

# ***Marblehead Festival of Arts***

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## ***For Immediate Release***

### **Media Contact**

Nancy Fromson

URL: [www.marbleheadfestival.org](http://www.marbleheadfestival.org)

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### **Children's and Street Festivals Top Family Activities at Marblehead Festival of Arts**

**Marblehead MA (June 10, 2012)** – Family fun for all ages is a highlight of the Marblehead Festival of Arts, to be held this year on June 30-July 4. Children's Festival is set for Sunday, July 1, from noon until 3 pm outside Abbot Hall. Street Festival will take place on Wednesday, July 4, from noon until 4 pm on lower Washington Street. These two events will welcome kids and their parents for outdoor delight and enjoyment.

With a full range of activities for families to participate in, Children's Festival chairperson Lauren Fogle Boyd invites children ages 10 and younger and their parents to Abbot Hall Lower Grounds for a studio-like experience geared totally to them.

"Participants will find craft tables to make your own masks, sunglasses, sun visors and pinwheels. There will also be a paint-your-own rock table and face painting." Come visit Susan Fader of Create Art Studio, who will be hosting a painting craft as well. Fader said, "We will create a fun mural for children to paint. The mural will feature lots and lots of cod fish, so we will need many little painters! The mural will be available for sale at next year's Festival Art Auction."

Other entertainment includes fortune telling by Sarah Cook of A Dancer's Dream and music by Philip Alexander.

“On Wednesday, July 4, Washington Street will be open only to foot traffic from Abbot Hall to the Old Town House for our annual Street Festival. It is a happy affair, a family block party, where crowds will enjoy comedy, magic, roving artists, juggling, music, dance, face painting and balloon twisting,” said Greg Triplett, chairperson.

Returning performers include Stephen Baird, the consummate street performer, who is back by popular demand. He enchants young and old alike with wonderful stories, poems, jokes and plenty of songs. The Merj, a popular North Shore band, serves up classic and folk rock. Their wide repertoire brings back lots of memories and has everyone singing along and dancing.

Balloon artists at the Street Festival will treat old and young to their talents. Jake, the Balloon Kid, is a local celebrity who delights in making balloon animals; and Royal Events Balloons of Peabody will mesmerize onlookers with their new dimension to the art of balloon sculpture.

Gayle Rosen, of Flying Colors Face and Body Art, creates her effects using a combination of airbrushing and traditional paint brush techniques. Dan Forlano, a true comic actor, performs in the universal style of the great clowns with contemporary comic and dramatic influences, both verbally and nonverbally.

New to the Festival this year are Jenny the Juggler, who entertains in clown attire; and Peter Jackson, a magician who provides fun for all and features Top Hat, the Bunny. Look up in the sky to see Gina DeFrietas, a fantastic stilt walker who makes her own amazing costumes. There will be craft activities to engage everyone, including making holiday ribbon streamers.

Refreshments will be part of the event. Look for Terry's Party Ice Cream truck, where Carlos will make you smile as he shares tasty treats. Also, visit Devereux House to sample their award-winning chowder.

Other family activities during the Festival are the Kite Festival and the Sand Sculpture Competition at Devereux Beach on Saturday, June 30 and the Model Boat Building Workshop and Regatta at Abbot Hall and Redd's Pond on Wednesday, July 4.

For more information, visit [www.MarbleheadFestival.org](http://www.MarbleheadFestival.org).

PHOTO OUTLINE: Children's Festival

PHOTO CREDIT: Stefanie Gladstone

PHOTO OUTLINE: Street Festival

PHOTO CREDIT: Joe Puleo

### **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 (including painting, sculpture, photography and drawing), outdoor music concerts overlooking Marblehead Harbor, the Film Festival, Writers' World, the Street Festival, the Children's 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 40 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 visit [www.MarbleheadFestival.org](http://www.MarbleheadFestival.org).

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