

**MASS CULTURAL COUNCIL  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2022  
10:00-11:00 AM**

**BROADCAST MEETING**

**MEETING WILL BE LIVESTREAMED AT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING - YOUTUBE**

**MEETING MATERIALS WILL BE POSTED ONLINE  
UNDER "MAY 3, 2022 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING"**

<b>AGENDA</b>	<b>VOTE</b>
1. Call to Order- Open Meeting Law Notice <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <i>Nina Fialkow, Chair, Mass Cultural Council</i></li><li>➤ <i>David Slatery, Deputy Director (Open Meeting Law Notice)</i></li></ul>	
2. Minutes- March 8, 2022 Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <i>Nina Fialkow, Chair, Mass Cultural Council</i></li><li>➤ <i>David Slatery, Deputy Director (reads the roll)</i></li></ul>	<b>X</b>
3. Chair and Executive Director Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <i>Nina Fialkow, Chair, Mass Cultural Council</i></li><li>➤ <i>Michael J. Bobbitt, Executive Director</i></li></ul>	
4. Advocacy Report re FY 23 State Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <i>Bethann Steiner, Public Affairs Director</i></li></ul>	
5. Discussion of Pandemic Relief Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <i>Michael Bobbitt, Executive Director</i></li><li>➤ <i>Jen Lawless, Operations Director</i></li></ul>	
6. Approval of May 23, 2022 Council Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <i>Nina Fialkow, Chair, Mass Cultural Council</i></li></ul>	<b>X</b>

7. Adjourn

## OPEN MEETING LAW STATEMENT

Please note that this meeting is an open meeting of a public body subject to the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law. A notice of this meeting together with the agenda was posted on Mass Cultural Council's website 48 or more hours ago (excluding weekends and holidays).

This meeting shall be open and accessible to all members of the public except at such times when this body has voted to go into closed executive session under the Open Meeting Law.

This meeting is a virtual meeting held under the Open Meeting Law as modified under current law to permit online meetings. This meeting is being broadcast to the public on a publicly available YouTube channel as described in the posted meeting notice.

Instructions on how to contact the Council with questions or problems accessing the broadcast are also included in such notice. Only Council members, staff and invited guests will be provided access to the Zoom platform hosting the meeting. As a safety measure, in order to prevent disruption of the meeting or non-public communications among the participants, the Chair, Vice Chair and Executive Committee of Mass Cultural Council has asked staff to implement the following protocols for participants in on-line meetings of Mass Cultural Council or its committees:

- Any "chat" or similar function on the Zoom platform hosting the meeting shall be disabled.
- Other than Council members or participants specifically recognized by the Chair of the meeting, all Zoom platform participants will be muted and have no ability to share media or documents or project or type images or text.
- All participants in the Zoom platform may be required to enter a waiting room and digitally sign-in before being admitted.

- Any attendee in the Zoom platform who nonetheless causes a disruption will be summarily removed from the meeting at the discretion of the Chair.

This meeting is not a public hearing and public testimony will not be taken. Individuals may not address the meeting without permission of the Chair.

Any member of the public may record this meeting provided that they do not interfere with the meeting.

Draft minutes of the open session of this meeting shall be kept and shall be posted on Mass Cultural Council's website no later than 30 days after the meeting provided that such minutes shall not be considered official until they have been approved by this body in open session. Individuals asserting a violation of the Open Meeting Law may file a complaint with this body within 30 days or with the Attorney General's office thereafter.

**TIPS FOR PARTICIPATING IN A VIRTUAL OPEN MEETING USING ZOOM OR OTHER  
VIDEOCONFERENCING PLATFORMS WHEN THERE ARE SEVERAL PARTICIPANTS**

**(adapted from several sources)**

- In order to minimize background noise, please mute microphone when not speaking.
- Please raise hand in order to be recognized by the chair.
- In order for all members to have an opportunity to speak and be heard, please wait to speak until specifically recognized by the chair.
- If there are questions, please direct them to the chair and the chair will then recognize the appropriate person to respond.
- Please limit statements to three minutes.
- The chair will reserve the right to limit discussion in order to allow sufficient time for every member to be heard who wishes to speak.
- Modify Video Settings to “Hide all non-video participants”- this will make it easier to follow who is speaking and participating
- In the event of a service interruption during a Zoom call due to hackers, so-called “zoom bombing” or other technical difficulties, staff will indicate the call is to be terminated. Please exit the call and staff will circulate instructions by email for a new Zoom call to continue the meeting.

