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TAKE TIME OUT FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT OUT
Philadelphia's Fourth Of July Celebration Revs Up With An Arts Block Party

PHILADELPHIA, June 9, 2008 – Start with the anniversary of America's birthday. Add in some of Philadelphia's renowned and emerging performing and visual artists. Put them all together in a block party setting, and the result is *Wednesday Night Out* presented by the Philadelphia International Airport, a highlight of *Sunoco Welcome America!*'s Fourth of July festival. On Wednesday, July 2, 6:30-10:30 p.m., dozens of singers, musicians, crafts people, poets and artisans will take to the four stages set up along the Avenue of the Arts, also known as Broad Street, between Locust and Pine Streets, to entertain art lovers.

The good times will roll on the Philadelphia International Records stage featuring the danceable, old school R&B of some of Sigma Sound's most popular classic artists, including Bunny Sigler, the Soul Survivors, Grace Little and MFSB, the house band who backed up the Gamble and Huff stable of hit makers and whose musical grooves defined the Sound of Philadelphia.

Meanwhile, smooth jazz riffs will echo up and down the Avenue with performances by Point Blank, Jeff Lorber and other artists. For pop music fans, 15-year-old sensation Deja will show off her vocal talents, as will the husband-and-wife indie group Victor Victor Band.

Inside **The Kimmel Center**, the Mount Carmel Youth Orchestra will display the talents of their up-and-coming musicians, and opera singers will delight audiences with popular arias.

Visual arts will also show off their work during the event. Festival goers can watch the creative process in action as artists set up their easels and create pieces on-site. They'll have their art on display and for sale as well.

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Since it is never too early to introduce children to the arts, face painters and other kid-friendly entertainment will be there too. Even the culinary arts will shine as local restaurateurs set up booths along the Avenue with their tempting delicacies.

Visitors celebrating America's birthday in its birthplace can take advantage of the **Philly's More Summer Fun Hotel Package**, which pairs a two-night hotel stay with a \$50 gift card from American Express. The package is available at more than 30 hotels and is bookable online at www.gophila.com/summerfun.

For more information about this event and others taking place during *Sunoco Welcome America!*, running June 28 through July 6, visit www.americasbirthday.com.

Wednesday Night Out is sponsored by Philadelphia International Airport, the Avenue of the Arts, The Kimmel Center, WJZ-FM, WMMR-FM, *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and Philadelphia International Records.

Sunoco Welcome America! is a multi-day festival that celebrates America's birthday in America's birthplace and is produced by *Welcome America, Inc.*

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Note to Editors: For high-resolution photos of Greater Philadelphia, visit the photo gallery of www.gophila.com/pressroom.