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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UNLIMITED ACCESS TO LESSONS THROUGH ARTISTWORKS FOR LIBRARIES

(Panama City, Fla.) Northwest Regional Library System (NWRLS) is excited to present ArtistWorks for Libraries. ArtistWorks provides unlimited access to step-by-step online video instruction for music, voice, and fine arts classes. Lesson study materials and music tablature are provided when applicable. The lessons can be completed at your own pace from beginner to advanced skillsets. Learn directly from world renowned and Grammy Award-winning musicians and artists. All you need is your library card and internet access to begin free lessons today! This service has been generously sponsored by Bay Arts Alliance and the Ukulele Orchestra of St. Andrews. For more information about ArtistWorks for Libraries, visit www.nwrls.com or call 850-522-2100.

Jennifer Jones, Executive Director of the Bay Arts Alliance shared “We're glad to be able to participate in making the Arts accessible to as many people as possible with NWRLS and the Ukulele Orchestra of St Andrews. Deciding to partner with two groups whose missions align so readily was an easy decision. At the time the opportunity arose, Bay Arts Alliance was also looking at how the arts were incorporated into Bay District Schools. As most of the public schools do offer Arts curriculum, we noticed that not all of BDS's offerings are traditional K-12 site based programs. We're hoping to encourage awareness of ArtistWorks through NWRLS to those students who are in virtual, certificate, GED and other alternative educational programs. The web-based access to interactive Arts instruction of ArtistWorks and the Library System's free library card program make learning the Arts virtually barrier free. It's a wonderful opportunity to meet our mission of fostering a lifelong appreciation of the Arts.”

Mal Hellett, President of the Ukulele Orchestra of St. Andrews (UOSA) shared, “We learned of the program because of a connection to the library, namely Perry Shader, UOSA board member. But that wasn't the only connection. Craig Chee and Sarah Maisel are the ukulele teachers on ArtistWorks and several of our members were aware of them via online lessons. Craig and Sara were also featured performers at the inaugural Strummin' Man Ukulele Festival last October, so we already had a close connection to them. Although we're a ukulele orchestra, several of our members play other instruments. One of the overarching purposes of UOSA is to spread the joy of music; not just listening to it, but making it. Supporting ArtistWorks helps us do exactly that. We've received so much support and generosity from the community and the Library specifically. There are monthly ukulele classes there every month and ukuleles to check out to take home and learn on. Sponsoring ArtistWorks was another chance to give something back and say Thank You.”

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