

**MASS CULTURAL COUNCIL
GRANTS COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2020
1:00-2:30 PM**

ON-LINE MEETING

(CALL-IN INSTRUCTIONS POSTED AT
<https://massculturalcouncil.org/about/board/>
UNDER "JUNE 9, 2020 GRANTS COMMITTEE MEETING")

AGENDA

VOTE

1. Call to Order- Open Meeting Law Notice, Zoom Protocols
2. Chair Report
3. Executive Director Report
 - a. State Budgetary Situation
 - b. Goals of Meeting
4. FY 21 Planning Discussion
 - a. Planning Timeline
 - b. Data (Summary from June 2)
 - c. Program Presentations
 - i. Cultural Investment Portfolio: *Portfolio, Gateway, Projects*
 - ii. Creative Youth Development: *YouthReach, Amplify, Teaching Fellowships*

- iii. UP: *Innovation Learning Network, Innovation Fund, LEAD grants*
- iv. Partnership Grants: *MassHumanities, New England Foundation for the Arts, NAAC, other*

5. FY 21 Strategies Discussion Related to Prior Presentations

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.

Please note that this body has invited staff of Mass Cultural Council to be present at the meeting.

Mass Cultural Council welcomes members of the public to attend its public meetings. Under the Open Meeting Law, however, this 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 first notify the Chair and must not interfere with the meeting. The Chair will then inform the members of the meeting that they are being recorded.

This meeting is a virtual meeting held under the Open Meeting Law as modified by the Governor's recent emergency declaration. Only Committee members, Council members and invited staff will be able to address the meeting. All other persons will be muted. Please note that anyone attempting to disrupt the meeting may be muted, have their ability to project video images shut off or even removed from the meeting, at the discretion of the chair

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 VIDEOCONFERENCING
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.

Grants Committee Meeting

Detailed and annotated agenda

PROGRAM STAFF WHO WILL PRESENT AND/OR BE AVAILABLE FOR QUESTIONS ARE NOTED IN RED.

Tuesday June 9:

Grants Committee (2 of 2): 1:00-2:30 PM

FY21 Planning – Strategies and Discussion

- a. Recap: Recover, Rebuild, Renew and Strength, Service, Trust and [Strategic Plan](#) **(5 minutes) (ANITA)**
- b. Staff presentations: Brief program Overview – goal, design, reach with some data.
 - i. Cultural Investment Portfolio (CIP): Portfolio, Gateway, Projects **(10 min) (SARA GLIDDEN, CIP PROGRAM MANAGER)**
 - ii. Creative Youth Development (CYD): YouthReach, Amplify, Teaching Fellowships **(10 min) (ERIK HOLMGREN, CYD PROGRAM MANAGER)**
 - iii. UP: Innovation & Learning Network, Innovation fund, LEAD grants **(10 min) (CHARLES BALDWIN, UP PROGRAM OFFICER)**
 - iv. Partnership Grants: New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA), Mass Humanities, Network of Arts Administrators of Color (NAAC), etc. **(5 min) (DAVID, JEN)**
- c. **10 Min break**
- d. Strategies for discussion – what are the pros and cons, what questions do they have, what resonates? **(45 min)**
 - i. Do we want to consider using some program funding for relief/recover/renew?
 1. Project grants – convert to simple, unrestricted grants to support recovery/rebuilding? Difficulty of project planning and implementation, want to keep door open to smaller, new, diverse, orgs.
 2. Reclassifying/adding newly eligible Gateway orgs to portfolio?

3. Idea of ensuring success of new CYD applicants and supporting current CYD orgs by postponing application one year.
4. Focus of UP on renewal and intentionality around DEI in crisis.

GUIDELINE INFORMATION

Here are the current FY20 program guidelines for each program described above:

- CIP Portfolio: <https://massculturalcouncil.org/organizations/cultural-investment-portfolio/portfolio/application-process/>
- CIP Gateway: <https://massculturalcouncil.org/organizations/cultural-investment-portfolio/gateway/application-process/>
- CIP Projects: <https://massculturalcouncil.org/organizations/cultural-investment-portfolio/projects/application-process/>
- YouthReach: <https://massculturalcouncil.org/creative-youth-development/youthreach/application-process/>
- SerHacer: <https://massculturalcouncil.org/creative-youth-development/serhacer/application-process/>
- Amplify: <https://massculturalcouncil.org/creative-youth-development/amplify/application-process/>
- UP ILN: <https://massculturalcouncil.org/organizations/universal-participation-initiative/innovation-and-learning-network/application-process/>



FY21 Planning Timeline

April 7- 146th Council Meeting- New Planning Timeline proposed and approved.

April 8 – Senior Staff sends planning materials to program staff, meeting scheduling begins.

April 13 to 17 – Program staff meet with Jen in order to begin to prepare planning documents.

April 30 – Planning documents due to Jen to prepare for program meetings with senior staff.

Week of May 4 to 8 - Meetings between senior staff and program teams to discuss FY21 ideas and proposals.

(NOTE- Committee Meetings originally for May 5 have been moved to June-see below)

Week of May 12 to 15 – Senior staff retreat for FY21 planning to draft budget scenarios based on staff input and any information available regarding the FY21 budget.

