

Office of Representative James E. Vallee
State House, Room 238

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**REPRESENTATIVE VALLEE ANNOUNCES LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS
SLATED TO RECEIVE STATE GRANTS FOR CULTURAL ACTIVITIES**

Boston, Mass. – Representative James E. Vallee (*D – Franklin*) today announced that grants totaling \$10,820 have been awarded to cultural organizations, schools and communities in his district by the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC).

The grants, to benefit the Franklin Cultural Council and the Medway Cultural Council, are part of a statewide funding initiative by the MCC and will be used for the Local Cultural Council Program (LCC) to support community-based projects that explore local arts and history, expand education and accessibility and celebrate diversity.

“I am very proud of the organizations here that have been recognized as outstanding by the MCC,” Vallee said. “We should all take great pride in the fact that cities and towns in our region and throughout Massachusetts have vibrant cultural organizations that provide enriching and educational experiences for our residents.”

“The grants allow us to bring continuity to cultural events in the town,” said Marcia Coakley, Chairperson of the Medway Cultural Council, noting the programs made available in local schools by the Council.

“In 2006, we helped to fund 19 programs in the Town of Franklin including Concerts on the Common, Franklin Performing Arts Company, programs at the Franklin Public Library, and many others,” said Nathaniel Packard, Chairperson of the Franklin Cultural Council. “With this year’s funds, we will continue to be able to provide access to diverse cultural programming for the community and help bring the arts and culture into the everyday lives of our residents.”

The LCC Program is a grassroots network that provides funding to every Massachusetts city and town through 329 LCCs and 2,500 volunteer members. As part of the LCC Program, the Franklin Cultural Council will receive \$6,820, and the Medway Cultural Council will receive \$4,000.

The Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency that supports public programs in the arts, sciences and humanities, will distribute over \$8 million in direct grants statewide this fall. The Council pursues its mission through a combination of grants, services and advocacy for nonprofit cultural organizations, schools, communities and artists.

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