



THE COUNTY OF CHESTER



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EDITORS: The following information is for immediate release. For further information, please contact Rebecca Brain, Communications Coordinator at 610-344-6279 or Mark Rupsis, Chester County Chief Operating Officer, at 610-344-6026.

PHOTO IDENTIFICATION: Staff, board members and students taking part in programs at the Melton Arts and Education Center in West Chester, accepting a check for \$250,000 from the Chester County Commissioners. The funds will be used for many improvements to the facility.

Chester County Commissioners present \$250,000 to the Charles A. Melton Arts and Education Center



WEST CHESTER _ The Chester County Commissioners recently presented a check for \$250,000 to staff, board members and after-school program participants at the Charles A. Melton Arts and Education Center in West Chester. The funds will be used to replace doors and windows throughout the facility, to undertake HVAC improvements in the Center's gymnasium and theater, and to implement technology upgrades, including WiFi.

The check from the County comes through a Community Development Block Grant, which is available for the acquisition or renovation of buildings that serve Chester County citizens.

Since 1934, the building, now known as the Charles A Melton Arts and Education Center, has been the location for many West Chester community programs. Today, the Melton Center hosts New

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Directions, an academic and recreational skill-building program for elementary and middle school children, as well as a number of youth and adult recreational games and leagues.

Kenneth Winston, Executive Director of the Melton Center commented: “We are excited to have the support of the Chester County Commissioners and the Department of Community Development to make capital improvements to the Melton Center facility.

“These improvements will be critical to the Melton Center and its mission of contributing to the quality of life for all people of the greater West Chester area. We look forward to a continued partnership with the County, for the good of the community.”

Chester County is the first county in Pennsylvania to initiate a strategic planning process and has a Aaa rating on its bonds from Moody’s Investors Service as well as AAA ratings from Standard & Poor’s and Fitch Ratings. Established by William Penn as one of Pennsylvania’s three original counties, Chester County has been named by Forbes.com as one of America’s best places to raise a family and is ranked the healthiest county in Pennsylvania by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute.