

Contact:

Jennifer Bonniwell

267-259-0537

Meryl Glassman

781-962-3825

wellesleymarketplace@gmail.com

WELLESLEY MARKETPLACE TO BE HELD ON VETERANS DAY

Annual Arts Fair at Wellesley High School Moved Up One Week; Vets Get Free Admission

WELLESLEY, MA, October 5, 2017 -- Veterans and active-duty military will get free admission to the 41st annual Wellesley Marketplace, an annual arts fair at Wellesley High School on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 2017.

The event is being held one week earlier than in past years, when it was held on the Saturday before Thanksgiving.

"We're so happy that we can offer free admission as a way to honor our veterans and active service members on this special holiday," said Marketplace chairwoman Meryl Glassman, of Wellesley.

Marketplace is an annual retail favorite -- and the unofficial start of the holiday season -- for those seeking unique locally made gifts for family and friends. Shoppers will have access to about 200 vendors and artisans from New England and afar. Available wares include gourmet foods, handmade jewelry, artwork, home accessories, dog toys, and even dolls' clothes.

This will mark the second year in a row that the event will be held at the recently renovated Wellesley High School. Last year, Marketplace drew a crowd of 1,700 shoppers, including about 500 who paid for premium admission tickets to get into the show early.

Last year, WHJWC awarded \$70,000 in college scholarships to 44 Wellesley high school students in amounts ranging from \$500 to \$2,500. WHJWC also gave \$70,000 in grants to Wellesley-area community groups.

"I love that we can raise money for kids to go to college and to help fund community groups like the PTO, after-school sports and the food pantry--and that we do all of it by setting up an arts marketplace of cool, interesting local artists," said Marketplace co-chairwoman Jennifer Bonniwell of Wellesley. "This is my favorite shopping event of the year."

The WHJWC would like to thank its corporate sponsors including Barber Real Estate Group of William Raveis Real Estate, Brendon Properties, Eye Care & Laser Surgery (LASIK) - Marc Leibole M.D., Needham Bank and Roche Bros.

QUICK FACTS

Date: Saturday, Nov. 11, 2017

Time: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Where: Wellesley High School, 50 Rice St., Wellesley, MA 02481

Tickets: General admission \$15; students and seniors \$5. Premium early-admission admission tickets \$20 (for early entry from 9-10 a.m.)

Where to buy tickets: Roche Bros. and The Linden Store in Wellesley or online at bit.ly/2017MarketplaceTix . Tickets also can be purchased at the door.

Veterans discount: Military veterans and active-duty service members will get free admission at the door.

BY THE NUMBERS

1976 First year of Wellesley Marketplace

223 Number of artists

64% Percentage of artists from Massachusetts

30 Number of artists from Wellesley, Needham, Natick, Dover or Dedham

76% Percentage of artists who are new to Marketplace

\$140,000 Amount given away in college scholarships and community groups each year by Wellesley Hills Junior Women's Club

ABOUT THE WELLESLEY HILLS JUNIOR WOMEN'S CLUB (WHJWC)

WHJWC was established in 1944 as a service organization under the Massachusetts Federation of Women's Clubs. WHJWC continues to support the community through service projects and by raising funds for grants to local charities and scholarships to Wellesley High School students. For more information about our annual fundraisers and charitable giving, please go to www.whjwc.com.