**UNOFFICIAL DRAFT SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE COMMITTEE AT ITS NEXT MEETING**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**MASS CULTURAL COUNCIL  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2022**

**ONLINE MEETING**

**Committee Members Present** were

Nina Fialkow, Chair  
Marc Carroll, Vice Chair  
Che Anderson  
Troy Siebels

**Staff Members Present** were

Michael J. Bobbitt, Executive Director  
David Slatery, Deputy Director  
Catherine Cheng-Anderson, People & Culture Director  
Bethann Steiner, Public Affairs Director  
Ann Petruccelli Moon, Special Assistant to the Executive Director & Leadership Team  
Carmen Plazas, Communications Manager

Chair Nina Fialkow called the meeting to order at 10:08am and asked Deputy Director David Slatery to read the Open Meeting Law statement:

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Draft minutes of the open session of this meeting shall be kept and shall be posted on Mass Cultural Council's website no later than 30 days after the meeting provided that such minutes shall not be considered official until they have been approved by this body in open session. Individuals asserting a violation of the Open Meeting Law may file a complaint with this body within 30 days or with the Attorney General's office thereafter

Nina then asked if Committee Members had reviewed the minutes of their last two meetings on January 13<sup>th</sup> and January 25<sup>th</sup> and called for a motion to approve them. Troy Siebels moved to approve the minutes; Marc Carroll seconded the motion. By roll call vote and noting that Committee Members Jo-Ann Davis and Sherry Dong were absent, all were in favor, and it was

RESOLVED: that the Executive Committee approves the minutes of the January 13 and January 25, 2022 Executive Committee Meetings in the form presented to the Executive Committee.

Nina welcomed her fellow Committee Members and Agency staff to the meeting and gave a special welcome to Che Anderson who was recently appointed to the Committee. She then asked Michael Bobbitt for his Executive Director's report.

Michael stated that two big operational improvement pushes are underway: staff is in the process of obtaining their much-needed new computers and the transition to the state's Office 365 software is forthcoming. People & Culture Director Catherine Cheng-Anderson is working hard to build the Agency's Human Resources-related systems; the Agency is also in the process of filling several vacancies and recruiting for additional hires and working through the Racial Equity Plan. Plans for pandemic relief grant programs are in the works. Staff has been reviewing what they learned during the January 24<sup>th</sup> public input session as well as the submitted written comments. Plans for FY23 and the development of a new strategic plan are beginning, and conversations about site visits and the Agency's service agenda are ongoing.

Nina let Committee Members know that she and Vice Chair Marc Carroll had started to form the Strategic Planning Task Force. Currently, Council Members Ann Murphy, Kathleen Castro, and Cecil Barron-Jensen have agreed to serve. Nina will be speaking soon with Matthew Keator as well. Nina considered geographic diversity as well as who on the Council had previously served on a task force to include as many new voices as possible. Nina then asked Public Affairs Director Bethann Steiner for her Advocacy update.

Bethann began with an update on the FY23 state budget process. Last week she, along with Michael and David, appeared before the Joint Committee on Ways & Means to deliver Mass Cultural Council's testimony requesting an increase to \$27.4M for the Agency's line item. This represents an increase of \$7M from the Governor's H2 budget proposal and, if secured, will return Mass Cultural Council to its 1988 funding level – the highest it has ever received. So far, response to the Agency's request has been positive. At the Joint Ways & Means Committee hearing, the team received no difficult questions and had three Representatives and one Senator voice speak in favor of the Agency. Bethann also attended a recent virtual gathering convened by the Cape Cod Arts Foundation at which the Cape Cod legislative delegation was present. Bethann was asked to speak on the Agency's state budget advocacy efforts at the event and received no negative feedback. The request will be articulated in writing as well. Bethann is working to create a data-driven one-pager describing the importance and impact of the cultural sector and what it could do with the type of investment the Agency is seeking. Michael will also begin meeting with legislators virtually and in-person to seek their support of the Agency's request. Michael and Bethann have already met with Tourism, Arts, and Cultural Development Chair Carole Fiola who was very supportive of the proposed budget ask. Staff is poised to develop a robust advocacy plan in partnership with MassCreative and Mass Humanities.

