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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TICKETS NOW ON SALE FOR 13TH ANNUAL SAND CASTLE HOME TOUR AND KICK-OFF COCKTAIL PARTY in SEPTEMBER

OCEAN CITY, MD – *July 26, 2017* – Once again this September, the doors of 10 private residences in the Ocean City area will open for the Sand Castle Home Tour, the 13^{th} year for the annual event.

The tour, which includes a great variety of homes from oceanfront to bayside to family homes to beach retreats, benefits the nonprofit Art League of Ocean City that operates the Ocean City Center for the Arts and its many community programs.

The self-guided home tour is held over two days on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 22-23, from 9:30 a.m. -4 p.m. so guests can tour at their own pace. Tickets are \$30 per person and include a guidebook, driving directions and special offers. Guests are encouraged to purchase tickets early to avoid being disappointed, as a limited number are available.

Volunteer docents staff each home, guide visitors through the rooms and outdoor spaces, and answer questions about the house and its unique features.

To kick-off the event, a themed cocktail party will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 13, at 6:30 p.m. at the Gateway Grand in Ocean City. The theme this year is "Peace, Love and Art." Tickets are \$100 and proceeds also benefit the Art League.

"This event has become the party of the year in Ocean City, selling out the past two years," Rina Thaler, executive director of the Art League, said. "We bring in professional entertainers related to the theme, making it a chance to get your groove on and remember the 1970s.

"We invite everyone to join us as we celebrate the home owners and Sand Castle Home Tour, the event that provided much of the funding to enable us open the Ocean City Center for the Arts. It's a fun way to raise money for a good cause."

Tickets are available for both events at <u>www.artleagueofoceancity.org</u> or by calling 410-524-9433.

The Ocean City Center for the Arts at 502 94th Street is the home of the Art League of Ocean City, a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing the visual arts to the community through education, exhibits, scholarship, programs and community art projects. More information is available at 410-524-9433 or <u>www.artleagueofoceancity.org</u>.

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EDITORS: Photo attached

CAPTION:

Wayne and Ginny Outten enjoyed the kasbah-themed cocktail party in 2016 that kicked off the Sand Castle Home Tour, a benefit for the Art League of Ocean City. The Outten home was part of last year's home tour.

