



Contact Tom Kelly

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 23rd, 2018

Cell 610-804-5054

Email tkelly@kellymusic.com

Website www.KellyMusicForLife.org

Kelly Music for Life holds Golden Shovel groundbreaking for The Kelly Center for Music, Arts, Community

On Saturday, July 21st, Kelly Music for Life officially broke ground on The Kelly Center for Music, Arts, and Community, scheduled to open at the end of 2018. The Kelly Center is a donor supported performing arts space dedicated to the future of the creative arts in Haverford Township and beyond.

Donors and community supporters gathered for an afternoon reception in the “bare to the walls” space that will soon be turned into the area’s best showcase for the talents of the community and bring professional musicians and artists to entertain and exhibit in a unique and sustainable space.

Tom Kelly, Chairman and Executive Director of Kelly Music for Life opened the afternoon by saying “Kelly Music for Life is excited about what WE are building for our community. Thanks to all of you working together, we are turning a vision into a venue, a permanent home for Music, Arts and Community in Havertown. This will be part of our legacy and the community’s legacy. The Kelly Center will be here, continuing to do great work, serving OUR community, long after we move on.”

Tom continued “Thanks to a grant from Green Mountain Energy Sun Club, the Kelly Center will also be a Sustainability Project. We are incorporating a Garden Wall, Rainwater Capture with Gravity Irrigation, reclaimed wood and glass, use of solar power and eco-friendly insulation – all intended to help reduce our carbon footprint. “

Jason Sears, Sun Club Executive Director stated, “Sun Club is pleased to partner on the new Music, Arts and Community Center. The Kelly Center shares Sun Club’s vision to enrich and educate our communities on sustainable solutions and will serve as a shining example of how to do both within the Haverford Township community.”

Paul Kelly, Kelly Music for Life Board of Directors, listed some of the benefits that The Kelly Center will bring to the area: “It will be a café for community gathering, offering a comfortable coffee house listening room environment. In addition to professional ticketed performances in the evening, The Kelly Center will offer after school programs for Middle and High School students, daytime programs for preschool children and seniors, BYO events, events for people with disabilities and alcohol-free events for those in Recovery, as well as availability for private functions.

Jim Wurster, founder of the New Avenue Foundation, showcased plans for a coffee and artesian foods centered Café that they will be opening in the Kelly Center. The Café will benefit the autism community and will build its staff from that community.

Also in attendance were numerous Kelly Music for Life directors and events staff as well as community representatives and donors. These included Haverford Township 3rd Ward Commissioner Kevin McCloskey, PA State Rep Greg Vitale, Haverford Partnership for Economic Development President Don Kelly and The Kelly Center architect Tom Wiedenman.

The Kelly Center for Music, Arts, and Community is located at 4 E. Eagle Rd in Havertown PA.

<http://kellymusicforlife.org/>

<http://kellymusicforlife.org/venue-plan/>

<http://kellymusicforlife.org/events/>

Photos from our events, including our groundbreaking, can be found at <https://joelperlish.smugmug.com/Events/KELLY-MUSIC-EVENTS>.

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Adrian Hickman

Press Relations / Social Media

adimike55@verizon.net

215- 868-5737