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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Every Bid Counts at the Mercer Museum Auction

Vacations, Sports Memorabilia, Unique Experiences and More Up for Bid

DOYLESTOWN, PA (April 5, 2010) – The Mercer Museum’s annual auction takes place on Friday April 16, 2010. The event features a variety of first-class items up for bid including one-of-a-kind experiences, vacations, fine dining experiences, tickets for cultural performances and area attractions, signed sports memorabilia, artwork and handcrafts, jewelry and accessories, gift baskets for all occasions, professional services, decorative items for the home and office, and much more. The Silent Auction begins at 6:30 p.m. with a cocktail reception catered by Memorable Affairs. The Live Auction, with auctioneer William Schutt, starts at 8 p.m. Event sponsors include Fulton Bank, Biersmith Associates, Knight Engineering, and Bucks County Women’s Journal.

For the first time, Auction goers can begin the evening at Mercer’s Martini Preview Reception, which will be held one hour prior to the start of the Auction. Mercer’s Martini Preview features martini specials, raw bar, and preview-only bidding items. The Preview Reception begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Mercer Museum’s Central Court. Kevin McCloskey will provide entertainment at the Preview and the Silent Auction/Cocktail Reception.

Auction goers can bid on a large variety of items including one week vacations in Nantucket, MA, Southold, NY, Cape May, NJ, or a two-night getaway in Greenwich Village, NY. Additional excursions feature attractions in Pittsburgh, the Poconos, and Baltimore. For an unforgettable adventure, bid on a VIP Day in Washington, DC, courtesy of Senator Arlen Specter or a romantic overnight in New Hope/Lambertville. Bids can also be placed on a Cocktail Party for 35 or Picnic for 50 catered by Memorable Affairs, or a Private Gourmet Dinner for Eight.

Many regional attractions have donated memberships and tickets to be offered including Bristol Riverside Theater, Riverside Symphonia, Arden Theatre Co., People’s Light & Theater Company, Chester County Historical Society, Allentown Art Museum, Brandywine River Museum, Bartram’s Garden, American Swedish Museum, and more.

Other notable items on the auction block include a portrait sitting with a 16x20 wall portrait on canvas, richly embellished by world renowned artist Bradford Rowley (valued at \$5,000); weekend rental of a bounce ride from A to Z Party Rental, a Girlfriends PJ Party at Lace Silhouettes, and a framed photograph of Henry Mercer's "Reading the Declaration" Tile in the Pennsylvania State Capitol courtesy of Rep. Paul Clymer.

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Bids will be taken for professional services including interior design, legal, art conservation, fitness instruction, and more. Also available will Byers' Choice Carolers, handcrafted items from the Mercer Museum Folk Fest, and other artwork. Great items for families include a "Little House on the Prairie" 75th anniversary basket with hearth cooking demonstration, construction sets from K'Nex, Please Touch Museum Family Membership, plus a variety of themed gift baskets for everyone in the family!

Tickets for the Mercer Museum Auction are \$45 (\$40 Bucks County Historical Society members). Preview Tickets including the Mercer's Martini Preview Reception are \$85 (\$75 Bucks County Historical Society members). Tickets are limited. For more information about the event, to order tickets, or for an absentee bid form, call 215-345-0210, ext. 132, or stop by the Mercer Museum reception desk during museum hours. Tickets can also be purchased online with Paypal at www.mercermuseum.org, or by downloading an Auction response form from the website and faxing it to 215-230-0823.

About the Mercer Museum

The Mercer Museum, one of Bucks County's premier tourist attractions, offers visitors a unique window into pre-Industrial America as seen through the implements used in everyday life. The Museum's collection includes more than 40,000 objects exhibiting the tools of more than 60 different crafts and trades, providing one of the world's most comprehensive portraits of material culture in America. The museum is raising funds for a \$12 million expansion and renovation program to expand changing exhibition space and visitor services, as well as enliven existing spaces within the museum. The Mercer Museum is located at 84 South Pine Street in Doylestown and is open for self-guided exploration 7 days a week. For more information, call 215-345-0210, or go to mercermuseum.org.

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