

Marblehead Festival of Arts

For Immediate Release

Media Contact

Mike Evers

Email: publicity@MarbleheadFestival.org

Phone: 978.922.6932 (h)

URL: www.marbleheadfestival.org

Press Release Archive: www.marbleheadfestival.org/press

Marblehead Festival of Arts Hosts Champagne Reception

Marblehead, MA (June 16, 2009) The Marblehead Festival of Arts Champagne Reception and Culinary Arts Tasting is scheduled for Sunday, June 28, from 5 to 7 pm, under a tent at Fort Sewall, overlooking Marblehead Harbor. The Reception is an annual festivity that celebrates the opening of the Marblehead Festival of Arts, to be held this year from July 1 through July 5.

The Champagne Reception attracts guests from Marblehead and surrounding communities for the food, champagne, and fun. This year, more than a dozen local restaurants will provide tastings, including Le Bistro Café & Grill, Caffé Italia Trattoria & Bar, Edible Arrangements, Foodie's Feast, Jack-Tar American Tavern, Ladycakes, Manhattan Sandwich Company, Marblehead Café and Chowder Company, Starbucks, Starlight Creatives, Sticky Rice, Sweeney's Retreat, The Hurricane Restaurant and Bar, and The Landing Restaurant.

Reggae and Caribbean infused popular music will be provided by Senor Perfecto and the One Drops, a "super group" made up of the best local musicians: Steven Spungin (bass / vocals), Benny Benson (drums), Ken Clark (keyboards), Christine Lucas (vocals), Will Pirone (Moog analog synthesizer / harmonica), Marc O (saxophone), Mike Rivela (guitar), and Mike Kenny (guitar). Dancing is encouraged.

Not to be missed is the raffle for floral arrangements by Flores Mantilla and tickets to Symphony by the Sea concerts. Also part of the tradition is the expressive hats worn by guests who compete for top prizes in the Champagne Reception Hat Contest.

The Champagne Reception and Culinary Arts Tasting is a fund-raising event that helps support the Summer Festival. Invitations to the Reception are available at the gate for donations of \$40 per person; and in advance, for \$35 per person, at these Marblehead locations: Arnould Gallery and Framery (111 Washington

Street), Shubie's Liquors and Marketplace (16 Atlantic Avenue), and The Spirit of '76 Bookstore and Card Shop (107 Pleasant Street).

For more information, visit the Festival Web site, www.MarbleheadFestival.org

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 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, 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. It operates year round and relies solely 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 or visit www.MarbleheadFestival.org.

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