Bethann then gave a brief update on the Agency's allocation from the State's recent act allocating federal ARPA funds as well as surplus state monies for pandemic relief. Mass Cultural Council has received \$60.1M in funding (all from state, not federal, funds so are referred to here as "Pandemic Relief Funds") and been directed to develop programs supporting organizations and artists as they recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff is reviewing written comments and feedback received during its public input session and working to develop these programs. While the funds are good through FY27 the Agency is being encouraged by legislators to develop programs and distribute the funds quickly.



Nina asked if at the full Council Meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup> Bethann could review the timing of the budget process with Council Members and remind them that their support and advocacy is very much needed. Bethann indicated she would do so.

Troy asked if there was still any thought being given to the idea of advocating for a specific FY23 budget allocation that came from a specific need within the field so that the Agency's explanation of how it would spend its allocation was built into the ask. Bethann explained that she is working to gather data that will demonstrate how the Agency will spend a proposed increase including information about what the Agency funded this year, areas it could invest more, pandemic impact numbers, and unmet need. She added that after this year – which will potentially include more public dollars to invest than the Agency has ever had given its annual appropriation, Gaming Mitigation funds, the Cultural Facilities Fund, and Pandemic Relief funding – Mass Cultural Council will be poised to tell a robust story about need within the sector and the impact of the Agency's support. This will be a compelling narrative. Michael added that the \$27.4M ask is the beginning of a longer campaign, that the Agency will be surveying the field for a sixth time to learn about the impacts of the pandemic, and that with the new strategic plan on the horizon there will be a good deal more information next year to support a longer-term campaign.

Nina asked if the idea of a longer-term campaign would be articulated and shared and, if so, how. Bethann responded that she believes the Agency will have more to say about that idea at the end of April when the House releases its FY23 budget proposal. Michael added that an “ARPA/Pandemic Relief 2” bill might change the process and thinking about future budget asks. That concluded the Committee's discussion on Advocacy efforts.

Nina asked David to explain the proposed contribution of the Pandemic Relief funds to the Cultural Facilities Fund (CFF) 2022 funding round. David explained briefly how CFF is administered each year: the program is funded by the Governor's capital plan; Mass Cultural Council staff in the public face of the program-it advertises the program, runs the outreach, application process and review panels, and makes recommendations to the CFF Advisory Board who then pass those recommendations onto the MassDevelopment Board for its approval. In the ARPA /Pandemic Relief Act it was mentioned that the Agency is specifically authorized to make contributions to CFF. The CFF funding round is in midst of its panel process. The idea is that because of the language of the statute and because the CFF round is underway right now, then, some of the Pandemic Relief funds can be put to work right now and moved out into the field. Staff is recommending that we contribute an amount of Pandemic Relief funds to CFF to fund as many eligible applicants as possible. Program Manager Jay Paget has reviewed all current CFF applications and indicated that with an additional \$12 million, all eligible applications could be funded. If the Committee agrees, this recommendation will go before the full Council at its next meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Today staff is seeking the endorsement of the Executive Committee to contribute up to \$12 million of the Agency's Pandemic Relief funds to CFF so that all eligible projects can be funded. The funding recommendations, including the additional Pandemic Relief funds would go to the CFF Advisory Committee in April and the MassDevelopment Board in May. These Pandemic Relief funds would then ultimately be dispersed sooner than the rest of the Agency' Pandemic Relief funds. David further explained that staff will not have exact i.e., numbers until next week after the panel review process has been thoroughly reviewed, but that the amount to be recommended will not exceed \$12 million and it is

anticipated that if an organization receives Pandemic Relief funding through CFF, they will not be eligible to apply for more once the Agency rolls out the balance of its Pandemic Relief programs in FY23.

Vice Chair Marc Carroll asked how many organizations would be helped by the additional \$12 million. David explained that staff had received 138 applications. Historically, 50 or 60 would be funded. With this extra \$12 million, a maximum of 60 additional projects could be funded. Troy asked if \$200,000 is the recommended maximum amount for a CFF grant and David responded that it has been at that level for the past several years and plans are to keep it at that level.

Nina stated that it will be important to have a review of the Cultural Facilities Fund program for Council Members at the March 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting, then asked how the program's allocation is determined each year. David explained that it is determined by the Governor when he sets the Commonwealth's annual capital plan (Governor Baker has allocated \$10 million in each year of his administration) and added that last year there was \$10 million available. In addition to this, \$2.5 million in requests were pre-funded in the 2021 round and so this year the program only had about \$7M to work with. This addition of Pandemic Relief funds will round out the demand.

