



For Immediate Release
4/22/08

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**FLAG FESTIVAL ADDS WELL-KNOWN ARTIST & MUSICIAN TO LINE-UP;
POP ART FLAGS AND SOUND OF PHILLY AMP UP JUNE EVENT**

Philadelphia, PA -- *Flags Across America* artist Scott LoBaido and well-known musical artist Art Aiken of *The Blue Notes* have been added to the line-up of *Flag Festival '08* at the Betsy Ross House. Both will be part of the weekend street fair slated for June 14 & 15, beginning at 10 a.m.

The New-York based LoBaido gained national attention when he traveled the country painting a giant American flag on the rooftop of a home in each of the 50 states. The colorful, and sometimes controversial, artist is known for his pro-American activism and has been featured in many newspaper articles and TV news programs. A documentary film and book on his *Flags Across America* project are due out this summer.

LoBaido will display some of his patriotic, pop-art canvases at *Flag Festival* on Saturday, June 14 and Sunday, June 15, and be on hand to share stories from his 22,000-mile odyssey that took him to the tops of roofs around the United States.

The Sound of Philadelphia will fill the air as Art Aiken, lead singer of *The Blue Notes*, takes to the *Flag Festival* stage at Noon on Sunday, June 15. Famous for the hit, *If You Don't Know Me By Now* with the *Blue Notes*, Aiken will also perform a patriotic anthem, *Let Freedom Ring*, penned by the legendary John Whitehead of McFadden & Whitehead and other oldies but goodies sure to have the crowd dancing on Arch Street.

Flag Festival runs from June 8-15. The centerpiece of the event is an exhibit of rare, historic flags, many of which have never before been publicly displayed. The festival will be capped by a weekend-long street fair on Arch Street June 14 & 15. Food, old-fashioned carnival games, free entertainment and demonstrations by local artisans are just some of the highlights.

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Visitors are also invited to help build the world's largest Post-It® Note American flag, which will be assembled during the fair. A judge from the *Guinness Book of World Records* will be on hand to proclaim the world record.

The Betsy Ross House is dedicated to preserving the legend of the first flag and the story of Betsy Ross, herself, and of all colonial women. The House, located at 239 Arch Street, just blocks from Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell, is one of Philadelphia's most popular historic attractions with nearly 300,000 visitors annually.

The Betsy Ross House is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily April through October and Tuesday through Sunday in winter months. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for children and seniors. An optional audio guide is \$5, which includes admission.

For more information about *Flag Festival* or any other programs at the Betsy Ross House, call (215) 686-1252 or visit www.betsyrosshouse.org.

The Betsy Ross House is managed by Historic Philadelphia, Inc. HPI enhances the visitor experience and helps strengthen Philadelphia's tourism industry through interpretation and interaction, making our nation's history relevant and real. Historic Philadelphia, Inc.'s other programs include Once Upon A Nation storytelling and Adventure Tours, Franklin Square, and the Lights of Liberty Show. For more information, call (215) 629-4026 or visit www.historicphiladelphia.org.

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