

Cultural Grants Awarded to 33 Local Artists and Organizations

Pittsfield, MA (Jan 13, 2011) - The Pittsfield Cultural Council (PCC) has awarded grants to 33 artists and local arts organizations.

"This year, the Council received many high-quality applications and we are very pleased to distribute our monies to such a talented group of individuals and groups," said Sheila McKenna, president of the PCC.

In all, 33 grants totaling \$17,400, have been awarded to those bringing culture and the arts to Pittsfield.

In the coming year, audiences throughout Pittsfield will enjoy concerts, educational programs, art exhibits, theater for children and adults, festivals and dance - each event funded in part by the cultural council grants.

The grants are part of the Council's annual grants program, which is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency that supports public programs and educational activities in the arts, interpretive sciences and humanities.

The Pittsfield Cultural Council is part of a grass-roots network of 329 local councils that serve every city and town in the state. The program is the largest, most decentralized one of its kind in the United States. The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Massachusetts Cultural Council, www.mass-culture.org, which then allocates funds to each local council. Decisions about which activities to support are made at the community level by a board of municipally appointed volunteers.

The Pittsfield Cultural Council will seek grant applications again in the fall.

For more information, please contact pittsfieldculture@yahoo.com

Press Contact: Sheila McKenna, (413) 358-3201, pittsfieldculture@yahoo.com