

Marblehead Festival of Arts

For Immediate Release

Media Contact

Nancy Fromson

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Family Fun at the Marblehead Festival of Arts

Marblehead MA (June 12, 2010) – The Marblehead Festival of Arts (MFoA), to be held this year on July 1-5, has lots to offer to everyone. Several special events will be especially appealing to children of all ages and their families.

On Saturday, July 3, two popular events will be held at Devereux Beach, the Kite Festival and the Sand Sculpture Competition. The Kite Festival, set for 9 am until 3 pm, will be a workshop for all ages. Participants are welcome to come paint the sky with the gang from Kites Over New England (KONE, www.kone.org). They will be building the classic Eddy Kite, a diamond shaped kite with a six foot tail. KONE members will be demonstrating their single line and stunt kites. Beginner stunt kite pilots are encouraged to try their hands at this fun and challenging sport. A \$4.00 donation is requested to cover the cost of materials.

The Sand Sculpture Competition is scheduled for July 3, 10 am to 1 pm. All are encouraged to bring buckets, shovels and creativity to this cherished Festival family event, open to sand sculptors of all ages. Getting an early start is recommended. Chairpersons Sharman Pollender and Niki Farrell encourage everyone to “sign up at the Festival’s registration table on Devereux Beach—it’s free—then dig in and create the design of your dreams.” Judges will make their rounds, and the event will conclude with an Awards Ceremony. Recognition is given to works in many categories.

The Model Boat Building Workshop will take place on Sunday, July 4, on the lower grounds of Abbot Hall, from 11 am until 2 pm, followed by a Regatta at Redd’s Pond at 3 pm. This event grows in popularity each year, and model boat kits are provided. Family team participation is encouraged; and an adult must accompany all children. Chairperson Dan Tucker said, “After constructing your yacht on the grounds of Abbot Hall, bring it down to Redd’s Pond for her first sail. As always, last year’s models are welcome at the regatta.” A \$25 donation per kit is requested to partially cover the cost of the kit. Supplies are limited.

Topping off the Festival of Arts is the annual Street Festival on Monday, July 5 from noon to 4 pm. It is a happy affair, taking place on lower Washington Street, which is will be open only to foot traffic. Lots of family activities are planned, including music, face painting, balloon twisters, Henna tattoos, and other artistic surprises with roving artists. Featured participants include air brush artist Gayle Rosen, perennial favorite Stephen Baird, magician David Hall, roving mime Chris Yerling, vocalist Christine Lucas, working clown Brent MacCoy, and The Heartstrings performing classical music. "Street Festival is a great way to end a terrific weekend," according to chairperson Greg Triplett. "Be sure to come!" For more information, visit 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 and involving several hundred volunteers. 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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