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Press Contact:
Jill Laufer @ 510.858.6252 or email: jill@thecrucible.org

THE CRUCIBLE PRESENTS

THE 2006 FIRE ARTS FESTIVAL - July 12-15
6th Annual Event Celebrating Fire and Light
with Explosive Entertainment and Exciting Arts and Educational Experiences

April 18, 2006, OAKLAND – The Crucible will heat up the summer days and light up the Oakland nights at the **2006 Fire Arts Festival (FAF)** from **July 12-15.** Festivities take place at The Crucible's 48,000 square foot industrial arts facility and adjacent 200,000 square foot outdoor arena in West Oakland. In its sixth year, the **2006 Fire Arts Festival** will dazzle the senses with awe-inspiring fire and light sculpture and performances, as well as an extensive program of workshops, artist presentations, and arts demonstrations for adults and youth.

The festival opens on Wednesday, July 12 with the **Desert Arts Preview**, a first look at the hottest concepts from Burning Man's funded artists for 2006. Then The Crucible rolls out the red carpet on Thursday, July 13 for the **"Fire & Light" Benefit Auction Soiree** ($100/members, $125/non-members). It will be an evening of delectable delicacies, refreshing libations, sizzling performances, and a live auction of one-of-a-kind flame-wrought and fire-forged artwork from leading Bay Area artists, culminating in a procession to the Fire Arts Arena for the Opening Ceremony. The evening is a fundraiser for the non-profit's youth and adult education programs.

The weekend continues with two days of workshops, and two nights of spectacular music and fire performance in the Fire Arts Arena. Friday night's ***Twisted Fiery Circus*** ($30), is an otherwordly carnival of fire, featuring the dark circus burlesque of the Yard Dogs and blazing fire performances by XENO and others. Saturday's ***High Voltage Chaos*** ($30) features high-energy performances by Mutaytor and the Extra Action Marching Band, the molten sensuality of The Nekyia, and much more.

To fully enjoy all that the festival has to offer, guests can purchase a VIP All Access Pass, which provides express entry and premium access to the best the Festival has to offer ($150/$125 for Crucible members). VIP pass holders gain admission to all three nights, and new this year, the arena's VIP Lounge will provide an elite arena experience including hors d'oeuvres and a private bar. VIPs can also use their pass for a 10% discount on FAF or Summer Session class tuition.

This year's FAF will be presented with sponsorship from **Clear Channel, Bay City Pyrotector, BART, Cresco Rentals, the City of Oakland,** the **City of Oakland's Fire** and **Police Departments, and Lagunitas Brewing Company.**

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2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2 – Fire Arts Festival (cont.)

About The Crucible
The Crucible is a non-profit arts education center that fosters a collaboration of arts, industry and community, teaching and showcasing fire, metal, glass and light art in the East Bay for over seven years. The Crucible offers more than 500 classes to over 4,000 students annually in everything from bronze casting to neon, welding to glass working, blacksmithing to fire dancing. Dedicated to the creative use of fire and light, The Crucible is known for its innovative and stunning public events and fundraisers, uniting artists from diverse disciplines. While offering a dedicated space with unique resources, the organization engenders and promotes fire safety and education like no other organization. For more information, visit **http://www.thecrucible.org** or call 510-444-0919.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS
(**Photos upon request or at www.thecrucible.org/calendar/faf_06_pressroom.html)**:

WHAT: The Crucible Presents The 6th Annual Fire Arts Festival

WHO:
Performances by: Apsara/Datura, LOOP!STATION, DJ Vordo, Fire Arts Collective, The Nekyia, Noctural Sunshine, The Von Stilt Family, Xeno, The Yard Dogs, The Mutaytor and Extra Action Marching Band.

Installation artists:
Don Cain, The Flaming Lotus Girls, Jack Schroll, Jeremy Lutes, Pyrokinetics, Burning Ideas, Michael Christian, Michael Sturtz, Nate Smith, Sun Brothers, Orion Fredericks, Justin Gray/THERM, and many more.

WHERE: The Crucible, 1260 7th Street, Oakland, CA 94607

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3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3 – Fire Arts Festival (con't.)

TICKETS:
Festival Passes

3-Day VIP Pass	$150 non-members $125 members	July 13, 14, and 15

Entry to all 3 evening events - The Fire & Light Benefit Auction Soiree, Twisted Fiery Circus Friday and High Voltage Chaos Saturday, access to the VIP Lounge and a 10% discount on FAF classes

Individual Evening Tickets

Fire & Light: **Benefit Auction Soiree**	$100 members $125 non-members	Thursday July 13

Valet Parking available for Thursday evening

Twisted Fiery Circus: **Fire Arts Arena**	$30 non-members $25 members	Friday July 14
High Voltage Chaos: **Fire Arts Arena**	$30 non-members $25 members	Saturday July 15

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4-4-4-4-4-4-4- – Fire Arts Festival (con't.)

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS INCLUDES:

Wednesday July 12
7 - 11pm
The Crucible Hosts: Burning Man's Desert Arts Preview: Free Admission
Enjoy a sneak preview of the hottest concepts from the 2006 Burning Man honorarium artists, and hear members of Burning Man's Art Department speak about this year's theme and the granting process.

Thursday July 13
7– 11pm
Fire & Light: Benefit Auction Soiree Members $100, Non-Members $125 The Crucible's studio transforms into a fantastical landscape of fire and light. Enjoy the aerialists soaring overhead, flame-tempered delicacies, and a live bronze pour set to the luminous music of LOOP! STATION, all while bidding on work by prominent Bay Area artists in our live auction. Then process with us to the Fire Arts Arena for the Festival's opening ceremony.

Friday July 14
8 - 12:30am Fire Arts Arena Show
Twisted Fiery Circus
Members $25, Non-Members $30. Take a tumble down the rabbit hole into an otherworldly carnival of fire. The Fire Arts Arena comes alive with fire stilters, flaming hoola hoopers, lightning from Tesla coils and eruptions of fire. The circus was never like this, with music and fire performances from the likes of XENO and the Yard Dogs.

Saturday July 15
10am - 6pm
Intensive Weekend Workshop Classes at The Crucible
Glass, Fire Performance, Welding, Neon & Light, Blacksmithing, and Woodworking classes being offered throughout the day. See **www.thecrucible.org** for registration details.

8 - 12:30am Fire Arts Arena Show
High Voltage Chaos
Members $25, Non-Members $30. The Festival reaches its cacophonous crescendo, lighting up Oakland's skies with a symphony of fire. Packs of fire spinners, flaming antlers, fire breathers, and performances from The Nekyia, The Mutaytor, and a finale from the one and only Extra Action Marching Band.

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