

**FOR RELEASE: January 16, 2025**

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## **MARBLEHEAD CULTURAL COUNCIL AWARDS 2025 GRANTS**

*Grants have been awarded to local individuals and non-profits to support the arts, humanities and sciences.*

**Marblehead, MA January 16, 2025** — The Marblehead Cultural Council (MCC), one of 351 local organizations that are funded directly from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, has awarded grants for 2025 including funding for live musical and historical performances, art installations and workshops.

Jennifer Uhl, the MCC Chair, states, “Our eleven member council enjoyed reviewing 29 broad and varied applications from members of our local arts and culture community. We are pleased to announce that we have awarded thirteen inspirational grants to enliven, enrich and deepen Marblehead’s creative arts scene throughout 2025.”

The Marblehead Cultural Council grants are awarded to individuals and non-profits that support community cultural, artistic, scientific and historical activities. These grants will benefit the town and are accessible to Marblehead residents. The MCC places an emphasis on new, emerging, and established artists and programs in local venues as well as racially and culturally diverse programming.

Interested parties can learn more at <https://massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/marblehead>.

The following is a detail of the grants identifying the **Applicant**, *Project*, Description with Date and Location.

**Matthew Arnold**

*I Remember Frank*

*A Celebration of Frank Sinatra - A Man and His Music*

2025 marks the 110th birthday of Frank Sinatra, one of the most important interpreters of the Great American Song Book. This concert will explore highlights from Sinatra's career, starting with his beginnings with Harry James and Tommy Dorsey, through the 50s and 60s and his monumental collaborations with artists such as Quincy Jones, Count Basie and Nelson Riddle. The music selected will sample both male and female composers as well as African American composers and more.

Star of the Sea Auditorium

DATE: March 8, 2025

**Julia Cseko**

*Social Fabric*

This exhibition is the culmination of the eight-month-long Salem Public Artist in Residency. Featuring monumental textile work responding to dozens of immigration stories collected through the Participatory Public Piece Transcending Borders Immigrant Experiences and Dreams on view at Artists Row between June and September 2024. Residents of Marblehead will be invited to tell immigration stories using an AR integration. The exhibition will premiere video interviews with immigrants created in partnership with the Salem Access TV. The opening will feature performances involving local creatives showcasing wearable art, storytelling, knitting circles, and family friendly activities that are free and open to the public.

Old Town Hall, Salem, MA

DATE: January, 2025

**Joseph Dipoli**

*The Slave Economy in Essex County and New England*

This project is going to explain how slavery was also a Northern institution which became economically unworkable due to the small size of farms and industrialization. The citizens of Marblehead and Essex County are justly proud of their Revolutionary history. We are taught in school that the Civil War was fought between the agricultural South which supported slavery and the industrial North which favored free labor.

Location: TBD

DATE: TBD

**Jordan Hamel**

*Poetry/Spoken Word Workshop and Performance*

A spoken word and poetry workshop, which will culminate in a public open mic style performance for the participants at a location tbd. This workshop is for everyone from those who have never written or read poetry before to those who are seasoned poets.

Location: TBD

DATE: TBD

**Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary**

*Nature in your neighborhood - All about birds in Marblehead*  
Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary

A Mass Audubon teacher-naturalist will provide a 2-hour nature walk at Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary to highlight the many birds living in the neighborhood.

Location: Marblehead Neck Wildlife Sanctuary, Marblehead, MA

DATE: May, 2025

**Marblehead 250**

*'Headers in the Revolution*

“Headers in the Revolutionary War” is a 2-day event in September 2025, produced by Marblehead 250, a committee developing programming to honor the 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War. This event will bring to life the role Marblehead citizens played in the years leading up to and during the American Revolution. Throughout the day, the committee will host events, including: meet Sarah Mugford, widow of hero James Mugford; visit the Masonic Hall to learn about Patriot Masons; take a Loyalist tour of the King Hooper Mansion; participate in a recreated Town Meeting in the 1727 Old Town House; visit St. Michael's Church to learn about Loyalists in the Anglican church; learn about enslaved and free Black people who fought in the war outside the home of Cato Prince; and meet Glover's Regiment to explore Fort Sewall and learn about the original regiment's vital service during the War.

Location: Historic sites in Marblehead’s Historic District

DATE: September, 2025

## **Marblehead Museum and Historical Society, Inc.**

### *Colonial Craft Fair*

Marblehead Museum's Colonial Craft Fair provides an opportunity for visitors to meet skilled artisans as they demonstrate crafts from a time gone by. The event will take place in the Jeremiah Lee Mansion Gardens. There will be demonstrations in both the upper and lower gardens, covering a wide variety of important historic skills. Trades demonstrated may vary from year to year, but can include Shoe Making, Copperplate Printing, Blacksmithing, Coopering, Tinsmithing, Lacemaking, Ropemaking, Historic Foodways, Basket Weaving, Candlemaking, Gunsmithing, Leatherworking, and much more. Several of the demonstrations will have interactive components, allowing visitors of all ages to try their hands at skills rarely seen in modern times.

