

For Immediate Release: May 24, 2018

Contact: Diane Gerace
215.937.5402
diane.gerace@phl.org

Exhibitions Program Recognized with City Council Resolution

PHILADELPHIA – Philadelphia City Council honored Philadelphia International Airport (PHL) with a Resolution recognizing the 20th anniversary of the Airport’s Exhibitions Program, which aims to improve passenger experience through arts and cultural programming.

Council Member Kenyatta Johnson, whose district includes the Airport, introduced the resolution, which Council Members Allan Domb, Derek Green, Bobby Henon, Al Taubenberger, Cherelle Parker and Mark Squilla co-sponsored. Airport CEO Chellie Cameron and Chief Curator and Director of Exhibitions Leah Douglas accepted the honor today at City Council.

“It is truly an honor to be here today to accept this prestigious recognition from City Council,” said Cameron. “Twenty years ago, Philadelphia International Airport became one of the first airports in the country to introduce an Arts and Exhibitions Program, which enhances the airport experience for more than 30 million travelers who pass through PHL every year by not only promoting fascinating exhibits and work by local artists but also providing a pleasant diversion from the stresses of air travel.”

Since the program began in 1998, PHL has presented more than 425 rotating exhibits throughout all seven terminals, both on the secure and non-secure side of the Airport. The exhibits present Philadelphia-centric themes and artwork by regional artists to provide visibility for Philadelphia’s unique cultural life and to enrich the experience of the traveling public.

Throughout the past two decades, Douglas has used her extensive knowledge in the arts to curate a variety of exhibits from fine arts to pop culture and street art to museum collections. Douglas has collaborated with hundreds of local artists, museums, cultural and educational institutions to promote their talents, histories, and traditions to millions of passengers from around the world.

In recognition of the Exhibition Program’s success, the internationally recognized American Association of Airport Executives has chosen PHL, for the second time, to host its 16th annual Arts in the Airport Workshop in October of 2018.

Philadelphia International Airport is owned and operated by the City of Philadelphia. The Airport is a self-sustaining entity that operates without the use of local tax dollars. It is one of the largest economic engines in Pennsylvania, generating an estimated \$15.4 billion in spending annually and supporting more than 96,300 full-time jobs for the 11-county Philadelphia MSA.