



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARE RECEIVES ANONYMOUS DONATION OF ART COLLECTION VALUED AT OVER \$24,000
Collection is available in MARE's Online "Bids for Kids" Auction Starting June 1

BOSTON, MA – May 31, 2009 – The Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) has received a donation of a 150 piece art collection valued at over \$24,000.

The donors, who wish to remain anonymous, were liquidating a private gallery's art collection. They searched online for a charity holding a fundraising auction and found MARE's Online "Bids for Kids" Auction to raise funds to help children in foster care find permanent, loving homes.

The donors were familiar with MARE's work, having seen MARE's Heart Gallery exhibit featuring portraits of children awaiting adoption, at a Jordan's Furniture store. The donors called MARE to offer the artwork.

"We are overwhelmed by the generosity and thoughtfulness of these donors," said Janice Halpern, MARE's director of PR & Fundraising, "and their timing couldn't be better! We're hosting this online auction (www.MAREAuction.cmarket.com) as a low-cost fundraiser to maintain services for our growing list of waiting children. We had already received wonderful donations of jewelry, Red Sox tickets, restaurant and museum gift certificates, toys, and vacations in Hawaii, Costa Rica, and the Bahamas, but this art collection should attract more bidders and more critically-needed funds," she added.

MARE is a private non-profit agency, founded in 1957, to find "a permanent place to call HOME" for harder-to-place children waiting in state foster care, including children and teens 6 – 18 years old, sibling groups, and children with emotional, physical and intellectual challenges. MARE works in cooperation with the Massachusetts Department of Children & Families (DCF) and private agencies throughout the state.

Through well-known programs including Wednesday's Child on WBZ TV and Sunday's Child features in local newspapers, MARE has helped more than 5,200 children and teens leave temporary foster care for permanent homes. But more youngsters need MARE's help every week.

MARE's Online Auction at www.MAREAuction.cmarket.com is accepting bids from June 1 to June 18.

To learn more about the auction or how to adopt from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at 617-54-ADOPT (617-542-3678) or visit www.mareinc.org or www.MAREAuction.cmarket.com.

###



PHOTO CAPTION: James Sherman's City Reflections I is one of the 150 artworks donated anonymously to the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange's Bids for Kids online auction at www.MAREAuction.cmarket.com.