting June 27 as part of the "Hagley's Creek Kids" program. At **Winterthur Museum and Country Estate**, "Kid Stuff" carries modern youngsters back in time to experience life on the estate in the late 1800s. The **Delaware Museum of Natural History** "Summer Camp" is an exciting blend of nature, art, and adventure programming using the Museum's facilities and the Larry Scott Nature Trail, offered for grades Pre-K through 6. Camp begins the last week of June and ends in mid-August.

Visitors at **Hagley Museum and Library** are invited to "Bike and Hike at Hagley" on Wednesday evenings in July and August from 5 to 8 p.m. Paths suit every riding level. Bring a picnic and enjoy this National Recreational Trail and National Historical Landmark. **Longwood Gardens** hosts Kids Korner on Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 3 p.m., with gardening

activities, crafts, and a focus on nature and plants. The Bee aMazed Children's Garden is open daily. "Enchanted Woods™" at **Winterthur Museum and Country Estate** welcomes youngsters and their families to a magical outdoor space.

3. Art on Canvas and Through the Lens

At the **Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts**, an exhibit of drawings and prints by Eric Fischl, renowned for images of the human figure, runs through September 10. "Oink Moo Baa: Animals in Art" opens June 30. The **Brandywine River Museum** immerses visitors in Wyeth surroundings with tours of the Kuerner Farm and the N. C. Wyeth home and studio. "Andrew Wyeth: Master Drawings from the Artist's Collection" continues through July 16. "Treasures from the Sea: Sailors' Valentines and Shellwork" runs May 27 through July 23; "American Etchers Abroad, 1880-1939" is exhibited from June 3 to September 4. The **Delaware Art Museum** presents "Something Waits Beneath It–Early Work by Andrew Wyeth, 1939-1969" and "Portraits of a People: Picturing African Americans in the Nineteenth Century" through July 16. "Charles Shannon: Lithographs and Luminaries" runs through July 9. From August 5 through October 1, the museum presents "Icons & Idols: A Photographer's Chronicle of the Arts, 1960-1995," complemented by "Iconic Impressions: Prints from the 20th Century," on display from July 27 through September 17. At the **Delaware Museum of Natural History**, beginning May 27, "Shoot to Thrill: The Wildlife Photography Adventures of Bob Caputo" takes visitors on a photographic adventure with a stunning arrangement of wildlife images from a regular *National Geographic* contributor. "Needles and Haystacks: Pastoral Imagery in American Needlework" continues at **Winterthur Museum and Country Estate** through July 23.

Discover Brandywine Valley Public Relations Association Members (www.brandywinetreasures.org):

Brandywine River Museum U.S. Route 1, Chadds Ford, PA 19317; www.brandywinemuseum.org. Lora Englehart, 610-388-8337, lenglehart@brandywine.org.

Delaware Art Museum 2301 Kentmere Parkway, Wilmington, DE 19806; www.delart.org. Dennis Lawson, 302-351-9590, x. 515; dlawson@delart.org.

Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, 200 S. Madison St., Wilmington, DE 19801; www.thedcca.org. Larry Nagengast, 302-656-6466, 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. Megen Morris, 302-295-2390, publicrelations@hsd.org.

Delaware Museum of Natural History, 4840 Kennett Pike, Delaware Route 52, Wilmington, DE

19807; www.delmnh.org. Joey Outten, 302-658-9111; joutten@delmnh.org.
Hagley Museum and Library, DE Route 141, Wilmington, DE 19807; www.hagley.org. Lucille Kahan, 302-658-2400, ext. 238; lkahan@hagley.org.

Nemours Mansion and Gardens, 1600 Rockland Rd., Wilmington, DE 19803; www.nemoursmansion.org. Susan M. Maynard, 302-651-6912; smaynard@nemours.org.

Longwood Gardens, U.S. Route 1 at PA Route 52, Kennett Square, PA 19348; www.longwoodgardens.org. Patricia Evans, 610-388-1000, ext. 442; pevans@longwoodgardens.org.

Rockwood Park and Mansion, 610 Shipley Rd., Wilmington, DE 19805; www.rockwood.org. Carol Klaver Dougherty, 302-761-4340, cklaver@nccde.org.

Winterthur, DE Route 52, Winterthur, DE 19735; www.winterthur.org. Contact Hillary Holland, 302-888-4734; hholland@winterthur.org.

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