Nina observed that the CFF application is complex and time-consuming and asked who develops it each year. David explained that Mass Cultural Council develops and manages the application in partnership with MassDevelopment and acknowledged that it is a complicated program. Mass Cultural Council is working with MassDevelopment Executive Director Dan Rivera to simplify the application in the future. Michael explained that he is also talking with Dan to make changes to CFF that will enable more people to be funded. One such change is that successful applicants have to wait one year before applying for additional CFF funding, i.e., no one can receive a CFF grant two years in a row thus freeing up funds for more new applicants.

There were no further questions and Nina asked for a motion to approve the recommendation. Troy moved to approve; Marc seconded the motion. Noting that Jo-Ann Davis and Sherry Dong were absent and by roll call vote

WHEREAS, the Council at its May 18, 2021 meeting approved an allocation of \$3,000,000 from the Massachusetts Cultural and Performing Arts Mitigation Trust Fund (the "Fund") to the upcoming round of the Gaming Mitigation Program, originally planned for Fall 2021; and

WHEREAS, under Chapter 23K of the Massachusetts General Laws (as most recently amended by sections 3 and 4 of Chapter 142 of the Acts of 2019), such Fund receives 2% of the Commonwealth's gross gaming tax revenues from casinos, a portion of which (75% after expenses) is dedicated to the Gaming Mitigation Program and since May 2021 monies available in the Fund for such program have accumulated more than was anticipated; and

WHEREAS, as described in the staff memorandum presented to this meeting, the upcoming round of the Gaming Mitigation Program was delayed and is now scheduled for completion in early 2022 and staff of Mass Cultural Council suggests employing \$675,000 the additional available monies to benefit the

eligible applicants to said program and will be presenting funding recommendations to Mass Cultural Council Grants Committee later today employing the additional funds;

NOW THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED: that the Executive Committee recommends that the Council approve the contribution of up to \$12 million of funds made available under Massachusetts' Act Relative to Immediate COVID-19 Recovery Needs (Chapter 102 of the Acts of 2021) in Section 2, Line item 1599-2043 to the current round of funding under Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund program existing under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 23G, Secs 42-43

Nina then moved to the final item of the morning which was to approve the agenda for the March 22<sup>nd</sup> Council Meeting. She had two requests: first, for the names all those individuals speaking at the meeting to be added to their corresponding item on the agenda. Second, could Cultural Facilities Fund Program Manager Jay Paget attend the meeting and give a presentation on the program and the request for Pandemic Relief funds. Staff indicated that both requests would be fulfilled. There was no further discussion and Nina asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Troy moved and Marc seconded the motion. Noting that Jo-Ann Davis and Sherry Dong were absent and by roll call vote it was unanimously

RESOLVED: that the Executive Committee approve the draft March 22, 2022 Mass Cultural Council Agenda presented to the Executive Committee at its March 8, 2022 Meeting

At that point the Committee had reached the end of its agenda and Nina as Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:49am.

**To:** Mass Cultural Council Grants Committee  
**From:** Staff  
**Date:** May 3, 2022  
**Re:** Pandemic Relief Programs

### **BACKGROUND**

Under the Commonwealth's Act Relative to Immediate COVID-19 Recovery Needs (Chapter 102 of the Acts of 2021) enacted last December, Mass Cultural Council in Line item 1599-2043 was provided \$60,147,000 (referred to as "**Pandemic Relief Funds**") to administer grant programs to

"...to administer a grant program for the purposes of assisting cultural organizations and artists recover from the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic and operate more efficiently; provided further, that grants shall be made available for, but not be limited to:

- (i) facility upgrades, including costs associated with programmatic adaptation due to the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic;
- (ii) technology and infrastructure costs for safe reopening of facilities; and
- (iii) direct financial support to assist with staffing and other operational needs"

The law also contained the following conditional provisos (emphasis and bullets added):

- "... grants **may** support staffing, consultants, plans, software and hardware for organizational business development for facilities owned by municipalities or non-profit entities experiencing negative economic impacts from the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic;
- ... the council **shall** consider racial, geographic and programmatic diversity and equity within the cultural sector when establishing grant criteria;
- ... that funds **may** be expended for entities that focus on 1 or more minority populations or conduct cultural events and have cultural education or cultural performances related to minority populations; [and]

- ... the council **shall** consider and prioritize those applicants with the largest demonstrated economic need as a result of the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic, and the applicant's demonstrated economic impact in terms of job creation and tourism generated..."

