

Welcome to the Local Cultural Council Community



Massachusetts Cultural Council

Two clay figurines of women, likely from the Han Dynasty, are displayed. They are dressed in traditional Chinese clothing with intricate patterns and are positioned side-by-side. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

**The Mass Cultural
Council**





Mass Cultural Council

The Mass Cultural Council is a state agency that promotes excellence, inclusion, education, and diversity in the arts, humanities, and sciences to foster a rich cultural life for all Massachusetts residents and contributes to the vitality of our communities and economy.

The Council pursues this mission through a wide range of grants, initiatives, and advocacy for artists, communities, organizations, and schools.

The LCC Program is one of several programs administered by the Mass Cultural Council. A complete listing of Mass Cultural Council grant programs and services can be found online at www.massculturalcouncil.org



Mass Cultural Council

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Local Cultural Council

The Local Cultural Council Program is the largest cultural funding network in the nation, supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, humanities, and sciences annually. The program promotes the availability of rich cultural experiences for every Massachusetts citizen.

More information on the LCC Program can be found at www.mass-culture.org

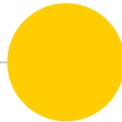


There are currently 329 local and regional councils that represent all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth.





Local Cultural Councils are administered by 2,500 municipally-appointed councilors, serving all 351 Massachusetts cities and towns.



“The LCC Program gives a great perspective on the richness and depth of the cultural arts and opportunities in our community and shows the cooperative nature that evolves between our small towns and the groups within them.” – John Zimmerman, former Westhampton Cultural Council member



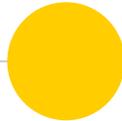
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In 2016, Local Cultural Councils awarded more than

\$3,000,000

to cultural projects in Massachusetts.

Whoa! That's a big number! Aren't you proud?



That's

\$3,000,000

in funding

to over

6,000 cultural programs

Administered by

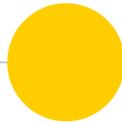
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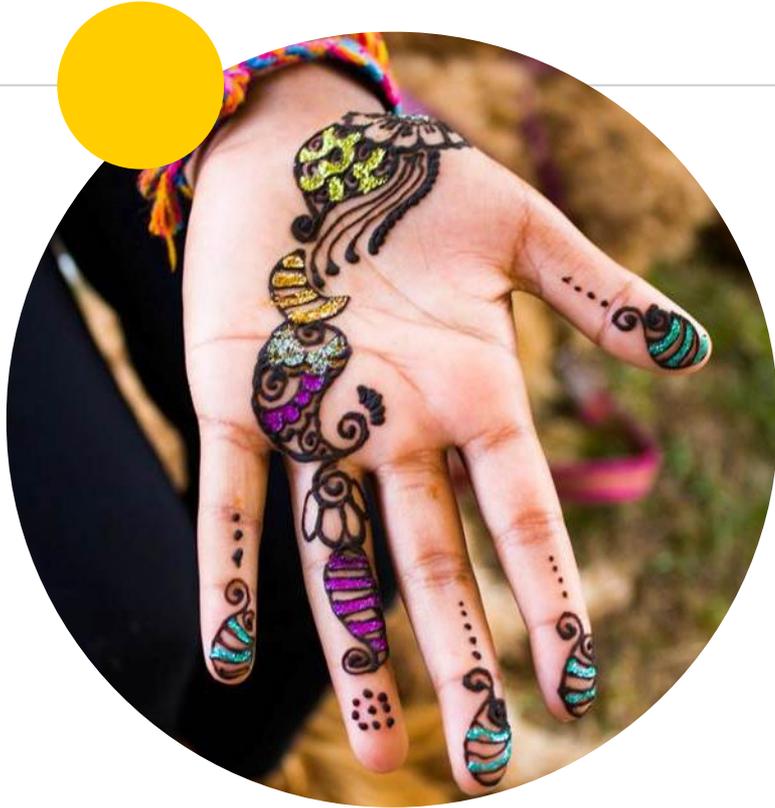


Primary responsibilities of LCCs

**Soliciting
community
input and
assessing
local cultural
needs**

**Awarding
grants and
organizing
projects to
address local
cultural needs**

**Serving as
resources
for the local
cultural
community**



Funds received from LCCs support projects at local libraries, festivals, concert series, art education and so much more!

The Essence of India festival is funded by the Acton-Boxborough Cultural Council and other nearby LCCs.



