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PHILADELPHIA

APRIL 2008

BASEBALL IS BACK

GREEN GIFTS FOR
EARTH DAY

THE CITY'S
FILM FESTIVAL

TOP ATTRACTIONS
FROM AQUARIUM
TO ZOO

Philly rocks!

Catch a concert by native sons
THE BACON BROTHERS



Your guide to the city's
coolest neighborhoods

Discover Philly's Neighborhoods

BY TOM STANLEY

Philadelphia boasts a diverse, colorful patchwork of neighborhoods, each offering a distinct shopping, dining and nightlife scene. And thanks to Philly's easy-to-navigate grid street design, you won't have any trouble finding your way around. Use the map on pages 54-55 while you explore these essential Philly districts.



OPPOSITE PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: PHOTOS COURTESY B. KRIST FOR GFTMC; MARK GARVIN FOR UNIVERSITY CITY DISTRICT; EDWARD SAVARIA JR. FOR PCVB; BACON BROTHERS PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BACON BROTHERS.

CENTER CITY/AVENUE OF THE ARTS

At the heart of Philadelphia is **City Hall** (Broad and Market sts., 215-686-2840), topped by a statue of city founder William Penn. From here, head south on Broad Street to **Avenue of the Arts**, where you'll find premier performance venues like the **Kimmel Center** (Broad and Spruce sts., 215-893-1999). Just north of City Hall, grab a bite at historic **Reading Terminal Market** (12th and Arch sts., 215-922-2317). Nearby, **Friendship Gate** (10th and Arch sts.) marks the entrance to **Chinatown**. In the blocks surrounding 13th and Sansom streets, **Midtown Village** is a thriving enclave of boutiques and restaurants; the district is also home to a concentration of gay-friendly businesses like **Philadelphia Home Art Garden** (1225 Walnut St., 215-627-0461).

OLD CITY

Head to Old City for colonial attractions and some of Philly's hottest shopping, dining and nightlife. Start at **Independence Visitor Center** (Sixth and Market sts.) for free tickets to **Independence Hall** and the **Liberty Bell** across the street. Meander along **Elfreth's Alley** (off Second St., between Arch and Race sts.), the nation's oldest continuously inhabited residential street, for a glimpse of Philly's past. Then stroll the blocks from Front to Sixth streets, Walnut to Vine streets, to stumble upon fabulous restaurants (like **Continental**, Second and Market sts., 215-923-6069), boutiques (such as **Tony**, 47 N. Third St., 215-592-8669), galleries (like **The Clay Studio**, 139 N. Second St., 215-925-3453) and nightspots (check out **Red Sky**, 224 Market St., 215-925-8080). Hint: hop on the **Big Bus** or **Philadelphia Trolley Works** at the corner of Fifth and Market streets for a terrific tour of the city's neighborhoods (215-389-TOUR, www.phillytour.com).

RITTENHOUSE ROW

Rittenhouse Row—ranging from Broad to 22nd streets and Market to Pine streets—is Philly's most swanky address. **Walnut Street** is lined with chic retailers like **Tiffany & Co.** (1414 Walnut St., 215-735-1919), **Jacques Ferber** (1708 Walnut St., 215-735-4173) and **Joan Shepp** (1616 Walnut St., 215-735-2666). For a world-class meal, try five-star **Le Bec-Fin** (1523 Walnut St., 215-567-1000) and award-winning **Lacroix** at **The Rittenhouse** (210 W. Rittenhouse Sq., 215-790-2533). Or grab a gourmet nosh to go at **Di Bruno Bros.** (1730 Chestnut St., 215-665-9220) and have a picnic among the locals in **Rittenhouse Square Park** (18th and Walnut sts.).

SOUTH STREET

South Street is famous for its colorful shops and eclectic eateries. Spend an afternoon browsing at funky thrift stores like **The Curiosity Shoppe** (529 S. Fourth St., 215-413-2301) or finding fun poster art at **Beyond the Wall** (415 South St., 215-238-1722). Hungry? Stop for

Clockwise from left: Continental is among the hip restaurants in Old City; students stroll in University City; colorful South Street.

a classic Philly cheesesteak at **Jim's Steaks** (Fourth and South sts., 215-928-1911), an enormous slice at **Lorenzo and Sons Pizza** (305 South St., 215-627-4110) or creative Mexican cuisine at the acclaimed **Xochitl** (408 S. Second St., 215-238-7280). After dark, catch a concert at the **Fillmore at the TLA** (334 South St., 215-336-2000) or get your groove on at **Fluid Nightclub** (613 S. Fourth St., 215-629-3686).

ITALIAN MARKET/SOUTH PHILLY

Philly's iconic Italian Market, on Ninth Street from Wharton to Fitzwater streets, offers a spectacular array of food vendors and specialty stores like **Fante's Kitchen Wares Shop** (1006 S. Ninth St., 215-922-5557). Keep heading south to find the longstanding cheesesteak rivalry between **Pat's King of Steaks** (1237 Passyunk Ave., 215-468-1546) and **Geno's Steaks** (1219 S. Ninth St., 215-389-0659). Hop on the Broad Street subway to get to South Philly's stadium complex. The N.L. East Champion **Philadelphia Phillies** play this month at **Citizens Bank Park** (One Citizens Bank Way, 215-463-1000).

