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## **Smola Announces State Grants to Benefit Cultural Community**

BOSTON – **Representative Todd Smola (R – Warren)** today announced that the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC) has awarded grants totaling \$73,650 to cultural organizations in the 1<sup>st</sup> Hampden District. These grants will support a wide variety of cultural activities and projects designed to both benefit local residents and support jobs in the nonprofit cultural sector. The grants are part of MCC’s \$10.3 million statewide investment in the nonprofit cultural sector.

“It is greatly important that we support the arts, humanities, and sciences to ensure that residents have the opportunity to benefit from the unique history and culture in Massachusetts,” said Representative Smola. “I am very pleased to see that Old Sturbridge Village, as well as all seven Local Cultural Councils in the district, will be receiving funding from the MCC to assist in the continuation of their wonderful cultural projects.”

Local Cultural Councils make up the most extensive public cultural funding network in the nation. They provide funding to every Massachusetts city and town through the work of more than 2,300 volunteers. The councils support local arts and history, fund school field trips, and sponsor local concerts and exhibitions.

The MCC is a state agency supporting the arts, sciences, and humanities, to improve the quality of life in Massachusetts and its communities. It pursues its mission through a combination of grants, services, and advocacy for nonprofit cultural organizations, schools, communities, and artists. For more information, please visit [www.massculturalcouncil.org](http://www.massculturalcouncil.org).

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