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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston Joins President Obama's Maker Movement Initiative
SMFA pledges its continued support of student innovation and creativity

Boston, MA (June 18, 2014)—Responding to President Obama's call for empowering America's students and entrepreneurs to invent the future—and in conjunction with the first-ever White House Maker Faire being held today—the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (SMFA), announces its participation as a signatory school, part of a joint letter from 150 colleges and universities around the country.

SMFA's community of artists has pursued creative artmaking since our founding in 1876, when SMFA was established by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston as the crucial second part of a mission to educate through the arts. The entrepreneurial spirit of the Maker Movement—learning by doing, designing, creating, and exploring—is fundamental to the success of our nation's students. SMFA's interdisciplinary approach to education encourages the pursuit of knowledge, skills, and techniques that combine student interests with career aspirations, ultimately defining what our students will make of themselves. The School firmly believes that students must have the opportunity to develop a broad cultural competence, an ability to think critically in order to assess and understand the changing global cultures, and learn to represent ideas effectively and persuasively (no matter what medium).

Follow the Maker Faire action online at www.whitehouse.gov/makerfaire and share your ideas, photos of your projects, or connect with other Makers nationwide on Twitter using #NationOfMakers.

About the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston:

Founded in 1876 and accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (SMFA), is one of only two art schools in the country affiliated with a major museum—the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Our mission is to provide an education in the fine arts—for undergraduate and graduate artists—that is interdisciplinary and self-directed. This education values cultural, artistic and intellectual diversity; it embraces a wide range of media; it stresses the development of individual vision and its relation to culture in general; it values equally the knowledge gained by thinking and doing; it is deeply engaged with the world as a whole. If the mission is constant, its practice is always transforming. For more information about our programs and partnerships, visit www.smfa.edu.

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