

For Immediate Release

Joint Press Release

From: Nantucket Lightship Basket Museum & Artists Association of Nantucket

NANTUCKET LIGHTSHIP BASKET MUSEUM AND ARTISTS ASSOCIATION OF NANTUCKET SPONSOR EN PLEIN AIR PAINTING IN 1820S GARDEN

Nantucket, MA., June 9, 2009 – The Nantucket Lightship Basket Museum www.nantucketlightshipbasketmuseum.org, in collaboration with the Artists Association of Nantucket www.nantucketarts.org, has invited artists for a day of en plein air painting in the Museum's 1820s garden on Thursday June 18 from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Taking advantage of a floral painter's opportunity of a lifetime, artists will use the backdrop of the historic 1820s garden to showcase their talents. The Museum's garden, which features a historically dated rose garden, will be in bloom for the event.

"The garden is in full splendor during this time of year. We are very proud of the authenticity of these plants and are truly excited to work with the Artists Association for a second year in a row to provide such an inspirational venue for the artists" said Eva-Maria Tausig, Museum Board member who oversees the design and planting of the garden.

In addition to watching the artists at work, visitors can stroll around the garden and take in the Tanagram herb bed, dated apple trees and antique roses. The plants in the garden are representative of those likely to have been available on Nantucket around 1821, the known date of the Museum building.

The Museum and Gift Shop will be open during the event. The rain date is July 2.

About the Nantucket Lightship Basket Museum - The Nantucket Lightship Basket Museum is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization whose mission is to promote the awareness and appreciation of lightship baskets and their makers, by educating and engaging the public about the complexity of this art form unique to Nantucket, and placing it within a broader context of related crafts. The Museum is dedicated to preserving Nantucket's rich history of basket making by exhibiting historic and contemporary baskets, providing a permanent home for lightship baskets, supporting scholarship of this art form, and encouraging and mentoring new generations of lightship basket makers.

About the Artists Association of Nantucket - The Artists Association of Nantucket sustains and enriches the visual arts on Nantucket. Established by a small group of island artists in 1945, the AAN continues to build on the success of its gallery, arts program, and permanent collection of Nantucket art, ensuring its essential place in the Nantucket community now and in the future.

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