

RE: Becket Cultural Council Announces 2024 Awards

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### Becket Cultural Council Announces 2024 Grant Awards

Rep. “Smitty” Pignatelli and Cathy Terwedow, Chair of the Becket Cultural Council, are pleased to announce the awarding of 14 grants totaling \$8,200 for wide ranging arts, humanities, and science projects for the town of Becket for the 2024 calendar year.

The Becket Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils serving all 351 towns in the Commonwealth. The LCC 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, a state agency, which then allocates funds to each community.

Decisions about which activities to support are made at the community level by a board of municipally appointed volunteers. The members of the Becket Cultural Council are Cathy Terwedow, chair; Shelley Chanler, secretary; Andrea Pecor, treasurer; Sarah Reedy, publicity; Carole Rivel, Lisa Rosier, Jane Markham, Karen Ludington.

“It’s the local volunteers who really make this system work,” said Rep. “Smitty” Pignatelli. “They make limited resources go as far as possible. The Council is very thoughtful in their work and the Becket residents are the beneficiaries.”

This year’s grants include:

- Becket Arts Center for its Music Brings Communities Together and Community Mosaic Public Arts Project
- Becket Athenaeum for its Museum Passes program and community performances
- Becket Beat for local journalism
- Becket Police Association for their Holiday Party
- Becket Washington School for Interactive Science Exploration
- Berkshire Music School, Inc for Willie was Different: A Musical Enrichment Program
- Berkshire Pulse, Inc for Intro to Dance for PE in Nessacus Middle School
- Jodi Hostetter for Music in the Park
- Berkshire Art Center for Artcentric after-school program
- Nutshell Playhouse, Inc for Nutshell Playhouse at the Becket Arts Center
- Town of Washington for Family Fun Day
- Lara Tupper for Pick Up the Pen: Start Your Writing Project.

Becket Cultural Council will again seek applications in the fall for 2025 grants. Guidelines and complete information will be available online at [www.mass-cultural.org](http://www.mass-cultural.org). For more information about Becket Cultural Council, send an email to [becketculturalcouncil@townofbecket.org](mailto:becketculturalcouncil@townofbecket.org).