This Weekend!

What: Cookies & Cocoa w/ the Clauses
When: December 16
Where: Crissey Farm
Details: 10 am to 12 pm

What: Santa Claus is Coming to Town!
When: December 16 & 17
Where: 271 Main Street, GB
Details: 10 am to 3 pm, both days

Berkshire Busk! Festival Recap 2023
Curious about the impact of Berkshire Busk! in Downtown Great Barrington? Read this!

The Basics:
- 10-week street music & arts festival, Friday/Sat nights July 4th Wknd - Labor Day
- Throughout downtown Great Barrington

Profile:
Community - Family-friendly community space
Economic Development - Drives locals downtown and creates a unique tourist destination
Jobs - Employed 7 Production staff - and 100+ paid opportunities for artists/musicians
Community Funded - 41 local sponsors and donors, Town of Great Barrington, Downtown Cultural District, Mass Cultural Council
Performer Participation - 100+ Busker groups/300+ performers, most from MA, NY, & CT

Reach:
Instagram - 9,000+ organic impressions, 2,400 profile visits
Facebook - 12,000+ organic impressions, 3,753 profile visits
Website - 9,000+ site sessions during festival season
E-News - 664 subscribers
Downtown visits - 28,000 during Friday and Saturday evenings!

BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE...380 Surveys were collected during the festival.

Click the button above to get the full results of that survey, including how many people came downtown because of Berkshire Busk!, their ages, demographics, and where they were from, PLUS how they felt about the experience and what they spent here!

Creative Economy Jobs

Find Berkshire County in-person, remote, and hybrid jobs that pay a minimum of $40K a year in all
fields, including arts, education, nonprofits, and related, at 1Berkshire's The Jobs Thing. Among some of the current openings of interest are:

- Development Associate and Donor Relations Concierge, Barrington Stage Company

You can also find exclusively creative economy jobs, including remote and hybrid opportunities, at MCC's HireCulture. Several sample postings are below.

- Assistant Registrar, MASS MoCA
- Associate Director of Marketing, Barrington Stage Company
- Marketing Coordinator, Berkshire Pulse
- Programming Operations Manager, Jacob's Pillow
- Arts Administrator/Company Administrator, WAM Theatre, Inc.
- Volunteer Coordinator, Berkshire Botanical Garden

**Arts Funding and Resources**

Curated information about funding and financial assistance for those working in the creative economy.

**Resources for Arts Organizations - December 2023**

An overview of MCC's FY24 Programs and Funding Opportunities is available [HERE](#). Be sure to check out NEW programs including [Grants for Creative Individuals](#) and [Operating Grants for Organizations](#).

**Creative Capital**

Creative Capital is a nonprofit, grantmaking organization funding artists in the creation of groundbreaking new work, amplifying the impact of their work, and fostering sustainable artistic careers.

**Artist Opportunities for December 2023 and January 2024**

Upcoming opportunities include the Adolph and Esther Gottlieb Foundation [2024 Individual Support Grants](#) for painters, sculptors, and printmakers who have worked in a mature phase of art for 20 years or more (Deadline: January 17).
NEFA cultivates and promotes the arts in New England and beyond.

Check the NEFA website for a wide range of resources, including:
- Recent Publications
- Arts & Accessibility
- Community Initiatives
- Racial & Social Justice Resources

The ArtsHub site regularly updates with opportunities, events, news, and more.

See profiles and list yourself here and learn about promoting yourself on NEFA’s related site: CreativeGround.

ArtsHub is an ever-evolving idea designed to highlight and bring together the amazing artists, organizations, and events that are happening within the creative communities of Western Mass.

Mass Creative advocates for a well-resourced and equitable creative sector essential to the economic and civic vibrancy of Massachusetts.

MASSCreative's Organizing and Advocacy Fellowship is a stipended year-long advocacy leadership development cohort for artivists, creative workers, and emerging cultural leaders to sharpen their organizing skills and grow their advocacy capacity for a more equitable and inclusive creative sector.

What | When | Where

What: The Muppet Christmas Carol (1992)
When: December 15, 7 pm
Where: The Mahaiwe
Details: Jim Henson's Muppets take on the Dickens classic A Christmas Carol in this beloved adaptation starring Michael Caine as Scrooge, alongside franchise favorites Gonzo, Miss Piggy, Kermit the Frog, Rizzo the Rat, and many more.

What: Winter Farmers Market
When: December 16, 10 am - 2 pm
Where: Housy Dome, Housatonic
Details: All markets feature locally-grown and produced foods including fruits and...
vegetables, cheeses, meats, breads, and more including grilled sandwiches outdoors. Admission is free and food access is an integral part of the markets. Berkshire Grown is pleased to showcase local musicians, performing across a variety of styles and genres at all winter markets.

What: John Pizzarelli Trio - Stage & Screen
When: December 16, 8 pm
Where: The Mahaiwe
Details: John Pizzarelli’s newest show focuses on music from the Broadway stage and the silver screen, fully encompassing almost every decade from the ’20s to today, providing a musical discovery for audience members at every concert, all performed by an impeccable trio that has thrilled the world over with their singular brand of swinging jazz.

What: Natalie MacMaster & Donnell Leahy: A Celtic Family Christmas
When: December 17, 7 pm
Where: The Mahaiwe
Details: Natalie MacMaster is a Canadian folk musician who started playing the fiddle at the age of 9, and has toured with various artists and bands and released a few albums with her husband, Donnell Leahy. She has built a sterling, multi-decade career on electrifying playing and must-see live performances.

What: Deck the Hall
When: December 20, 6 pm
Where: Dewey Hall, Sheffield
Details: For the first time this year, our local music and theater communities are joining together to bring you and your families a one-of-a-kind experience: full of music and merriment, stories and surprises, and maybe even a little holiday magic. It will be a night you and your children will not want to miss. Refreshments are available as part of your ticket.
What: *It's a Wonderful Life* (1946)
When: December 22, 7 pm
Where: The Mahaiwe
Details: The Mahaiwe resumes its annual tradition screening *It's a Wonderful Life*, for free, in celebration of the holiday season. Jimmy Stewart plays George Bailey, a troubled soul visited by his guardian angel to help George see his impact in life.

Mass Office of Travel and Tourism

The Massachusetts Official Travel and Tourism (MOTT) website includes a FREE business database where you can list your business! To get started, visit their website, where you can sign on as a new business or update your information if you are already registered.

Are you making the most of the #mylocalMA campaign? Submit Your Story for a chance to be featured on social media and in MOTT's My Local MA e-newsletter. You can find more information and resources at Lovemylocalma.com.