LCC Grant Cycle

- ❖ **August**
LCCs publicize the grant program locally.
- ❖ **September**
LCCs post council priorities on their council profiles by September 1.
Mass Cultural Council notifies LCCs of their allocation amounts.
- ❖ **October**
Grant applications due to LCCs by October 15.
LCC Account Form due to Mass Cultural Council by October 15.
Section 1 and 2 of Annual Report due October 15.
- ❖ **November – December**
LCCs determine the total amount available for granting.
LCCs conduct their grant cycle voting meetings.
LCCs send disapproval notifications.
LCCs handle any reconsideration requests.
LCCs enter grant decisions and grant cycle voting meeting into the online office.
- ❖ **January**
LCCs submit Annual Report by January 15.
LCC submit final report for last year's council programs by January 15.
Mass Cultural Council transfers funds to LCCs.
LCCs send approval notifications and publicize grant awards.
LCCs begin processing reimbursement requests.
- ❖ **Spring**
LCCs process reimbursement requests.
LCCs ensure grant recipients acknowledge Mass Cultural Council and LCC funding.
LCCs attend funded projects and invite elected officials.
LCC conduct their community input process.



Beyond the Grant Cycle



HOST A GRANT RECEPTION

Hosting a reception to honor grant recipients is a great way to publicize the work of the council. An event can provide an opportunity to recognize grantees and thank the municipal officials, legislators and members who make LCC programs possible.





CREATE AN ONLINE PROFILE

Social media tools like Facebook and Twitter can help you connect to your community and promote council activities and funded programs. They are also free and relatively easy to use after some practice.





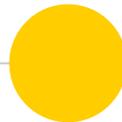
FUNDRAISING

Fundraising is a great way for councils to add to their grant pool or support council programs.



There are as many ways to raise money as there are ways to spend it. Some of the most common fundraising techniques are:

- ★ Annual appeal letter
- ★ Hold an arts festival to raise council visibility and showcase community artists
- ★ Silent auction/raffle
- ★ Open mic series
- ★ Art show
- ★ Benefit concert
- ★ Studio tours/art walks
- ★ Merchandising
- ★ Corporate, family and community foundations such as:
 - New England Foundation for the Arts
 - National Endowment for the Arts
 - The Barr Foundation
 - Artplace America
 - The Boston Foundation



Is there a local bank in your community? Local banks often sponsor events happening in their community.



Council Programs

A council program is a cultural project that is organized by the council itself and that receives funding from the LCC's allocation from the Mass Cultural Council. It might represent some larger project that has a wide public benefit, such as a work of public art, festival or exhibition.





Luminarium Dance Company, a Massachusetts-based organization that has received LCC funding, performs at the State House.

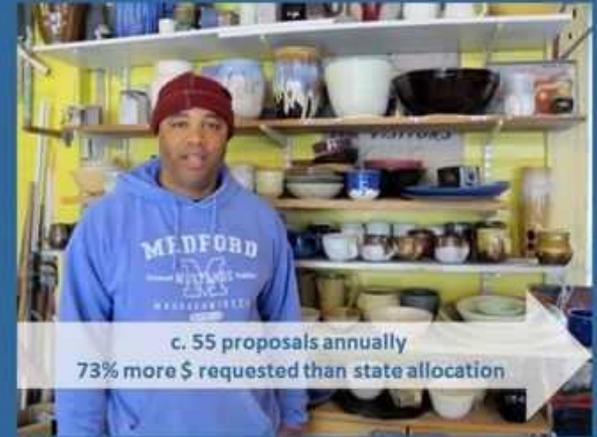


Working with Your Municipality

Local Cultural Councils are a part of local government and should be supported with the same access to basic resources afforded other government bodies.



Maria Daniels – Medford Arts Council



LCC Webinar: Advocating for Municipal Funds



Right click on video to watch



Meet Your Legislators

Get to know your legislators so that when you want to ask them to support increased cultural funding, they will know about the council and its work. Council members can ask for a meeting, invite legislators to an event, meet legislators during open office hours, or arrange to go to a legislative event such as a speech, dedication or fundraiser.



Right click on video to watch



Mass Cultural Council Grant Opportunities

Artist Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are awarded every other year to a limited number of master artists. Priority is given to rare or endangered traditions. Funds (up to \$10,000 per apprenticeship) are provided to compensate the master artist for teaching time.

SerHacer Program

SerHacer (To be, To make) is focused on supporting the growing number of intensive, ensemble-based music programs that enable music as a vehicle for youth development and social change.