Location: Jeremiah Lee Mansion Gardens, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m  
161 Washington St, Marblehead, MA

DATE: May, 2025

## **Salem Sound 2000, Inc.**

### *STEAM Workshops*

The STEAM workshop series will introduce students k-5 to the concepts of design, biomimicry, and the engineering process while highlighting the incredible resource that is the Abbot Public Library Maker Space. Learners will engage with live animals, explore real-world problems, and use their creativity to design and prototype possible solutions. This hands-on program will include literary connections so students can continue to investigate topics outside of the workshop. The goal of this program is to connect students to environmental sciences through building and problem solving, ultimately igniting an interest in environmental protection and care.

Location: Abbot Library, Marblehead, MA

DATE: Spring through Fall, 2025

## **SPUR, Inc.**

### *MLK Day of Service*

SPUR celebrates Dr. King's birthday by bringing the community together through service. The 2025 MLK Day of Service will focus on the importance of civic engagement and ways that individuals can influence change in their community, using the Points of Light Civic Circle® as a framework. Participants will make dry soup jars for local Marblehead residences facing food insecurity. We will partner with the Marblehead Food Pantry to distribute these soup jars to those in our community who are most vulnerable.

Location: SPUR Office, 6 Anderson Street, Marblehead, MA

DATE: January 20, 2025

**The Delvena Theatre Company**  
*Mangia, Meatballs and Murder*

An exciting, live comedy murder mystery performance, set in Luigi's Ristorante, that can be performed in conjunction with a lunch, dinner, tea - or nothing at all! "Mangia, Meatballs and Murder" features three actors in multiple roles interacting with audience members so as to help the audience become informed as to who the "murderer" or "murderers" might be. Complete with costumes, props, information packets and prizes, the audience will become super sleuths, having much fun along the way.

Location: Judy and Gene Jacobi Community Center, Marblehead, MA  
DATE: TBD

**The Jewish Community Center of the North Shore, Inc.**  
*JCCNS Seacoast Singers*

A senior choir is being started and will be open to all members of the Marblehead/Swampscott/Salem/Lynn community at the JCCNS in Marblehead called the "JCCNS Seacoast Singers". The JCCNS Seacoast Singers will be directed by Miriam Eges, theater instructor, performer, and actress. The choir will meet once a week at the JCCNS for an hour, and after about three months will give a concert at the JCC and senior centers. For the first concert the group will focus on Broadway tunes, which are well known and accessible to most people.

Location: Jewish Community Center of the North Shore, Marblehead, MA  
DATE: TBD

**Jon Waterman**  
*Live Music Making History Live*

Live Music Making History Live is a series of 4 programs that use original songs & arrangements to inspire enthusiasm about and a desire to explore history

"A Journey through the Roots of American Popular Music" explores characters and events at the origins of the blues, rock and country music.

"Cro-Magnon Blues: History & Legends through Song" explores characters and events from ancient Sumer to the present day: the first known author, an epic medieval battle, a famed radio broadcast and more.

"The Railroad in Song" explores the RR in US history through songs, includes the work of Chinese and Irish workers, the Great Migration and more.

"Popular Music & Veterans" explores and honors the experiences of veterans throughout US history. Songs, history, and a slideshow alongside some related popular music history.

Location: King Hooper Mansion, Marblehead Arts Association, Marblehead, MA  
DATE: TBD

**Nick Zaino**

*The 80s Comedy Boom: A Boston Comedy History*

Veteran arts journalist Nick Zaino takes the audience through the rip-roaring 80s comedy boom in Boston, from the dearth of clubs in the late 70s to the Hub's swinging heyday with comedians like Steven Wright, Lenny Clarke, Jimmy Tingle, Steve Sweeney, Barry Crimmins, Paula Poundstone, Bobcat Goldthwait, Janeane Garofalo, Marc Maron, David Cross, and more. It's a living history – many performers from that era are still playing Boston to this very day.

Location: Marblehead, MA  
DATE: TBD

For additional questions, The Marblehead Cultural Council can also be reached at [MarbleheadCulturalCouncil@gmail.com](mailto:MarbleheadCulturalCouncil@gmail.com).

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**ABOUT THE MASSACHUSETTS CULTURAL COUNCIL**

As the Commonwealth's independent state arts agency, Mass Cultural Council is charged with bolstering the creative and cultural sector, thereby advancing economic vitality, supporting transformational change, and celebrating, preserving, and inspiring creativity across all Massachusetts communities. More information can be found at: <https://massculturalcouncil.org/>.