



Office of
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Commonwealth of Massachusetts

For Immediate Release

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**Rep. Kane announces state grants totaling \$13,000 awarded
to Shrewsbury and Westborough Cultural Councils**

Representative Kane today announced that the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) has awarded grants totaling \$13,000 to the local cultural councils in the 11th Worcester district. These grants support a broad range of cultural activities that benefit local residents, while supporting jobs in the nonprofit cultural sector. The announcement was made as part of MCC's statewide funding program, which benefits from a \$2 million increase to its state appropriation approved by the Legislature in August.

\$3 million in grants was awarded to MCC's 329 Local Cultural Councils (LCCs) which make up the largest public grassroots arts network in the nation. The Shrewsbury Cultural Council chaired by Neena Mohanka received an \$8,300 allocation and the Westborough Cultural Council chaired by Cliff Watts was given \$4,700. These LCC's provide funding to every city and town in Massachusetts through the efforts of more than 2,300 volunteers. The councils support local arts and history, fund school field trips, and sponsor local concerts and exhibitions. I have seen this directly in the public schools where the local cultural council has supported activities that have enriched the student's learning experience."

"These grants provide the Shrewsbury and Westborough Cultural Councils with the opportunity to better support the arts and cultural activities in our community," Representative Kane said. "I voted to support the increased appropriation for MCC in the FY16 budget as I believe that support for the arts, humanities and sciences enriches our communities, strengthens our local economy and exposes our students to a diverse array of cultural activities they would otherwise not have the opportunity to experience."

The MCC is a state agency supporting the arts, sciences, and humanities, to improve the quality of life in Massachusetts and its communities. It pursues its mission through a combination of grants, services, and advocacy for nonprofit cultural organizations, schools, communities, and artists. MCC's total budget for the current fiscal year is \$15.7 million, which includes annual grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and other sources. For more information, please visit www.massculturalcouncil.org.

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