Artist Fellowships

The Artist Fellowships provide direct, unrestricted support to Massachusetts artists in recognition of exceptional original work, to foster the creation of new art in the Commonwealth. Artist Fellowships in a range of disciplines are awarded to primary creators of original works of art.

YouthReach Grant

The YouthReach Initiative provides funding to programs that integrate substantive out-of-school arts, humanities, and science opportunities into a collaborative community response to the needs of youth at risk.

STARS Residencies

(Students and Teachers Working with Artists, Scientists, and Scholars) provide grants of \$500-\$5,000 to schools to support creative learning residencies of three days or more in the arts, sciences, and humanities. They are an important part of the Creative Youth Initiative.

Big Yellow School Bus

Big Yellow School Bus provides \$200 grants to help schools meet the transportation costs of educational field trips to non-profit cultural institutions and activities in the arts, sciences, and humanities across Massachusetts.

Visit www.massculturalcouncil.org for more information on our programs.



Mass Cultural Council Grant Opportunities

Cultural Facilities Fund

Cultural Facilities Fund (CFF) grants support projects that create jobs in construction and cultural tourism; expand access and education in the arts, humanities, and sciences; and improve the quality of life in cities and towns across the Commonwealth.

Festivals Grant

The Festivals Program is designed to provide funding to help festival programmers meet the needs of producing, promoting, and developing audiences.

Cultural Districts

Cultural districts help local arts, humanities, and science organizations improve the quality and range of their public programs so that more local families can benefit from them. They enhance the experience for visitors and thus attract more tourist dollars and tax revenue. And they attract artists, cultural organizations, and entrepreneurs of all kinds – enhancing property values and making communities more attractive.

Cultural Investment Portfolio

The Cultural Investment Portfolio (CIP) provides unrestricted general operating support grants and project support grants to nonprofit organizations that provide public programs in the arts, sciences, and humanities in Massachusetts.

Visit www.massculturalcouncil.org for more information on our programs.



Mass Cultural Council Services

Creative Minds Out Loud

Creative Minds Out Loud was created to give a glimpse into Massachusetts' cultural capital; to inform, to inspire, and to share the stories of our sector.

Artist Space Resources

Resources to connect you with existing spaces or to help you think through the process of finding, financing, and developing your own space.

Spacefinder

A no-cost discovery tool for artists seeking to rent alternative and/or affordable spaces throughout Massachusetts. Developed by Fractured Atlas, a non-profit technology company serving artists, SpaceFinder Mass is a project of the Arts & Business Council of Boston in partnership with the Mass Cultural Council.

Up Inclusive Design Initiative

A Mass Cultural Council initiative putting inclusive design at the center of our work with cultural organizations across the Commonwealth.

HireCulture

A free, online listing of creative employment opportunities in Massachusetts that includes administrative, production, volunteer and intern opportunities. Cultural organizations have been posting their jobs here since 2003.

Gallery@MCC

Includes work samples from Mass Cultural Council Artist Fellows and Finalists. These individuals have been recognized for exceptional work in a variety of disciplines by a panel of their peers.

Visit www.massculturalcouncil.org for more information on our services.



Mass Cultural Council Services

Organizational Capacity

Measurement Tool

Developed by the Mass Cultural Council to help non-profit organizations identify institutional capacities.

Folk Arts and Heritage

This program works to identify craftspeople, performers and cultural specialists, help sustain the practice of tradition where they live, and increase appreciation of their artistry within the community and beyond.

Creative Minds Out of School

Through this arts-based training, coaching, and professional development program, participants learn to use the nationally-distributed Creative Minds Out of School curriculum as a tool for teaching 21st century skills through visual arts education, and extend school day learning through hands-on experiences. A partnership between Mass Cultural Council, the Innovation Learning Center, and Davis Publications.

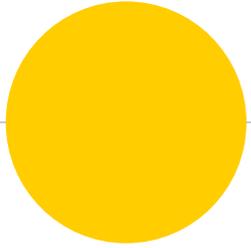
Cultural Tourism 101

An online primer to cultural groups statewide seeking more information on connecting with tourists in the realm of "cultural tourism."

LCC Online Office

Learn more about arts and culture in your community. Visitors can get information on each of the state's 329 local cultural councils. LCC members can access comprehensive administrative tools, instructions and information to help them manage the Local Cultural Council Program.

Visit www.massculturalcouncil.org for more information on our services.



Thanks!

Any **questions** ?

- Email: lcc@art.state.ma.us
- Call: 617-858-2700
- Visit: www.mass-culture.org



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