



Power of culture

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LOCAL GRANTS AWARDED FOR HATFIELD

The Hatfield Cultural Council has announced the award of 7 grants totaling \$5,191 for cultural programs.

Though we received more applicants than awarded, the council focused on its priority of honoring program that take place in our town (physically or virtually) and will be presented for the benefit of Hatfield residents. This year's grants recipients are as follows:

The Hatfield Public Library for The Tradition of Chinese Acrobats and other programming to be announced, The Valley Winds, Henry Lappen aka Henry the Juggler, Hilltown Families Suggests, The Nolumbeka Project, Inc. for River Stories in Valley Classrooms and another project to be announced, Dr. "The Machine" Jesse Green who will present to Smith Academy students, and the Hatfield Cultural Council Community Music Event. In addition to this year's grantees, there will be several additional events, that were awarded in 2020 and not held due to the pandemic. We hope to post a complete schedule of events on the Town of Hatfield website, once available.

The Hatfield Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils serving all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth. The LLC 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 which then allocates funds to each community. Statewide, more than \$3.3 million will be distributed by local cultural councils in 2021. Nearly half of LLC funds support educational activities for young people.

State Representative Lindsay Sadosa adds "The Mass Cultural Council (MCC) is an important resource in our state, providing much-needed funding for the arts, and it is truly wonderful to see the Hatfield Cultural Council take those state dollars to award extraordinarily deserving applicants. The arts support our mental and physical health, encourage life-long learning and discovery, and add beauty to our lives. Support for the MCC and the Hatfield Cultural Council is critical because we truly reap the benefits in our community."

The Hatfield Cultural Council will seek applications again in the fall. For guidelines and complete information on the Hatfield Cultural Council, contact Julie O'Connor at hatfieldculturalcouncil@gmail.com.

Applications and more information about the Local Cultural Council Program are available on line at www.mass-culture.org.

