

Marblehead Festival of Arts

For Immediate Release

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Marblehead Festival of Arts Awards 2006 Art Scholarship

Marblehead, MA (July 5, 2006) – The Scholarship Committee of the Marblehead Festival of Arts, Inc. is pleased to award this year's annual Marblehead Festival of Arts Scholarship to Anna Webster of Marblehead.

Since 1986, the Marblehead Festival of Arts, Inc. has awarded a scholarship to a high school senior who resides in or attends school in Marblehead, and who is pursuing higher education in visual arts, performing arts, crafts, music, drama or writing. In awarding the \$3,000 scholarship, the Festival's objective is to encourage graduates interested in pursuing the arts professionally to acquire a sound academic grounding in their chosen fields. The criteria considered by the art Festival's Scholarship Committee include financial need, academic and art achievements, art-related and other activities, both in and out of school, and any honors or special citations received.

Scholarship Committee Chair Steve Watson and his team that consisted of Jean Guastaferrri, Deborah Kearns, Tammy Nohelty and Cathy Watson had a difficult time selecting the winning applicant from a field of such talented young men and women. The winner, Anna Webster is a recent graduate of Marblehead High School who will attend Boston University's College of Communications this fall and is planning to major in Journalism and minor in Graphic Design. Her interests lie in the area of magazine design and publishing, and she hopes to combine her love for writing with her passion for art into a dynamic major that will provide the stepping-stones to a successful professional career.

Anna certainly has the artistic genes in her favor with two parents who are graphic designers and a father, Steve Webster who designed the award-winning logo for this year's Festival. When describing her work, Anna says, "I want to make a statement and get the audience involved." During her years at Marblehead High School, Anna was a member of the National Honor Society and received an American Vision Award nomination from the Boston Globe Scholastic Art Show for her drawing in charcoal entitled: "Vertigo: A Self-Portrait on State Street".

Recognized for her talent and leadership in school and the community, Anna was nominated to attend the Rotary Club's Annual Youth Leadership Institute and was then nominated to attend the National Youth Leaders Conference to represent the state of Massachusetts. Anna was also the Grand Prize winner of the "Essence of Marblehead" art competition for all students attending Marblehead schools sponsored by the Abbot Public Library, and she has received an honorable mention for her writing in non-fiction from the Marblehead Festival of Arts.

During her high school years, Anna served as a mentor in the "Bridging Lives" program at Marblehead High School where she mentored incoming freshman and volunteered her time to the "Someone Else's Child Foundation." In describing Anna, her high school guidance counselor says, "Thinking creatively is one of Anna's passions. She 'secretly rejoices' when a creative presentation or personal essay is assigned." The Scholarship Committee wishes Anna continued success in all of her endeavors.

Photo Caption: Festival chair Greg Triplett, vice chair Claire Hunt and Scholarship Committee chair Steve Watson congratulate Anna Webster, awardee of this year's Marblehead Festival of Arts Scholarship, with her parents looking on.

Photo Credit for Attached Picture: Herb Goldberg, Marblehead

About Marblehead Festival of Arts (MFoA)

Founded in 1962, the Marblehead Festival of Arts, Inc. 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, Inc. 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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