UNIVERSITY CITY

On Philly's west side, University City has a vibrant spirit thanks to the five colleges here. In the **University Square** retail district, browse at **Black Cat Gift Shop** (3428 Sansom St., 215-386-6664). Named one of America's best new restaurants by *Esquire*, **Rae** (2929 Arch St., 215-922-3839) is located inside the **Cira Centre** skyscraper. Check out the **Institute of Contemporary Art** (36th and Sansom sts., 215-898-7108) for innovative exhibits and **World Cafe Live** (3025 Walnut St., 215-222-1400) for live music and fun fare. The **Annenberg Center** hosts Philly's own **Bacon Brothers** on April 4 (see sidebar, below).

PARKWAY DISTRICT/FAIRMOUNT

The majestic **Benjamin Franklin Parkway** is lined with attractions like **The Franklin Institute** (222 N. 20th St., 215-448-1200) and the **Philadelphia Museum of Art** (26th St. and Benjamin Franklin Parkway, 215-763-8100). Next to the art museum, dine riverside at **The Water Works Restaurant and Lounge** (640 Water Works Dr., 215-236-9000). In the Fairmount district a few blocks north, explore eerie **Eastern State Penitentiary** (2124 Fairmount Ave., 215-236-3300).

NORTHERN LIBERTIES

This hip neighborhood spans Girard Avenue to Callowhill Street, from Front to Sixth streets. Find cool apparel at **Arcadia Boutique** (819 N. Second St., 215-667-8099) and artwork at **Silica Galleries** (908A N. Third St., 215-627-3655). After dark, catch live jazz at **Ortlieb's Jazzhaus** (847 N. Third St., 215-922-1035), sip a brew at local fave **Standard Tap** (901 N. Second St., 215-238-0630) or let the good times roll at **North Bowl** (909 N. Second St., 215-238-BOWL).

moved into **Northern Liberties**. I'm looking forward to visiting her and exploring that neighborhood.

WHERE: How would you describe The Bacon Brothers' sound?

KB: First off you have two songwriters and two different lead singers. Generally if the song is generated first by Mike he sings the lead, and vice versa. We came up with this word for the first record, "Forsocco," which means "folk-rock-soul-country." It's kind of a joke on the fact that people are constantly trying to categorize [the music].

WHERE: Can you give us some details about your April 4 shows?

MB: Our sister [Hilda] works for Bancroft, and this will be our third partnership with them. It's a wonderful organization. We're doing the show at the Annenberg Center, which is a beautiful room. We'll have a six-piece band and it will run the gamut from rock 'n' roll to softer, more intimate songs.

Tickets for the 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. shows on April 4 start at \$35; pit seats in front of the stage cost \$60 and come with a t-shirt and goodie bag. The Annenberg Center is located at 3680 Walnut Street. For tickets, call (215) 898-3900 or order online at www.pennpresents.org. For more information about The Bacon Brothers, visit www.baconbros.com

THE BACON BROTHERS ARE BACK



Philly natives Kevin and Michael Bacon have each enjoyed remarkable artistic success: Kevin as a Hollywood actor (*Footloose*, *A Few Good Men*, *Apollo 13*) and Michael as an Emmy-winning composer for film and television. Since forming their band The Bacon Brothers, the siblings have released five albums and performed at Carnegie Hall. On April 4, The Bacon Brothers return home for two concerts at the Annenberg Center in University City. The shows will benefit Bancroft NeuroHealth, a provider of services to children and adults with autism, developmental disabilities, brain injuries and other neurological impairments. The brothers spoke with *Where* Editor Karen Gross.

WHERE: How do you think Philadelphia influenced you?

MICHAEL BACON: Philadelphia was just a very rich place for anybody interested in music. Growing up at 21st and Locust streets, we were right near the Curtis Institute of Music (1726 Locust St.)—arguably one of the finest conservatories in the world.

KEVIN BACON: I used to go to concerts at the **Electric Factory** [now located at 421 N. Seventh St.] from the time I was seven, and certainly that was hugely influential on me... My life took a different path in terms of acting, but it was always there in the back of my mind that someday it would be nice to strap on a guitar and play in front of people.

WHERE: Your father, Edmund N. Bacon, was a renowned Philadelphia city planner who was featured on the cover of *TIME* magazine. How did your father's career play a role in your lives? Did you grow up in an artistic household?

MB: Our environment was one that valued creativity above everything else. [Growing up] I knew all the first chairs of the **Philadelphia Orchestra** better than I knew the **Phillies**.

KB: When I was a kid, my father would drag me all over the city and say, "Oh look, this is where there's going to be a great school, and we're going to have housing here, and this is going to be a park." Later, that's the stuff that I got interested in. It got into my blood.

WHERE: Are there any places you make a point to visit here?

MB: I've got to say **Barclay Prime** restaurant [237 S. 18th St.] would be my favorite. In the summer, I love sitting outside of **Rouge** [205 S. 18th St.] on the street.

KB: I just like to walk all through **Center City**, and on **Historic Antique Row** [Pine Street from Broad to Ninth streets]. I also like **Old City** where the galleries are now. Last time I was down there at night, I couldn't believe how bustling and how much fun it was. Our sister just