

# ***Marblehead Festival of Arts***

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***For Immediate Release***

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## **Marblehead Festival of Arts Celebrates the Performing Arts at Crocker Park**

**Marblehead MA (May 28, 2011)** – The outdoor concert series at scenic Crocker Park, overlooking Marblehead Harbor at 11 Front Street, is among the most anticipated happenings at the Marblehead Festival of Arts, to be held this year on July 1-4. Performing Arts entertainers, on stage over four nights and three days, offer a packed schedule of outstanding local and regional artists.

“For our 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Performing Arts line-up, we are proud to present an eclectic mix of 18 dynamite individuals and groups with tons of talent, heart and soul to entertain fans of all ages,” stated Brian Wheeler, Committee Chair. “We hope neighbors, friends, families and visitors from all over will come out to our beautiful, natural concert venue and share the energy and the experience.”

On Saturday, Sunday and Monday afternoons, beginning at noon, a Local Artist Showcase will highlight upcoming artists and local favorites. Evening entertainment on Friday through Monday will feature a wide variety of incredible acts. All performances are free, and many of the artists will be offering their CDs and merchandise for sale. Wheeler says, “Everyone is invited to bring picnic baskets and blankets and take home the music of their favorite performers.” He adds, “We never say the ‘R’ word, but if it comes, we’re still a go at Crocker Park! If it gets a bit wet, we’ll try to get the show in. Just listen for the music, and come join us!”

For details of all performances, including photos, visit [www.MarbleheadFestival.org](http://www.MarbleheadFestival.org).

**PHOTO CREDIT:** Charlie Lipson

### **Friday, July 1**

Alanna Manning with the Dave Mattacks Trio will perform jazz standards beginning at 7 pm. Whether singing a sultry ballad or just swinging, Manning brings her unique voice and style to each note and lyric. Joining her will be Boston-based Thomas Hebb on bass and Ferdinando Argenti on piano. The Trio's drummer is English-born and adopted Marbleheader Dave Mattacks.

At 9 pm, the annual Film Festival will be screened. The films have been chosen to promote the unique qualities and subtleties of filmmaking as an art form. Parents should review the lineup to decide if these films are age-appropriate subject matter for their children. For program details, visit the Festival website at [www.MarbleheadFestival.org](http://www.MarbleheadFestival.org).

### **Saturday, July 2**

At noon, Steve & Jennifer Spungin of the Marblehead & Salem Schools of Music will bring to the stage a group of students in recital. Andrew Wanstall, Farrah Finn, Gabby Spungin, Sophia Spungin, Jack Krivit, Laurel Mulligan, Abigail Keenan, Annie Krivit, Maeve Reilly, Claire Vaucher, Annabelle Kearney, Davis Franklin, Drew Faria, Alicia Stransky, Robert Auld and Kyra Veprek will all perform.

At 1:15, Berklee punk pop musicians Austin Bond, Adam Newell and Sulene, known as Super Prime, will perform vocals, bass, guitar and drums. This alternative rock band likes to say their music "gets right up in your face, and then refuses to get out of your head."

Marblehead Little Theatre will present a vocal performance of show tunes at 2:30. They will offer selections from their summer season musicals, *Hairspray*, running now through July 3, and *Richard Rodgers: The Sound of His Music*, set for July 29 –August 7. All performances of MLT's summer season are presented at their 12 School Street home in Marblehead.

EJ & Crazy Maggy, a country, bluegrass, folk rock group, will be on stage at 6 pm. EJ Ouellette on fiddle, acoustic and electric guitars, mandolin and vocals, performs alongside his band mates, Peter Whitehead on drums, guitar and vocals; Michael Gruen on bass; Jon Ross on guitars and Steve Baker on saxophone, percussion and vocals. EJ & Crazy Maggy deliver outstanding foot-stomping music as they take their listeners on a wild ride.

At 8 pm, Chad Burdick and The Ragged Impresarios will continue the country theme of the evening. Burdick, a vocalist and guitarist, grew up in a musical family and knew from a young age that he wanted to entertain. The Ragged Impresarios features Mic Pesaturo on rhythm guitar, Craig Jackson on lead, Kurt Friel on bass, John Dorrizi on drums and Michelle Lambert on the fiddle. This country act will make the audience want to get up and line dance.