June 2: Committee Meetings

Executive Committee: Time TBD

1. Normal FY20 business.
2. FY21 Planning Info: Staff presents overall spending scenarios for review/discussion.

Grants Committee (1 of 2): Time TBD

1. Normal FY20 business - FY20 Artist Fellowships recommendations.
2. FY21 Planning - Staff presents grant spending scenarios and recommendations/questions, and the rationale behind them to committee. Committee discusses and provides feedback on key policy/process decisions based on scenarios. Programs on agenda:

- Artists: Fellowships, Apprenticeships
- Community: LCC, Cultural Districts, Festivals
- Education: BYSB, STARS

June 9: Committee Meetings Continued

Grants Committee (2 of 2): Time TBD

1. FY21 Planning continues: Staff presents grant spending scenarios and recommendations/questions, and the rationale behind them to committee. Committee discusses and provides feedback on key policy/process decisions based on scenarios. Programs on agenda:
 - CIP: Portfolio, Gateway, Projects
 - UP: ILN, Innovation fund
 - CYD: YouthReach, SerHacer, Amplify,
 - Partnership Grants

June 10 - 15: Senior Staff updates program teams after committee meetings.

June 18: 147th Council Meeting (*originally scheduled for May*). There are no votes on FY21 spending at this meeting, the agenda is focused on typical meeting items.

Date to be determined: FY21 state appropriation understood.

1 week after appropriation set: Executive Committee Meeting

Senior staff update Exec on first, high level draft of spending plan based on the final number that came out of the budget and the feedback we got from the June committee meetings.

After Executive Committee Meeting: Senior Staff shares first draft of FY21 spending plan with programs so staff can begin working on materials for the grants and executive committee meetings.

3 weeks after appropriation set: Executive Committee Meeting

Committee reviews agency spending plan presentation. Votes on recommendation.

4 weeks after appropriation set: Grants Committee Meeting

Committee reviews grants spending plan presentation. Votes on recommendation.

6 weeks after appropriation set: 148th Council meeting

Full council reviews and votes on FY21 spending plan including FY21 grants. (*This usually occurs in August but will be pushed back later this year*)

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Strategic Plan

Mission

Mass Cultural Council is a state agency that promotes excellence, education, diversity, and inclusion in the arts, humanities, and sciences to foster a rich cultural life for all Massachusetts residents and contribute to the vitality of our communities and economy.

We pursue this mission through a wide range of grants, initiatives, and advocacy for artists, communities, organizations, and schools. We work with partners in government, the cultural community, and across sectors, to increase public and private investment in the arts, humanities, and sciences.

Values

We believe in the power of culture. Working through the arts, humanities, and sciences, culture is a dynamic force for enriching communities, growing the economy, advancing equity, and fostering individual creativity. Culture is intrinsically valuable and unique in its ability to lift the human spirit.

We recognize the essential role that a rich cultural life plays in communities and the lives of individuals. To invest in our cultural life is to invest in our shared future.

Vision

We envision a Commonwealth where:

- Culture elevates the quality of life and well-being of all communities
- Culture drives growth and opportunity through the creative economy
- Culture is inclusive, accessible, and embraces our diversity
- Culture empowers a new generation through creative youth development and education

Goals

ENRICHING COMMUNITIES

Amplify cultural vitality in cities and towns through integrated community-focused grants, initiatives, and advocacy.

Objectives

- Increase the impact of community-led efforts to sustain and promote a rich cultural life by providing communities the resources, training, and tools needed to increase their capacity and effect change.
- Engage more artists in the full range of Mass Cultural Council’s community-focused initiatives through improved communication, technical assistance, and funding.
- Partner with regional, state, and local stakeholders throughout the Commonwealth to elevate the importance of culture and artists in community building.

GROWING THE ECONOMY

Enhance the Commonwealth’s economic vitality by helping artists and cultural organizations thrive.

Objectives

- Support the economic health of communities through targeted investments in artists and the cultural sector.
- Build strategic alliances between the cultural sector, private developers, state agencies, and other Massachusetts community and economic development groups to stimulate economic growth.
- Grow the visibility of the creative sector in Massachusetts through partnerships that expand markets and/or promote the work of cultural organizations and artists.

ADVANCING INCLUSION AND EQUITY

Promote more diverse and inclusive participation in the cultural sector by ensuring equity in policies, practices, and opportunities.

Objectives

- Cultivate a culture of equity and inclusion within Mass Cultural Council to ensure these values are reflected in all of our grants and initiatives.
- Encourage full participation in Mass Cultural Council-supported programs by promoting universal design principles, inclusive practices, and equitable access for all.
- Increase diversity in the sector by creating connections and expanding leadership opportunities for people of color, people with disabilities, and other underrepresented groups.
- Support artists and organizations working in diverse cultural traditions and/or underrepresented communities, with improved outreach, focused investment, and technical assistance.

EMPOWERING A CREATIVE GENERATION

Enhance creative learning experiences in schools and communities that instill agency in, and support the growth of, creative, productive, independent-minded young people.

Objectives

- Expand opportunities for youth to engage in culture through strategic partnerships with agencies and organizations that share common goals.
- Advance our national leadership role in creative youth development through advocacy, field building, and partnerships to promote Massachusetts practitioners and attract additional public and private investments.
- Provide targeted resources and training to increase the depth and quality of creative learning for youth in and out of school.

BUILDING INTERNAL CAPACITY

Strengthen Mass Cultural Council’s internal capacity to deliver the highest quality services to constituents and enable the agency to effectively fulfill its mission.

Objectives

- Develop a new messaging and communications strategy to more clearly convey the full range of our grants and initiatives to constituents.
- Update key processes and systems to improve efficiencies and quality of service delivery.
- Optimize staff resources to accommodate core grants and initiatives, as well as new program development.
- Improve data gathering and evaluation systems, to better communicate the full scope of our impact and inform improvements to grants and initiatives.