

**Photo Essay — Jonathan Wilson, Philadelphia
Aesthetically Enhanced**

Ever since Philadelphia Region reorganized — going from 33 districts to 59 in December 1997, thus nearly doubling the number of district leaders — the region had been planning to offer these front-line leaders a refreshing training conference.

The conference began at the Philadelphia Community Center and continued with three workshops at the Museum of American Art of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, located fewer than 15 blocks from the community center.

During breaks, the nearly 150 district leaders, as well as other leaders supporting the conference, were able to stroll through the museum's artists' studios, taking in the sculptures and paintings. Although the initial reasons for using the museum were practical — low cost, good accommodations — it turned out to be just the right environment for informal discussions and exchanges of ideas.

— CLAUDE LOMDEN, Bureau Chief

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