

Reading Cultural Council



Reading Cultural Council FY2023 Summary Report

Reading Cultural Council



In Memoriam

Kathy Lopez Natale



In January our Treasurer, Kathy Lopez Natale, passed away suddenly. Kathy was very involved in her work with the Cultural Council, and she is very much missed.

Reading Cultural Council



FY 2023 Funding

- The Reading Cultural Council was funded \$12,200 from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.
- Additional funding of \$8,000 was provided by the Town of Reading.
- \$4,213 came from interest and funds rolled over from unclaimed grants in FY 2022.
- The total was \$24,413, which the Cultural Council granted to 26 cultural events in Reading.

Reading Cultural Council



The Reading Cultural Council supported 26 events and organizations in 2023.

Page 1 of 2

- Walter S. Parker Middle School - ***Purchase of Behringer X32 Sound Board***
- The Delvena Theatre Company - ***Nun of This and Nun of That!***
- Reading PorchFest Committee - ***Reading PorchFest 2023***
- Reading Office of Equity and Social Justice - ***Reading Martin Luther King Day***
- Reading Memorial High School Band Parents Organization, Inc. - ***Downtown Tree Lighting - Musical performance***
- Reading Engineering Teams, Inc.1 - ***Chain Reaction Event***
- Reading Community Singers, Inc. - ***Reading Community Singers Presents: Holiday Favorites***
- Reading Civic Concert Band, Inc. - ***Purchase of additional sheet music for our library***
- Reading Art Association, Inc. - ***Art Exhibitions***
- Northeast Youth Ballet, Inc.- ***The Return of the Full Length Nutcracker***
- North Suburban Child & Family Resource Network - ***Family Concert: Sulinha's Trio with Ian Coury and Erico Menino***
- North Reading Community Chorale - ***Gershwin & Friends Concert***
- MUSIC Dance.edu - ***Hip Hop Chair Dance for Seniors!***
- McFarlane, Susan - ***Virtual Art Classes via Reading Pleasant Street Center***

Reading Cultural Council



The Reading Cultural Council supported 26 events and organizations in 2023.
Page 2 of 2

- Joshua Eaton School - ***Multicultural Fair - Drumming Presentation***
- Hendrickson, Autumn - ***Research Phase II: Reading & North Reading Involvement in WWII***
- Helping Hands of Breakheart Reservation, Inc. - ***Breakheart Fall Festival***
- Greater Boston Stage Company - ***Discounted Tickets to Theatre for Reading Students and Seniors***
- Five Star Theatre Company, Inc. - ***Five Star Theatre Program***
- Downtown Reading Art Walk Committee - ***Downtown Reading Art Walk***
- Creative Arts for Kids, Inc. - ***New CAK Art Room***
- Chin, Amy - ***Sound Play Family Concert***
- Birch Meadow Elementary School - ***Diverse Voices in Social Studies Enrichment***
- Bates III, Davis R. - ***Celebrating the Season: A Performance for Seniors***
- Arts Reading, Inc. - ***Discover the Arts Day Cultural Festival***
- Alice M. Barrows Elementary School - ***Journey to Juneteenth***

More information is available at <https://massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/reading/>

Reading Cultural Council



FY 2023 Community Outreach Reception

- Each year the Cultural Council reaches out to the community to find out what their priorities are for next year's funding.
- This year we rebooted the reception, presenting a slide show of our previous grantees' events.
- The reception had not been possible since 2018 because of the Covid-19 shutdown.
- The Cultural Council Reception was held at the Pleasant Street Center on May 8.
- We had a good turnout of enthusiastic grantees and public figures.
- The slide show is available at our Link Tree, linktr.ee/readingmasscc



Reading Cultural Council



We are Looking for Volunteers

- At the end of June we lost some full members and are looking for volunteers to fill those positions. We also have openings for associate members.
- The Massachusetts Cultural Council is advocating for youth council members.
- We are especially looking for someone who is interested in acting as our Treasurer.
- The Treasurer job is not as scary as it sounds.
- The accounts and books are actually maintained by the Town Accountants, not our Treasurer.
- The Cultural Council Treasurer is more of a liaison to the accountants, collecting the requests for reimbursement from our grantees and passing them to the accountants.

Reading Cultural Council



FY 2024 Grant Cycle

The timeline for FY24 is summarized below.

- **Friday, September 1:** Applications open, grant cycle begins.
- **Monday, October 17:** Grant cycle closes and applications to RCC are due.
- **October - November 2023:** Informational meetings with applicants are held.
- **Late November and December 2023:** Deliberation meetings held to determine the grants.
- **January 2024:** Applicants are informed of the Cultural Council decisions.

Reading Cultural Council



The Reading Cultural Council
would like to express its deep appreciation
for the support provided by the Town of Reading.

The Reading Cultural Council has a new Social Media presence. We are now on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter using the common handle "@readingmasscc".

Follow all of our accounts and activities at our LinkTree page:

linktr.ee/readingmasscc

If you have any questions, contact the RCC at

ReadingCulturalCouncil@gmail.com