# **Marblehead Festival of Arts**

## For Immediate Release

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## Marblehead Festival of Arts Plans Art Auction Fundraiser April 2

### Donation drop-off dates are March 5 and 10

**Marblehead MA (February 14, 2011)** – The Marblehead Festival of Arts is preparing for its annual Art Auction, to be held Saturday evening, April 2, in Abbot Hall,188 Washington Street. The committee, chaired by Stefanie Gladstone, Kathleen Lewis and Gisela Gladstone, is seeking donations of fine art, original crafts and business services. The Art Auction, celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> year, is the major single-event fundraiser for the Marblehead Festival of the Arts, traditionally held each year over July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend.

According to Lewis, auction attendees are eager to bid on a wide array of items that may include original art, gift baskets, gourmet food and wine, professional services, concert or theater tickets, sporting event tickets, vacation getaways, and gift certificates to specialty shops, inns and restaurants. "The success of this auction is due in large part to the generosity of North Shore artists, businesses and residents," Lewis said, "and we look forward to community-wide support of this year's event."

The evening will feature a silent auction beginning at 5 pm, and auctioneers Gene Arnould and Henry Dembowski will commence with the live auction at 7:30. As part of the event, there will be delicious hors d'oeuvres, wine and musical entertainment. Tickets will be \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door.

Donations may be dropped off at Abbot Hall on Saturday, March 5 from 9 am until noon or Thursday, March 10 from 5 to 7 pm. They may also be mailed to Marblehead Festival of Arts, P.O. Box 331, Marblehead, MA 01945. Donors will receive recognition in the Art Auction Program and in the summer Festival of Arts Program. The Marblehead Festival of Arts, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and donors may be eligible for tax deductions to the extent allowed by law.

All questions may be addressed to <u>artauction@MarbleheadFestival.org</u>. Additional details, including a downloadable Donation Form, are available at 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 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.