



# Culture celebrates



*Power of culture*

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

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- 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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She/Her/Hers



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# Program Overview

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Asian Festival, Worcester

- 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

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Puerto Rican Festival, Boston

- 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

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- 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



First Day Hikes Cape Cod, Barnstable Land Trust, Inc.

# Key Dates

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- 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



Fresh Paint Springfield Mural Festival

Office hours are listed on the Agency Dates page of our site:

[https://massculturalcouncil.org/culture-now/agency-dates/?event\\_program=festivals-projects](https://massculturalcouncil.org/culture-now/agency-dates/?event_program=festivals-projects)



# Festivals & Projects Program Eligibility

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Community Maple at Osamequin Farm, Seekonk

**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

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**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:



The Universe is My Regalia,  
a painting by Erin Genia.

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

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**Am I incorporated in Massachusetts?:**

<https://corp.sec.state.ma.us/corpweb/CorpSearch/CorpSearch.aspx>

**What is a fiscal sponsorship?:**

[https://fiscalsponsordirectory.org/?page\\_id=247](https://fiscalsponsordirectory.org/?page_id=247)

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

# Review Process

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- 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.



Springfield Jazz and Roots  
Festival Springfield, MA

# Funding Priorities – NOT Eligibility Requirements

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- **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

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- **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

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



# Overview of the Application Process

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- 1.) Login page (<https://massculturalcouncil.smartsimple.com/>)
- 2.) Registering as an Organization
- 5.) Homepage
- 6.) Application Overview

# Ongoing support

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- Office hours, small group meetings: [Agency Dates](#)
- One-on-one assistance available:
  - Email: [festivals.projects@mass.gov](mailto:festivals.projects@mass.gov)
  - Phone: [617-858-2821](tel:617-858-2821)
- Grants Management System Help Desk: [Grants\\_Help\\_Desk@mass.gov](mailto: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

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- 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.
- E-Newsletters— Sign up to receive one – or all three! – of the Agency's monthly newsletters: Power of Culture, Artist News, and Community Initiative News.
- 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*