### **Sunday, July 3**

The Music On & Up Showcase will begin at noon. Created to bring young performers under the age of 18 together to enhance their careers, Music On & Up finds talented musicians and helps them make that next step in their career journey. Katy Morelli, a 14-year-old high school student who started singing on stage at age 10, will perform at noon. She will be followed at 12:35 by Dalton Letorney, a 12-year-old keyboardist and singer/songwriter.

The College Fund Band will feature pop rock at 1:15. The Gantt family trio includes 15-year-old Jack on guitar and vocals, 12-year-old Dan on drums and mom Debby on keyboard. Their musical journey began five years ago at Faneuil Hall when they realized they could perform just like the street artists they saw there. Now, they perform all summer in the Faneuil Hall summer series and at other Boston area concert events.

Britannica takes the stage at 2:30. Featuring guitarists/vocalists Ted Solovicos and Peter Tentindo, the duo recreates the sounds and vocal harmonies of the Beatles, Kinks, Moody Blues, Rolling Stones, the Who, Badfinger and other British bands. Their music is the background for the youth of the 60s up to today.

Beginning at 6 pm, Fats Hammond takes two of the biggest, baddest, bluesiest organs and mixes them up with a guitar master and a dynamic drummer to produce a funky, explosive sound. Fats Hammond is Marty Rowen and Jeremy Parker on dueling Hammond B-3 organs, Mike Mele on guitar and Benny Benson double shifting on drums.

Los Sugar Kings, with their Latin, reggae and soul sound, is set to appear at 8 pm. The band is a Boston-based quartet known for its dynamic live performances, rich harmonies, high level of musicianship and ability to transcend genres. The music pays respect to the traditions of Afro-Cuban Son, Salsa and Rumba-Flamenca, but Los Sugar Kings also actively draw on influences from nearly every continent. Los Sugar Kings are El Patino, vocals and tres guitar; Mikael Mersha, vocals and basses; Daniel Abreu, saxophone, piano and vocals; and Benny Benson, drums and percussion.

### **Monday, July 4**

Eric Russell, legendary Boston-area guitarist and Marblehead teacher, will present his Student Showcase at noon. Gus Egan is a 16-year-old guitarist who has taken lessons with Eric for 10 years. Tyler Morgan is a 20-year-old student who has been working with Eric for the past two years.

At 1:15, 14-year-old Hayley Reardon will perform. When she first picked up a guitar two years ago, she uncovered both a deep passion and a natural talent for songwriting. For the past year, Hayley has worked to end school bullying and to inspire other young people to believe that "the end of bullying begins with me." It is a central theme in her *Find Your Voice* school show.

Jermain Martin and The Greater Bethlehem Temple Mass Choir take the stage at 2:30 for a gospel performance. The Jamaican-born Martin has developed his gifts of singing, playing the piano, saxophone and drums. He now studies at the Berklee College of Music and is the Coordinator and Director of the Marblehead Gospel Choir through the METCO program.

The Caravan of Thieves, a gypsy swing group, will begin a high-energy show at 6 pm. Driving gypsy jazz rhythms, acoustic guitars, upright bass and violin lay the foundation for mesmerizing vocal harmonies. The Caravan's performance is theatrical, humorous, musical and intense. Vocal harmonizers and acoustic guitar players Fuzz and Carrie Sangiovanni, violinist Ben Dean and double bassist Brian Anderson comprise the Caravan, which successfully connects with diverse audiences of all ages and musical tastes.

Modern soul music, starring the Evan Goodrow Band with the EGB Horns, will entertain beginning at 8 pm. Goodrow's background ranges from blues to Motown to Jimi Hendrix and has evolved to "Brand New Soul." His vision includes drummer Phil Antoniadis and organist and piano man John Cooke. Also playing with the band will be Chuck Langford and Tim Mayer, both on the tenor sax. EGB will jump start the heart with a funky stew of soul, passion and fun. The Marblehead harbor illumination and fireworks, counted down from the Crocker Park stage, will add to a great July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration.

### **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, Writers' 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](http://www.MarbleheadFestival.org).

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