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**Education in a FLASH:
WHYY to Pilot “Flash Media Labs” at Three Philadelphia Schools
*Program will provide hands-on media arts training***

PHILADELPHIA, January 13, 2013 — WHYY will pilot a new media arts education program at three Philadelphia schools. The public media provider will construct on-site “Flash Media Labs” at two high schools and one middle school that will provide hands-on media arts training to students in the Philadelphia school district.

WHYY and the school district will jointly select the three schools for this program. The chosen pilot schools will receive new video and audio production equipment. WHYY will provide training for participating teachers at each school. The program will be offered after school hours and teach students media production and media literacy through the creation of documentaries while fostering listening, research and project management skills.

The new Flash Media Lab program is an extension of the media literacy courses offered at WHYY’s Dorrance H. Hamilton Public Media Commons. The pilot program comes on the heels of the 10th anniversary of WHYY’s youth education courses.

“We are thrilled to be able to serve students in Philadelphia who wouldn’t normally have the opportunity to take media arts courses in our building,” said Craig Santoro, WHYY’s director of media instruction. “Over the last ten years, more than 4000 people have experienced learning from our talented instructors in WHYY’s innovative classroom labs. We hope this pilot program will help us develop and test a new service delivery model for our youth education courses.”

WHYY recently received over \$110,000 for education programming from three donors: the Hamilton Family Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the William Penn Foundation. \$82,500 from William Penn Foundation and \$5,000 from Hamilton Family Foundation supports WHYY’s Flash Media Lab pilot program, which runs through December 2015. To learn more about WHYY’s engaging classes for all age levels, visit WHYY.org/hamiltoncommons.

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