

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## HEATH CULTURAL COUNCIL SEEKS FUNDING PROPOSALS Proposals for community-oriented arts, humanities, and interpretive science programs due October 17

The Heath Cultural Council (HCC) operates under a State established application deadline of Friday, October 17, 2023 deadline for organizations, schools, and individuals to apply for grants that support cultural activities in the community.

This year, HCC will distribute more than \$5,500 in grants. According to Council Chair, Barbara Gordon, these grants can support a variety of community based cultural activities in Heath and surrounding towns—including exhibits, performances, workshops, lectures, field trips, and other culturally enriching programs. Last year, projects funded by the Heath Cultural Council included: the annual Heath Arts Exhibition, music at the Heath Fair, Council on Aging sponsored Square Dances in Heath, David Bates kick-off performance for the Heath Free Public Library Summer Reading Program, the Charlemont Speakers Forum, the Mohawk Trail Concert Series, the *Heath Herald*, Evening Sky Tours with Jonathan Rehmus, the Mohawk Trail Regional High School Darkroom, and *hilltownfamilies.org*, an online educational community resource.

The Heath Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils (LCC) serving all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth. The LCC Program is the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation, supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, sciences and humanities every year. The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, which then allocates funds to each community. State Senator Adam Hinds, representing Franklin, Berkshire, Hampshire, and Hampden Counties in Western Massachusetts, is a strong advocate and supporter of the LCC Program.

For application forms and more information, visit the Heath Cultural Council page at <a href="https://massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/heath/">https://massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/heath/</a>. In addition, Mass Cultural Council will hold an online information session about the grant proposal process on September 12. To register, go to <a href="https://massculturalcouncil.org/event/how-to-apply-for-a-local-cultural-council-grant/">https://massculturalcouncil.org/event/how-to-apply-for-a-local-cultural-council-grant/</a>.

For specific questions about the Heath Cultural Council grant proposal process, contact Barbara Gordon at heathculturalcouncil@gmail.com.