Culture celebrates Many Cultures One Heart Festival, Framingham Cultural District
FY24 Festivals & Projects Program, Info Session

Webinar presented on May 3, 2023. Video recording hosted on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/massculturalcouncil
Agenda

1.) Program Overview
2.) Examples of previously funded Festivals and Projects
3.) Key Dates
4.) Review of guidelines for applying
5.) Overview of Application process
6.) Q & A
Today's presenters:

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Program Officer
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Program Overview

• Festivals & Projects provides one-year grants to support organizations with activities incorporating the arts, humanities, or sciences that provide community and/or public benefit.

• Eligible programs will include projects, festivals, and/or activities that are publicly available between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024.

• Application open now, due June 8

Full guidelines: https://massculturalcouncil.org/organizations/festivals-projects/application-process/
Examples of Festivals and Projects

- Puerto Rican Festival – July 2022, Puerto Rican Festival of MA
- Nantucket Gay Pride Festival – June 2023, Nantucket Gay Pride
- Welcome to Sharon Town Mural – February - June 2023, Sharon Cultural Council
- SpeakOUT TV Archival Digitization Project & Event – February – June 2023, SpeakOUT Boston

Other examples of funded projects can be found here: https://massculturalcouncil.org/blog/1-85m-awarded-to-740-cultural-projects-programs-festivals/
Examples of Festivals and Projects

• Writing Therapy for Adult Day Health Sites – January-June 2023, Center for Human Development, Inc.

• First Day Hikes Cape Cod – January 2023, Barnstable Land Trust, Inc.

• Audiobook of Donald Platt Reading from "Swansdown" - August – October 2022, Grid Books, Inc.

• Allen Center Outdoors – June 2023, Newton Cultural Alliance
Key Dates

- April 25, 2023: Application opens
- May: Information session, office hours, individual support available.
- June 8, 2023: Application deadline
- Early September 2023: Applicant notification
- Mid to Late-September 2023: Contracts sent
- July 18, 2024: Final report due

Office hours are listed on the Agency Dates page of our site:
https://massculturalcouncil.org/culture-now/agency-dates/?event_program=festivals-projects
Festivals & Projects Program Eligibility

You have a project, festival, or activity that:

• Incorporates the arts, humanities, or interpretive sciences.

• Is intended for and promoted to members of the general public, OR intentionally serves portions of the general public requiring specific accommodations.

• Has the majority of its publicly-available activity taking place between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024.
Festivals & Projects Program Eligibility

You have a project, festival, or activity that:

- Has a minimum project budget of $2,500 in cash expenses (including all indirect costs and overhead).
- Takes place in Massachusetts, whether in person or virtually.
- Is accessible to people with disabilities.
- Does not have the effect of advancing religion.
- Is not an event for a political candidate running for office.
- Does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, disability, age, gender identity, or sexual orientation.
Who Can Apply:

1. A federally-recognized tribe, or Native American, Indigenous, or Urban Indian organization, with ties to the land that is currently known as “Massachusetts”.

2. Non-profit corporations incorporated in Massachusetts.

3. For-profit corporations, partnerships, or limited liability companies (LLC) incorporated in Massachusetts.

4. A Massachusetts state or municipal entity such as a Local Cultural Council, Cultural District, public library, recreational department, etc.

5. An unincorporated organization with a fiscal agent.
Who can apply?: Resources

Am I incorporated in Massachusetts?:
https://corp.sec.state.ma.us/corpweb/CorpSearch/CorpSearch.asp

What is a fiscal sponsorship?:
https://fiscalsponsordirectory.org/?page_id=247

More details in our FAQ or come to an Office Hour session.
Review Process

• Application deadline June 8, 2023.
• Staff review, and request revisions as needed.

• If eligible applications exceed available funding, Funding Prioritization and Geographic Distribution details will be used to determine which applications will be funded.

https://massculturalcouncil.org/organizations/festivals-projects/application-process/

Springfield Jazz and Roots Festival Springfield, MA
Funding Priorities –
NOT Eligibility Requirements

• **Festivals, projects, or activities** that significantly incorporate, and/or are primarily focused on arts, humanities, or sciences.

• **New or unfunded applicants** (FY23, FY22, FY21)

• **Applicants participating in Card to Culture**
  A program that expands cultural access to low-income and working families in partnership with multiple state agencies and over 300 cultural organizations across Massachusetts.
Funding Priorities –
NOT Eligibility Requirements

• Free to the public

• Historically under-resourced communities
  • BIPOC-Centered organizations
  • Under-resourced cities and towns
If awarded a grant...

- Early September 2023: applicant notification
- Mid to Late-September 2023: Contracts sent

To receive the funds awarded through this program, grantees must complete the following documentation:

- State Contract and attachments
- Electronic Funds Transfer Form
- W-9
Grant Requirements

- July 18, 2024: Final report due
- Acknowledgement of funding
- Compliance with Laws and Regulations
Overview of the Application Process

1.) Login page (https://massculturalcouncil.smartsimple.com/)

2.) Registering as an Organization

5.) Homepage

6.) Application Overview
Ongoing support

- Office hours, small group meetings: Agency Dates
- One-on-one assistance available:
  - Email: festivals.projects@mass.gov
  - Phone: 617-858-2821
- Grants Management System Help Desk: Grants_Help_Desk@mass.gov

- To stay up-to-date on Mass Cultural Council’s latest news and deadlines, sign up for our newsletter or visit the Power of Culture blog.
Online Resources: MassCulturalCouncil.org

- Agency Dates— Key dates for all Mass Cultural Council grant programs and events.

- Blogs— Our Power of Culture blog is your source for Agency and sector news and information. Visit ArtSake to dig into the creative work of Massachusetts artists.


- Grants Management System— Register once, apply for funding all year.

- HireCulture.org— A free, online listing of employment opportunities in Massachusetts.
Questions?

Email us!

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And follow us on social media
@MassCultural