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## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Boldt Castle opens May 13th for 2006 season**

Heart Island, Alexandria Bay, NY — The Thousand Islands Bridge Authority announces the 29th annual season opening of Boldt Castle on Heart Island, set for Saturday, May 13th. The facility will be open daily through October 15th, 2006. Then, it will be open the weekend of October 21st and 22nd. The Boldt Castle Yacht House will open on May 20th and will operate daily until October 1st, 2006.

Thousands of visitors come to the 1000 Islands every year and make Boldt Castle a stop on their itinerary.

This premier 1000 Islands attraction always has something new to unveil for its visitors. During the 2005-06 construction season the Authority completed rehabilitation to the Boldt Castle Ballroom and the original Boldt Castle elevator. Other interior spaces that have been completely rehabilitated recently include the Boldt Castle Library, Billiards Room and Reception Room. This year will see complete rehabilitation of the Boldt Castle Dining Room.

The Boldt Castle website has also undergone a makeover in the off-season, and visitors are invited to log on at [www.boldtcastle.com](http://www.boldtcastle.com) and see the new imagery and updated information.

Shane Sanford, Boldt Castle Facilities Manager remarks, "During its ownership of Boldt Castle on Heart Island and the Boldt Yacht House on Wellesley Island, the Authority has invested nearly 18 million dollars in rehabilitation efforts and improvements. At the same time the Boldt Facilities have counted over 4.8 million visitors to these historic landmarks providing incalculable value to the 1000 Islands and its tourism industry."

Based on its 2005 attendance figures, the Boldt Castle attraction is currently listed as the 14th most visited historic house museum in the nation, as compiled by the [Almanac of Architecture and Design](#). Last year Boldt Castle was ranked 15th. Other house museums in the ranking include Mount Vernon in Virginia (George Washington's Home), Hearst Castle in California, and Graceland in Tennessee (Elvis Presley's home).

Log onto [www.boldtcastle.com](http://www.boldtcastle.com) for more information about Boldt Castle, admission rates, weddings, and links to scenic cruise operators offering stops at the Castle. For general 1000 islands tourist information, including lodging and events, log onto [www.visit1000islands.com](http://www.visit1000islands.com).

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