

## YOUNG PROFESSIONAL'S VOLUNTEERING CHANGES A CPA'S CAREER DIRECTION

### *Volunteer opportunity changes CPA's life*

**PHILADELPHIA, PA - March 18, 2010** - When Jerilyn Dressler of Philadelphia's Fairmount section signed on with the Arts & Business Council of Greater Philadelphia to acquire board training, she was actually fulfilling a long-time ambition to give back.

And the impact of that experience led to a radical change in the trajectory of her professional life.

In Fall 2007, Jerilyn participated in the Council's Business On Board training and then was matched with Art-Reach, a program that connects underserved audiences with cultural experiences. Today, she serves as treasurer of the organization to which she has contributed or generated approximately \$30,000 in just one year.

Most importantly, her board service motivated Jerilyn to make an unexpected career change.

"My Art-Reach experience really showed me that I could mix my passion to give back to my community with my business skills. I decided to change the course of my career and look into the nonprofit world," says Jerilyn.

So she left a position with the international business-consulting firm Ernst & Young. Through networking over a period of months, Jerilyn landed a position she says she loves with Your Part-Time Controller, a company that specializes in financial assistance for nonprofits and small companies.

"My work is fun, challenging and different everyday," she says. "I had a great experience at Ernst & Young and now I'm fulfilling my dream of working with nonprofit groups to help them succeed."

Jerilyn has been named the Arts & Business Council of Greater Philadelphia's Business On Board Member of the Year in recognition of her work with Art-Reach. She'll be honored on Tuesday, April 27 as part of the 2010 Arts & Business Council's Annual Awards Luncheon at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, sponsored by PNC Arts Alive.

PNC Arts Alive is a five-year \$5 million grants initiative that supports the arts in the region, says Bill Mills, president of PNC for Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey.

"The arts play an integral role in our region's economy and we are glad to support them through PNC Arts Alive and in particular through the Arts & Business Council's Awards Luncheon," Mills adds.

Last year, over 1,500 people attended the Awards Luncheon and a similar crowd is expected for this year's event.

## **About the Arts & Business Council of Greater Philadelphia**

The Arts & Business Council of Greater Philadelphia, an affiliate of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, develops relationships between business and the arts for the mutual benefit of both and in support of the advancement of the Greater Philadelphia Region. For more information, visit [www.artsandbusinessphila.org](http://www.artsandbusinessphila.org) or call 215.790.3620.