

Marblehead Festival of Arts

For Immediate Release

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Master Sand Artist, Sean Fitzpatrick to Create Unique Sand Sculpture for MFoA

Salem Five and MFoA Collaborate to Expand Sand Castle Event

Marblehead, MA (June 21, 2006) – The Marblehead Festival of Arts announced today that through a special grant provided by Salem Five, visiting artist Sean Fitzpatrick would create a unique sand sculpture at the Festival’s Sand Sculpture Competition to be held at Devereux Beach on Saturday, July 1, 2006 from 9am to 3 pm. The addition of a visiting artist to the sand castle event will make a wonderful venue for families to visit, and promises to attract participants from the entire North Shore.

“We are happy to announce that the Salem Five organization has awarded Marblehead Festival of Arts a full grant to support visiting sand artist, Sean Fitzpatrick,” stated Jeff Kane and Peter Jackson, event co chairs. “Sean is a master sand sculptor and has won judged competitions at the highest level. He is the defending champion at the Crane's Beach ‘Sand Blast!’ and an instrumental organizer of the New England Master Sand Sculpting Invitational at Revere Beach.”

During the Sand Sculpture Competition, sculptor Sean Fitzpatrick will be carving a scaled replica of Abbott Hall made with 10 tons of special imported sand and forms so it will withstand the weather elements for the entire length of the Festival (through July 4th). Six feet in height, with a base that will read " Marblehead Festival of Arts," this sculpture is guaranteed to inspire all the budding sculptors competing in this year’s contest. These young competitors will be relieved to know it will not be included in the judging for the wide range of prizes that the event offers.

“Salem Five is delighted to have the talented sculptor Sean Fitzpatrick participate in the 2006 Marblehead Festival of Arts.” stated Pat Pollard, Senior Vice President and Director of Marketing for Salem Five. “Salem Five is a strong supporter of the arts on the north shore. The Marblehead Festival of Arts program is a favorite because it allows families to appreciate the arts in two ways. First, attendees are able to celebrate and appreciate the local artists that exhibit their work, plus, we are able to participate ourselves in the workshops and competitions that are offered by the Festival. The Marblehead Festival of Arts really brings art alive for the residents and visitors of Marblehead.”

Anything goes at this great family event for creative sculptors of all ages! Bring your tools of the trade and your creativity to Devereux Beach for an afternoon of fun! The Sand Sculpture Competition will take place on the beach in front of the Devereux Beach Pavilion on Ocean Avenue in Marblehead. There will be trolley service to the event vicinity. Please see the Festival website for details at: www.marbleheadfestival.org/events/trolley

Photo Caption:

Join Sean Fitzpatrick, master sand sculptor at this year’s Marblehead Festival of Arts Sand Sculpture Competition and try your hand at some sculpting with sand for a wide range of prizes. The Competition will be held at Devereux Beach on Saturday, July 1, 2006 from 9am to 3 pm.

About Sean Fitzpatrick

A master sculptor from Saugus Massachusetts, Sean Fitzpatrick owns Fitzzy Snowman Sculpting, a professional sculpting service for events, parties and promotions. Sean has won awards for his sculpting all over New England, and has been featured on NBC’s TODAY show. In addition to creating amazing sand sculptures and organizing the largest master sand sculpting competition in New England, Sean also carves ice, snow and pumpkins. You can find his amazing work at www.fitzzy snowman.com.

About Salem Five

An independent mutual bank, Salem Five is a \$2.3 billion dollar provider of consumer and commercial banking services. Salem Five is the third largest independent bank headquartered in Massachusetts. Salem Five Mortgage Company, LLC services an additional \$1.5 billion in mortgage loans for investors. Salem Five Investment Services provides quality investment and insurance services and products. Salem Five is a licensed mortgage lender in five New England states and Florida, and has loan production offices located in Auburn, Chelmsford, Mansfield, Plymouth, Salem, South Yarmouth, Weymouth, Massachusetts; York, Maine; and Providence, Rhode Island. Established in 1855 and headquartered in Salem, Massachusetts, Salem Five has branches in Beverly, Boston, Danvers, Hamilton-Wenham, Lynn, Malden, Marblehead, North Andover, Peabody, Salem, Saugus, and Swampscott. The Bank’s twentieth branch office is scheduled to open this summer in Middleton, Massachusetts.

About Marblehead Festival of Arts (MFOA)

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, Artisans’ Marketplace and many other cultural activities designed to provide a fun and enriching experience for the entire family.

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 MFOA, a calendar of events, volunteer opportunities and sponsorship, please call: **781-639-ARTS (639-2787)** or visit: www.marbleheadfestival.org

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