In addition, as was discussed at the March Council Meeting, the law further provides that "funds **may** be transferred to the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund [CFF] established in section 42 of chapter 23G of the General Laws for the purposes of this item".<sup>1</sup>

Also, in connection with these programs, the Council is required to submit reports to the administration and the legislature -once on March 1, 2022, identifying grant criteria and thereafter annually starting June 1, 2022, a listing of grants, grantees and applicants together with a description of geographic distribution, outreach and diversity efforts and any adjustments to the grant criteria.

The Council voted in March to contribute up to \$7.16 million of Pandemic Relief Funds to the current CFF round of funding. Also, as has been previously reported to the Council, staff made a preliminary report to the administration and legislature on March 1 as to our ongoing and diligent efforts to develop the Pandemic Relief Funds programs mandated by the law and plan to deploy them in the 2023 Fiscal Year and also an indication that more definitive information would be delivered in connection with the required June 1, 2022 report. Notwithstanding the fact that the Pandemic Relief Funds are available to be spent through June 30, 2027, we have heard from legislators that they are particularly interested in having the Pandemic Relief Funds disbursed into the Commonwealth as soon as can be reasonably and responsibly accomplished.

### **Program Development**

With the forgoing facts in mind, staff has diligently been at work designing programs consistent with the legislative mandate. Set forth below is a detailed summary of two proposed programs- one for individual artists and cultural workers and another for cultural organizations- which are designed to be able distribute the bulk of the Pandemic Relief Funds during FY 23. Staff is requesting that the Grants Committee and then the full Council review and approve the proposed terms of the programs. After such approval, staff will develop detailed program guidelines and submit them as part of the legislatively required report due on June 1. Staff will then post the guidelines and begin administration of programs in accordance with the timelines specified below. Formal approval of the programs will occur as part of the review and approval of the Council's FY23 spending plan, but the current approval will enable staff to move forward with the implementation of the programs.

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<sup>1</sup> The law also later provides "that the council **may** include a match requirement for recipient organizations"

## **Summary of Pandemic Relief Programs**

### **I. PANDEMIC RELIEF GRANTS FOR INDIVIDUALS: GUIDELINES OVERVIEW**

The FY23 Pandemic Relief Grants for Individuals funding was designed with three key points in mind:

- Unlike other pandemic relief funding that focused on loss, this program focuses on recovery.
- The program assumes that working artists, teaching artists, and cultural workers all experienced loss during the pandemic.
- The funding is not intended to compensate for that loss. Rather it provides broad funding help eligible individuals, and therefore the sector, recover by providing unrestricted support.

#### **Eligibility**

Individuals are eligible to apply if they are:

1. An independent practicing artist active in any artistic discipline.  
OR
2. An independent individual teaching artist/scientist/scholar.  
OR
3. An independent cultural worker directly involved in arts, humanities and sciences.

AND meet all the following requirements:

- Is 18 years or older.
- Is a legal resident of Massachusetts. We will define "legal resident" as someone who meets the definition of a "full-year resident" in the Massachusetts tax code. [Visit the Mass Department of Revenue web site to learn more.](#)
- Is not currently enrolled as a full-time undergraduate or graduate student at a college or university.

#### **Prioritization**

- First-time applicants or applicants not previously funded (directly) by Mass Cultural Council programs
- Applicants who have been historically under-funded:
  - Applicants who are BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color)
  - Applicants who identify as Deaf or as having a disability
- Applicants who reside in Gateway Cities and other under-resourced communities. By "under-resourced", we mean cities and towns whose

populations fall below the state's median economic and educational attainment.

### **Grant numbers and amounts**

The initial goals for the Individuals' program is to make up to three thousand grants of \$5,000. (Up to \$15 million).

### **Anticipated Program Timeline**

**August 15, 2022:** Application opens

**November 1, 2022:** Deadline to apply

**Late January 2023:** Awards finalized; email notifications sent

**February:** Contracts sent

**July 14, 2023:** Final report due

## **II. PANDEMIC RELIEF GRANTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS: GUIDELINES OVERVIEW**

The FY23 Pandemic Relief Grants for Organizations funding is designed to respond to the staggering losses that most cultural organizations have suffered due to the pandemic and related closures.

