

MARBLEHEAD CULTURAL COUNCIL



The Marblehead Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils (LCCs) sponsored by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, which serves all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth. As the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation, the Local Cultural Council (LCC) program enriches the cultural life of all of these cities and towns in Massachusetts. Led by municipally appointed volunteers, in 2025 LCCs awarded \$7.5 million supporting over 7,300 community-based programs that included everything from field trips to lectures, festivals, science programming, workshops, music and dance performances.

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In 2025 the Massachusetts Cultural Council allotted a little over \$8,000 to the Marblehead Cultural Council to fund projects in the arts, sciences, and humanities. Every fall applications are reviewed and then awarded in the early winter for the upcoming year. Twenty-four applications were received and 13 awarded.

1. A Celebration of Frank Sinatra (\$500), Matthew Arnold
2. Colonial Craft Fair (\$1529), Marblehead Museum and Historical Society
3. Headers in the Revolution (\$1500), Marblehead 250
4. JCCNS Seacoast Singers, Jewish Community Center of the North Shore
5. Live Music Making History Live (\$300), John Waterman
6. Meet Julia! (\$300), The Delvena Theatre Company
7. MLK Day of Service (\$500) SPUR
8. Nature in Your Neighborhood (\$325), Ipswich Wildlife
9. Poetry/Spoken Word Workshop and Performance (\$500), Jordan Hamel, (Cancelled and funds carried over to 2026 grants)
10. Social Fabric (\$500), Julia Cseko
11. STEAM Workshops (\$1200), Salem Sound 2000
12. The 80s Comedy Boom (\$250), Nick Zaino
13. The Slave Economy in Essex County and New England (\$500), Joseph DiPoli

The Marblehead Cultural Council solicits input from Marblehead residents requesting feedback as well as preferred interests on events the Council might fund and sponsor in the future. In 2025 this information was collected via an on-line survey available on our website, and through a QR code link in the Marblehead Current and posted throughout popular town establishments. This feedback directly informed the application guidelines and priorities which are reviewed and updated at the end of each summer. This year the survey had 135 respondents, the highest number in years.

In May the Council hosted an open reception at the garden of Abbot Public Library to congratulate, meet, and honor the 2025 grantees. The North of Boston Program Officer from the Massachusetts Cultural Council attended. This type of event is specifically encouraged by the Massachusetts Council.

Marblehead Cultural Council members are appointed by the Marblehead Select Board. In 2025 the Marblehead Cultural Council consisted of ten members including Jeanie Stahl (Chair), Katherine Barker (Co-Chair), Aaron Liber (Co-Chair), James Murphy (Treasurer), Marjorie Norman (Secretary), Joseph Dipoli, Alexandra MacAaron, Mark Philip, Steve McClure, and Jennifer Uhl. The appointments of Lisa Seltzer and Rose Gould ended mid-year.

Public meetings are generally held every two months at the town library with agenda items posted via the town clerk's office. Once approved, meeting minutes are posted on the Marblehead Cultural Council website.

Contact and further information can be found at:

Website: [MarbleheadCulturalCouncil.org](https://www.marbleheadculturalcouncil.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MarbleheadCulturalCouncil>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/mhdculturalcouncil>

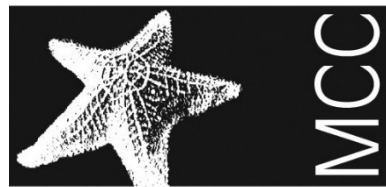
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Selectman's Office: 781-631-0000

Respectfully Submitted, Jeanie Stahl, Chair

Marblehead Cultural Council



[massculturalcouncil.org](https://www.massculturalcouncil.org)