

Marblehead Festival of Arts

For Immediate Release

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Who are the MFA Mystery Plate Artists?

Unique Plate Designs Return to the Marblehead Festival of Arts April 9th Auction

Marblehead, MA (March 30, 2006) – The Marblehead Festival of Arts announced today the auction of unique plate designs by local artists will once again highlight their April 9th Auction program.

Since the late 90s, one-of-a kind plates have been offered as part of Art Auction, with a dozen plate artists participating every year. In the beginning, each artist worked alone in April Frost's Hands On! studio. Then, beginning in 2000, a studio day was established, with everyone working on their plates at the same time. Even though April closed her studio this past year, the tradition continued, and she opened her home so the plate artists could work together once again.

Unlike other works of art, creating plates is not a what-you-see-is-what-you-get proposition. The colors change dramatically when the plates are fired, and artists need to take these changes into account when creating their designs. The finished plates have become a regular and popular feature at the Art Auction, and selling prices have ranged from \$25 to \$200 per plate.

Photo Captions:

MFA_Plates_ArtistNoFaces.jpg: Who are the MFA Mystery Artists?

MFA_Plates_ArtistFaces.jpg: Pictured are Art Auction plate artists (from left) Standing: Julia Welch, Holly Bevins, April Frost, Kacy Pierce, Hope Carpenter, and Kiki Taron Kinney. Sitting: Robin Taliesin, Roxcy Platte, Jean Fogle, Tammy Smith, and Holly Aloha Jaynes. Not pictured: Patti O'Hare Williams.

Photo Credits for Attached Pictures: Herb Goldberg, Marblehead

About Marblehead Festival of Arts (MFA)

Founded in 1962, the Marblehead Festival of Arts has a rich history in producing a premier summer arts festival that has become a unique forum for artistic expression. Traditionally held each year over July 4th weekend, the Marblehead Festival of Arts hosts a wide range of art exhibits (painting, sculpture, photography, drawing, etc.), outdoor music concerts overlooking Marblehead Harbor, Writer's World, the Street Festival, Children's Festival, Artisan's Marketplace and many other cultural activities designed to provide a fun and enriching experience for the entire family.

The Marblehead Festival of Arts Inc is a not-for-profit organization comprised of area residents who volunteer their time and services in a variety of capacities. With the mission to promote and foster artistic events and activities in the town of Marblehead, this organization was launched in 1962 by producing an annual Arts Festival. Today, in addition to its summer arts program, the Marblehead Festival of Arts sponsors events throughout the year, promotes area artists, supports up and coming art students via an annual scholarship and contributes to the overall cultural climate of Marblehead.

The Marblehead Festival of Arts is run by an all-volunteer organization comprised of more than forty committees and involving several hundred volunteers. It operates year round and relies primarily on donations to fund its operations. Individuals, families, and businesses may become Festival Sponsors by making a tax-deductible contribution. For additional information on MFA, a calendar of events, volunteer opportunities and sponsorship, please call: **781-639-ARTS (639-2787)** or visit: www.marbleheadfestival.org

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