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## Animal art adventure for kids at University City Arts League gallery

The University City Arts League and the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine have collaborated to provide a two-week animal/art experience for kids from July 9-20.

For the second year, Kathy Kruger from the Vet School's Center for the Interactions of Animals and Society (CIAS) and Jacqui Bowman from the University City Arts League (UCAL) have put together an exciting program in which children 6-10 years of age will learn about all types of animals, how we humans share our world with them, and what it is like to be a vet.

They will have speakers from many Philadelphia area institutions, including The Insectarium, Philadelphia Zoo, and the Adventure Aquarium and will take a tour of Penn's Veterinary Hospital.

Animals fascinate most children, and the aim of the camp is to combine both the science and the art of animals in ways that children are unlikely to experience either at home or school.

Live animals will be used in many of the presentations, and the children learn about safe handling and pet care in an urban environment.

Neighborhood artist Rita Saluzzi will coordinate the art projects and will be joined by Lihua Xu of the Chinese Language and Culture Center, who will teach the children the traditional art of Chinese paper cutting, into animal shapes.

New this year is a session on microscopic animals taught by University City resident Vivianne Nachmias, a retired Penn professor. All the animal experiences will be reinforced



Vivianne Nachmias, a retired Penn professor, show youngs microscopic world.

and developed with a series of art projects themed to the subject of the day.

A gallery show of art created during this camp entitled Animal Art Adventure will be in the UCAL gallery from July 20-August 18.

The opening reception for this show will be on July 20 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

The art gallery at 4226 Spruce Street is free and open to the public, and the exhibit will be open from noon-8:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday, noon-7:00 p.m. Friday, and 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Saturday. See [www.ucartsleague.org](http://www.ucartsleague.org) or [www.myspace.com/ucartsleague](http://www.myspace.com/ucartsleague).

CIAS, located at Penn's School of Veterinary Medicine, aims to enhance the wellbeing of people and animals via the study of human-animal interactions, and through educational outreach. See [www2.vet.upenn.edu/research/centers/cias/](http://www2.vet.upenn.edu/research/centers/cias/).

For more information call 215-382-7811 or e-mail [info@ucartsleague.org](mailto:info@ucartsleague.org).

## Scribe Video opens video vision to community

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Scribe also offers free workshops to neighborhood groups through its Community Visions project. Each spring, Scribe accepts applications from members of neighborhood groups from Ardmore to Camden, who want to begin to use the medium of video to tell their stories. The project starts from an idea and is completed as a film. Applications are still being accepted, said Clausing.

Through its Community Visions project, Scribe has been involved in producing films ranging in topics from local histories to women's advocacy and youth activism and schools. To apply, the members of a group must begin to formulate the idea of their story and present it to Scribe staff members, to inform them how the group is active in the community. The full process usually takes 10 to 12 months. A similar program known as fiscal sponsorship is available to individuals, Clausing said.

Each year, Scribe also works with a group of youths to create a documentary. The youths work with a scholar and filmmaker to research the issue and produce the film. This year the topic is about the history of the settlement house movement in Philadelphia. Settlement houses were created in the late 1800's by Jane Addams as a support system to help provide food, housing, education, and cultural activity and to bring the disenfranchised together.

"A lot of the issues we were dealing with in the 1800's, we are dealing with today," said Clausing. "There is lots of poverty and gentrification."

Scribe recently finished a 3-year project known as Precious Places. Forty-two organizations from around the City and Camden collaborated with a humanities scholar and filmmaker to produce a short video about a precious place in the neighborhood. The Aqua Lounge in West Philadelphia was one of the featured places.

"It is very clear that from North Philadelphia to Ardmore to Camden, down the Schuylkill to Manayunk [that] many areas are [and have been] dealing with similar issues," said Clausing.

Scribe is funded by a number of philanthropic organizations, such as the National Endowment for the Arts, The William Penn Foundation, and the Philadelphia Cultural Fund. It also generates a small portion of its income from its workshops.

"We are passionate about making videos and we hope it will illicit change," said Clausing. "Scribe is not a champion or an expert on the issues. We look to the groups to maintain editorial control. We're here to provide assistance."

For information about how to get involved with Scribe, a catalogue of its productions, and a schedule of its workshops, visit [www.Scribe.org](http://www.Scribe.org) or call 215-222-4201.

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