



Posted on 12/3/25

Power of culture

**SPECIAL MEETING
OF MASS CULTURAL COUNCIL**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2025
11:00 AM**

BROADCAST MEETING

**MEETING WILL BE LIVESTREAMED AT
[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/LIVE/LULPCGMRVG](https://www.youtube.com/live/lulpcgmrvg)**

**MEETING MATERIALS WILL BE POSTED AT
[HTTPS://MASSCULTURALCOUNCIL.ORG/ABOUT/BOARD/](https://massculturalcouncil.org/about/board/)
UNDER "DECEMBER 10, 2025 SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING"**

AGENDA

VOTE

- 1. Call to Order – Open Meeting Law Notice**
- 2. Chair Report**
 - 2a. Summary of December 3, 2025 Executive Committee Meeting
- 3. Discussion re Executive Director Transition**
 - 3a. Appointment of David Slatery as Acting Executive Director as of 1/1/2026 **X**
 - 3b. Future Steps
- 4. Adjourn**

MASS CULTURAL COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2025

RESOLUTIONS

Interim Leadership of Council

WHEREAS, Michael J. Bobbitt, current Executive Director of the Council, is resigning as of December 31, 2025;

WHEREAS, the Council has today begun undertaking discussions about the process by which a new Executive Director will be selected and hired;

WHEREAS, the search process will take several months and therefore the Council is providing for interim leadership during the period prior to the time a new Executive Director is hired and begins working;

WHEREAS, the Council has confidence in David Slatery, the current Deputy Executive Director, and existing leadership team of the Council for this period,

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED THAT, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 10, Section 52*, that the Council designate and the Chair concurs that the current Deputy Executive Director of the Council, David Slatery, in addition to his current duties, shall also serve as acting Executive Director, assisted by the existing senior leadership team and with no additional compensation, during the period between January 1, 2026 and the date a new Executive Director is hired and begins working.

**...The council shall have an executive director with experience and a continuing interest in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences who shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the chairman and the council, and whose compensation shall be fixed by the council, all subject to the consent of a majority of the council...*

From: [Cheng-Anderson, Catherine \(ART\)](#)
To: [mcarroll](#)
Cc: [Bobbitt, Michael \(ART\)](#); [Slatery, David T. \(ART\)](#); [joannwlongworth](#)
Subject: Approval Needed for 12/2 Out of State Travel
Date: Tuesday, November 18, 2025 9:27:31 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-xcqoxtkn.png](#)

Good Morning Marc,

Under the current Out-of-State Travel Policy, any staff travel outside Massachusetts must receive prior approval from the Executive Committee. If meeting timing makes that impracticable, the request may be approved by the Chair and subsequently reported to the Executive Committee and full Council. Because Kathe's travel is scheduled for 12/2, and the special Executive Committee meeting is on 12/3, this request requires Chair preapproval and will be formally reported to the Committee at the 12/3 meeting.

The travel request outlined below totals \$400. Kathe's request provides clear public benefit, directly supports her core job duties, aligns with the Council's mission, Strategic Plan, and Equity Plan, and represents a cost-effective use of resources. All required Travel Authorization Forms and Procurement Request Forms are on file. Could you please reply with your approval?

[Grantmakers for Thriving Youth Convening: Baltimore, MD on 12/2/25](#)

Kathe Swaback, Program Officer has been invited to participate in a national convening of funders, researchers, community leaders, and youth organizers whose work centers on youth development, arts learning, equity, and community well-being. This gathering will bring forward critical insights on the pressures facing young people particularly around health care access, food insecurity, and immigration enforcement which are issues that YouthReach organizations consistently report as deeply affecting their communities.

Participation in this convening will greatly strengthen and inform Kathe's work across YouthReach, Creative Experiences, the 3C Data Alliance, the YAIN network, and the Artists and Youth advancement portfolio. Engaging directly with national funders, policy experts, and researchers will help Mass Cultural Council anticipate emerging challenges, build strategies to mitigate negative impacts on youth and arts organizations, and deepen partnerships that support equitable systems for young people and communities.

Thank you for considering this request. In February, as we discussed we will update this policy for Exec Committee and full council approval.

Have a nice thanksgiving.

Best Regards,

Cathy

Catherine Cheng-Anderson (鄭鳳儀)
she/her/hers
Chief Financial Officer

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.