

**WEBSTER FIVE CENTS SAVINGS BANK DONATES \$1,000 TO
APPLE TREE ARTS**

“The funds will support the early childhood music and movement classes”

WEBSTER, MA – February 22, 2010 – The Webster Five Foundation, a charitable organization founded by Webster Five Cents Savings Bank, announced today that it will donate \$1,000 to Apple Tree Arts. The funds will support their early childhood music and movement classes.

Apple Tree Arts’ mission is to enrich the community through the arts by providing high-quality theater and music arts programs for individuals of all ages. A large proportion of the budget is allocated to early childhood education, however, due to music having such a positive effect on development in the early years of life. Within the first six years of life, the brain is developing most rapidly, and music can enhance critical thinking skills in areas such as math, language development, and interpersonal relations.

While learning the simple skills of music—matching pitch, learning melody and rhythm patterns, and learning to keep a steady beat—children also have fun. Tasks such as loud versus soft, fast versus slow, and high versus low not only help teach children music skills, but also help develop their brains.

“We are very appreciative of Webster Five’s donation,” said Donna Blanchard, Executive Director of Apple Tree Arts. “This donation will allow children from all neighborhoods to come to our classes and enjoy music as they learn and grow.”

“We are proud to support Apple Tree Arts,” said Richard T. Leahy, President and Chief Executive Officer of Webster Five Cents Savings Bank. “It is important that children grow up exposed to music and theater, and we are proud to help make that possible.”

For more information, contact Webster Five Cents Savings Bank, Marketing Department