COMMUNITY INITIATIVE

• The **goal** is to bring programs together to deepen our community-based strategy and to foster the cultural life across the Commonwealth.

• Local Cultural Council Program

• The Massachusetts Cultural Districts Initiative

• The Festivals Program

Porchfest Arlington
CORE PRINCIPLES

- Belief that culture elevates the quality of life and well-being of all communities in Massachusetts.
- Local level impact
- Celebrating the unique
- Empower communities
LOCAL CULTURAL COUNCIL PROGRAM

• 40+-years-old

• Largest cultural funding network in the country

• 351 cities and towns, 2,500 volunteers

• More than 6,000 grants, $3.4M awarded

• In FY19 each municipality received between $4,800 and $198,000 for granting
CULTURAL DISTRICTS INITIATIVE

• Launched in 2011 by an act of the state legislature

“Executive branch agencies, constitutional offices and quasi-governmental agencies shall identify programs and services that support and enhance the development of cultural districts and ensure that those programs and services are accessible to such districts.”

• 51 designated districts
• 750 diverse partners
• 5-year designation
• Municipality holds the designation
FESTIVALS PROGRAM

- The Festivals Program is designed to provide funding to help festival programmers meet the needs of producing, promoting, and developing audiences.
- 200+ Festivals supported over time
- 2 grant cycles
- $500 grants
WORKING REGIONALLY
WHY THE COMMUNITY INITIATIVE MATTERS

- Creates alliances and fosters partnerships
- Encourages entrepreneurship
- Impacts economic growth & opportunity
- Empowers communities to identify and support what makes them unique
- Makes arts and culture visible