LONGMEADOW

Cultural grants awarded

The Cultural Council has awarded grants to 26 events and programs for the coming year, and applicants were recently notified of selection.

Cultural Council members considered each of the 30 proposals submitted and determined that 26 of the applications successfully met the funding criteria established by the state Cultural Council.

The mission of the town group is to enrich the cultural life of the Longmeadow community, and each year, cultural grants help to support a wide array of programs, including exhibits, festivals, field trips, short-term artist residencies, school performances, workshops and lectures.

Featured among those awarded is the Richard Salter Storrs Library offering enriching presentations such as a “Youth Summer Rainforest Reptile Show” and “Youth Around the World Nature Series.”

Longtime staples such as Pioneer Valley Jewish Film Festival, Longmeadow Historical Society, and Henry Lappen’s juggling act are joined by the Valley Winds’ “High School Cadets,” Ken Longsteeth’s “Jeff Gavioli & Bad News Orchestra,” and Valley Jazz Voices’ “Karin Allyson’s” musical offerings.

For the creative hands-on participant, Dyer Maker Studio is offering a “Dyeing to Wear It” presentation or choose “Makers of Ancient Technology” offered by Hanna Wilde Merrill. For senior citizens, Music Dance. Edu will offer “Hip Hop Chair Exercise for Seniors.”

The town Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 local cultural councils serving all 351 cities and towns across the state. The 2021 grant budget totaled $11,712.00 comprised of state and local funding.

Cultural Council members include Caitlin Cronin, Rowland Hawthorne, Rob Humberston, Thea Katsounakis, Margaret Landon, Katherine McGinnigle, Andrea Schultz and Peter Thomsen.