

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## CULTURAL ARTS GRANTS AWARDED FOR DOVER

Massachusetts State Senator James E. Timilty (D-Walpole) and State Representative Denise C. Garlick (D-Needham), along with Beth Benjamin, chair of the Dover Cultural Council, have announced the award of 7 grants totaling \$4,553, for cultural programs in Dover, MA.

This year's grant recipients are:

**Chickering PTO for *The Recorder Goes to School***  
**Dover Historical Society for *Walking and Driving Tour of Dover***  
**Friends of the Dover Library for *Mandarin Chinese Story Times***  
**Friends of the Dover Library for *Intergenerational, Cultural Diwali Celebration***  
**Victoria Pope for *Expanding Cultural Awareness for DSHS Students***  
**The Trustees of Reservations for *Fall Harvest Festival at Powisset Farm***  
**Tricia Silverman for *Nutrition Pearls of China, Costa Rica & Loma Linda***

“As the Vice-Chairman of the *Committee on Tourism, Arts, & Cultural Development* this past session, I saw the direct impact the recession has had on not only my district's, but the entire Commonwealth's, arts community.” said Senator Timilty. “The dedication of Mass Cultural Council and its individual town councils to continue this important work is something we can all appreciate in these tough times. Hopefully these grants for the Dover Cultural Council, and the hard work of their volunteers, will help continue the rich tradition of cultural development in the Town of Dover despite the economic reality we all face.”

“During these difficult economic times, it is a reality that we must try to do more with less. Through the hard work of local volunteers and the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the arts, sciences and humanities continue to be a active part of our communities.” remarked Rep. Garlick. “I applaud their commitment and dedication.”

The **Dover Cultural Council** is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils serving all 351 cities and 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. The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Massachusetts 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. **Dover Cultural Council** members are: **Beth Benjamin, Wendy Bornstein, Beth DeBor, Erin Clarke Gorden, Jane Johnstone, Rose Mahoney, and Sue Sheridan.**

Statewide, more than \$2.34 million will be distributed by local cultural councils in 2011. Grants will support an enormous range of grass-roots activities: concerts, exhibitions, radio and video productions, field trips for schoolchildren, after-school youth programs, writing workshops, historical preservation efforts, lectures, community celebrations, nature and science education programs.

The **Dover Cultural Council** will seek applications again in the fall. Information and forms are available online at [massculturalcouncil.org](http://massculturalcouncil.org) or through Dover's town web site: [doverma.org](http://doverma.org). Applications are due **October 15, 2011.**