



#PowerOfCulture
#PelhamCulture

Pelham Cultural Council – FY26 Funded Projects

Earlier this fall, the Pelham Cultural Council invited organizations, schools, and individuals to submit proposals for cultural activities serving Pelham residents and students in the Amherst-Pelham Regional Schools. This year, the Council was able to award **\$6,840** in direct funding to community-based arts, humanities, and science programming. Priority was given to projects that serve local families and youth, celebrate Pelham's history and environment, highlight Pelham-based artists and educators, and bring global perspectives to our community. They are:

- **Summer Reading Program: “Plant a Seed: Read”** – The Pelham Library's literacy-focused summer program for children and families.
- **Lose Your Blues Jazz Piano Concert** – A solo jazz performance by Stephen Page at the Pelham Library.
- **West African Drumming Workshop: Come Out to Play** – An interactive workshop combining performance, history, and hands-on drumming at the Pelham Library.
- **Pelham Players** – The long-running free summer youth theater program for Pelham children and teens.
- **Cemeteries of Pelham** – Guided public tours exploring the history, layout, and stories of Pelham's historic cemeteries.
- **Hampshire Young People's Chorus Spring Concert** – A culminating regional youth choral performance with participation from Pelham students.
- **Pelham Elementary PTO Art and Culture Night Performer** – Live performance and arts activities for Pelham Elementary School's annual community celebration.
- **6th Annual Odenong Powwow** – An intertribal, community-centered celebration of Indigenous/Native American culture, arts, and traditions held at Amherst Regional High School.
- **Amherst Regional Public Schools @ The Drake** – A multi-part public concert series showcasing students, faculty, and community musicians.

- **Mindfulness Garden Mural Project** – A vibrant, abstract mural by Sharon Leshner enhancing the garden at Summit Academy (a part of the Amherst-Pelham Regional schools).
- **Secret Planet Music Series** – A community-supported global music concert series presenting international artists in the Pioneer Valley.
- **Silverthorne Summer Season** – Professional theater productions centering underrepresented voices and accessible pricing.
- **Tunes@Noon** – A free monthly lunchtime concert series providing live music to the community at Amherst Survival Center.
- **Uniquely Quabbin Magazine** – A regional arts and culture magazine highlighting local history, writing, photography, and visual art.

The Pelham Cultural Council is also **actively seeking new members**. Serving on the Council is a meaningful way to support local arts and culture, help guide funding decisions, and contribute to Pelham's civic life. Residents interested in learning more or joining the Council are encouraged to email pelhamculture@gmail.com.

Your FY26 Pelham Cultural Council

John Page, *Chair*
 Ruth Rinard, *Treasurer*
 Carolyn Bassett, *Secretary*
 Tony Maroulis
 Susan Daniels
 Jim Lumley
 Lisa Crossman