FRIENDS OF THE BARNES FOUNDATION

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MEDIA ADVISORY FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friends of the Barnes Foundation Bear Witness

An American legacy Stolen, Degraded

DATE: Wednesday, May 16, 2012

TIME: 9:30 am – 11:30 am

LOCATION: 2025 North 20th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

EVENT: Members of Friends of the Barnes Foundation Steering Committee will gather near the entrance to the Parkway Barnes

Banners and other visuals, fact sheets and copies of "The Art of the Steal" will be available.

DETAILS: Friends of the Barnes Foundation have long opposed the dismantling of the Barnes Foundation. The Friends have advocated for significantly increased access to the Merion campus; for acknowledgement of the Merion site as eligible for National Historic Landmark status; for recognition of the Merion complex as a unique and indivisible complex of art, architecture, and horticulture that is financially sustainable.

The Friends have commissioned studies of the financial sustainability of the Merion complex and an Assessment of the Barnes Foundation as a National Historic Landmark.

Friends of the Barnes Foundation filed a petition in Montgomery County Orphans' Court in February 2011 asking the Court to review the actions of the Pennsylvania Attorney General in the matter. That petition was denied and Judge Ott assessed the Friends with sanctions of \$25,000. An Appeal has been filed with Superior Court by Barnes Watch and Samuel C. Stretton, Esquire.

For information, please contact Evelyn Yaari at 610-864-6483 or <u>eyaari@comcast.net</u> or Nancy Herman at 610-667-0281 or <u>barnesfriends@comcast.net</u>

For more information, www.barnesfriends.org

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