### **Eligibility**

Massachusetts fully-cultural organizations that are:

- Non-profits
- Fiscally sponsored
- Municipal cultural programs
- For-profits owned and operated in Massachusetts

By "fully-cultural" we mean those organizations whose **primary** mission is to promote access, excellence, diversity, or education in the arts, humanities, or interpretive sciences.

Specifically, the following types of organizations will be **eligible**:

- Non-profit organizations whose IRS determination is currently active.
- Fiscally-sponsored organizations. This includes unincorporated organizations with a non-profit objective or incorporated organizations in the process of getting their non-profit status.
- Municipal organizations. Local Cultural Councils or Cultural Districts are eligible only if they do their own public cultural programming
- For-profit entities that meet **ALL** the following requirements (NOTE- this is adapted from Mass Growth Capital's small business program requirements):

- a. For-profit corporations, cooperatives, partnerships or LLCs that conduct publicly available programming primarily in Massachusetts
- b. Massachusetts-based, operating in-state with a Massachusetts address on the business' Federal Business or Partnership Tax Return
- c. Business must be privately owned by individuals.

**Ineligible** organizations are:

- Not fully cultural non-profits that offer some cultural programming
- Schools (K-12, colleges, universities, including 501 c3's attached to schools)
- Degree-granting institutions
- Religious organizations
- Organizations no longer in operation
- Sole proprietorships (who should apply as individuals and not as organizations)

**Prioritization**

- Organizations that are located in, or centered on, historically under-funded communities
  - Organizations centered on persons or communities that are BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color)
  - Organizations located in Gateway Cities and other under-resourced communities. By "under-resourced", we mean cities and towns whose populations fall below the state's median economic and educational attainment
- First-time applicants or applicants not recently funded by Mass Cultural Council programs
- Organizations that have not received federal or state aid through other pandemic relief programs
- Organizations that have demonstrated economic need as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Organizations that have demonstrated impact on job creation in Massachusetts
- Organizations that have demonstrated impact on tourism in Massachusetts

**Approved Use of Funds**

Funds for this program are considered unrestricted operation support and may be used for, but are not limited to

- direct financial support to assist with staffing, occupancy, program expenses, and other operational needs
- facility upgrades, including costs associated with programmatic adaptation due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- technology and infrastructure costs for safe reopening of facilities.



**Non-Approved Use of Funds**

Grantees must prevent the duplication of benefits, which means these grant funds may not be used to pay expenses if another source of financial aid has paid that same expense.

**Grant numbers and amounts**

This program will offer grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$50,000 grants for organizations in the cultural sector to aid in their recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Mass Cultural Council reserves the right to change these ranges based on the volume of requests received. Estimated range- \$30-35 million.

**Anticipated Timeline**

**May 31, 2022:** Guidelines published on Mass Cultural Council website

**August 1, 2022:** Application opens

**September 23, 2022:** Deadline for organizations to apply

**Late January 2023:** Awards finalized; email notifications sent

**February:** Contracts sent

**July 14, 2023:** Final report due

**APPROVAL REQUEST**

Staff hereby requests the Grants Committee recommend to the Council that staff be instructed to proceed with developing, submitting and posting guidelines for and proceeding to implement the Pandemic Relief Program for Organizations and Pandemic Relief Program for Individuals as described above.

**DRAFT**  
**(for Executive Committee review)**  
**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH MEETING**  
**OF MASS CULTURAL COUNCIL**

MONDAY, MAY 23, 2022: 10:00 AM TO NOON

**BROADCAST MEETING**

MEETING WILL BE LIVESTREAMED AT  
[MASS CULTURAL COUNCIL MEETING - YOUTUBE](#)

MEETING MATERIALS WILL BE POSTED AT  
<https://massculturalcouncil.org/about/board/>  
UNDER "MAY 23, 2022 COUNCIL MEETING"

**AGENDA**

**VOTE**

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1. Call to Order, Welcomes and Open Meeting Law Notice
  2. Mission Moment
  3. Minutes of 154<sup>TH</sup> Council Meeting **X**
  4. Chair Report
  5. Executive Director's Report
    - a) Agency Updates
  6. Advocacy & Legislative Report
  7. Cultural Equity and Access Report
  8. Operations Report

9. FY22 Financial Report
10. FY22 Artist Fellowships: Grant Recommendations **X**
  - Drawing & Printmaking
  - Fiction/Creative Nonfiction
  - Painting
11. FY23 Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Selections **X**
12. Pandemic Relief Programs **X**
13. Adjourn