

Marblehead Festival of Arts

For Immediate Release

Media Contact

Media Contact: Jeff Kane

Email: publicity@MarbleheadFestival.org

Phone: 781.586.1674

URL: www.marbleheadfestival.org

Press Release Archive: www.marbleheadfestival.org/press

Marblehead Festival of Arts Announces Art Auction Fundraiser

MAY 3 is the Date for this Annual Marblehead Tradition

Marblehead, MA (April 25, 2007) – The Marblehead Festival of Arts will hold its annual Art Auction on Saturday, May 3, in Abbot Hall, 188 Washington Street, Marblehead, beginning at 5:00 pm. During the silent auction, guests can browse while listening to the music of Brian Rolland, sampling delicious hors d'oeuvres by Dario's Catering, and tasting a selection of wines. The evening concludes with a live auction conducted by Gene Arnould, this year assisted by Katherine Koch.

Auction items include original artwork by North Shore artists and artisans. A highlight of the auction each year is the *Herb-Nordia*, a special collector's piece by Herb Goldberg and Nordia Kay, which combines a watercolor and a photograph depicting a Marblehead scene. This artwork is produced specifically for the Festival's Art Auction, and many flock to the auction just to bid on this outstanding piece. Also produced specially for the Art Auction is a series of ceramic plates created by local artists and sponsored by April Frost. Other auction items include paintings, handcrafted furniture, and handmade jewelry. In addition to many fine works of art and crafts, this year's auction will feature a wide range of gifts and services, such as a pizza party for 50 children, donated by Bostonville Grill; an afternoon sail on the Snowcat, offered by Bart Snow; and pet services donated by Personal Comfort Pet Care. Other Items donated by area businesses include theater tickets, historic and sight-seeing tours, and accommodations at local bed-and-breakfast establishments.

The Art Auction is a fundraiser for the summer Art Festival, which will be held July 3–6. For more information, visit the Festival's Web site, www.MarbleheadFestival.org.

Photo Caption (photo credit: Herb Goldberg, Marblehead)

Artist Nordia Kay and photographer Herb Goldberg will team up again this year to create their 29th collaborative piece for the Marblehead Festival of Art's Art Auction, scheduled for May 3. Their work has become one of the highlights of this annual event, and many people come to the auction specifically to bid on it.

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 the July 4th holiday, 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 artists throughout Essex County, 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 the 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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