

July 2025

Your DGB Cultural District E-News



W.E.B Du Bois Sculpture Unveiling

From The Berkshire Edge - [W.E.B. Du Bois comes home to Great Barrington: Sculpture unveiled at Mason Library](#)

Great Barrington — It was a historic day for the town as hundreds of people honored W.E.B. Du Bois at the event to unveil his sculpture at Mason Public Library on Saturday, July 19.

Du Bois was born in Great Barrington on February 23, 1868, and was a historian, sociologist, and civil rights activist with global influence. He was a co-founder of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1909 and was also the editor of the NAACP's journal, *The Crisis*.



The sculpture was unveiled at the event by Du Bois' great-grandson Jeffrey Alan Peck, who is on the board of directors for the W.E.B. Du Bois Museum Foundation. The goal of the foundation is to build a museum based on Du Bois' legacy and his teachings by 2028 in Accra, Ghana, where he died in 1963.

"When I first came to this town in 2014, I had no idea that I would fall in love with it and all the people in it, and that it would mean so much to me now," Peck said at the event. "When I travel around the world, the first thing that I bring light to is this town where Du Bois first opened his eyes."

"The significance of this event is that we need to uplift my great-grandfather's radical commitment to justice," Peck told the audience. "We should be inspired by his courage at a time like this. What [made] Du Bois rare then and now is that he courageously

represented his convictions. In the spirit of Du Bois, may we model the same kind of courage as he did.”

Peck proceeded to read a quote from Du Bois right before he unveiled the sculpture, which was taken from the speech “On the Future of the American Negro”: “We should measure the prosperity of a nation not by the number of millionaires but by the absence of poverty, the prevalence of health, the efficiency of public schools, and the number of people who can and do read worthwhile books.”

Next time you find yourself in the cultural district, stop by the Mason Library to visit the bronze sculpture and be sure to follow the link to read more about the [unveiling!](#)

Great Barrington Historic Walking Tours

The Great Barrington Historical Society offers two, self-guided walking tours now available on the Apple and Android App Store!

The *Great Barrington Walking Tour* allows visitors to explore the history of Great Barrington from its colonial origins, through the industrial revolution, to the Gilded Age and the 20th century.

While the second historic walking tour allows visitors to explore the Du Bois Freedom Center. This tour explores the history of African American heritage in the Berkshires, the biography of W.E.B Du Bois, and the story of the town's first black church.

Download the Great Barrington Walking Tour App and explore the towns rich history, cultural significance, and historic sites!



Cultural District Business Updates

The Well Restaurant + Bar is back!

Now under new ownership with later hours!

The Well Restaurant + Bar is back serving up delicious eats and refreshing cocktails Friday through Sunday!



Eileen Fisher joins the Cultural District!

Located on 316 Main Street, Eileen Fisher is the newest retailer to join to join the district.

The opening marks the brand's 4th store in Massachusetts and 56th store nationwide.



Better Yoga is coming to Railroad Street!

Coming to 40 Railroad Street this August Better Yoga will be offering a diverse range of in-person yoga classes!



Be sure to follow the Downtown Great Barrington Cultural District on Facebook and Instagram to stay up-to-date on all the latest news and events happening downtown!



***OtherWords* Reading Series**

[OtherWords](#), is a monthly poetry reading series that takes place at the Mason Library.

Curated by poets [Michael Gottlieb](#) and [Evelyn Reilly](#), *OtherWords* is a continuation of the series that was hosted at the Familiar Trees Bookstore and RA Gallery on Railroad Street for the past two years.

The July poetry reading features Joe Elliot, Mitch Highfill, and Douglas Rothschild.

[Joe Elliot](#) is the author most recently of *An Everything*, as well as *Idea for a B Movie*, *Homework*, *If It Rained Here* (a collaboration with Julie Harrison) and *Opposable Thumb*. For many years, Joe made a living as a letterpress printer. He teaches English and lives in Brooklyn.

[Mitch Highfill](#) also lives in Brooklyn, on a beautiful out-of-the-way street that has both sun and quiet. He has edited *Red Weather* and the Poetry Project Newsletter and is the author of eight books, including *No Precautions*, *Liquid Affairs*, *Turn*, *The Blue Dahlia*, *Koenig's* and *Five*.

[Douglas Rothschild](#), currently resident in Albany, is a poet, teacher, polymath, and handyman. For many years Douglas co-curated The Zinc Bar reading series in New York City. His books include *Cud*, *lit/writ 103* & *Critical Theory: An Appendage*, *The Minor Arcana*, *Match Book* and *Theogony*

The series is free and open to all! Be sure to check-out the Mason Libraries [calendar of events](#) to stay up to date on the monthly series!

JULY 26
4 PM

OTHERWORDS
READING SERIES

JOE ELLIOT

MITCH HIGHFILL

DOUGLAS ROTHSCHILD

AT
MASON LIBRARY
231 MAIN STREET
GREAT BARRINGTON MA

CURATED BY
MICHAEL GOTTLIEB
& EVELYN REILLY

SPONSORED BY
THE FRIENDS OF GREAT
BARRINGTON LIBRARIES
& BOARD OF LIBRARY
TRUSTEES

ALL
TO
OPEN
AND
FREE

Guild of Berkshire Artists

Water, Water Everywhere - From mundane to majestic the varied work in the July show at Art on Main's gallery will delight you showcasing the work of five artists.

Artist Peggy Reeves was inspired to rework a piece from 2004 when she took her photography class along the banks of the Housatonic River. Using paper made at the then local Rising Paper Company, they made cyanotypes (light sensitive blueprints) that they processed in the river. She has revisited the pieces, "finding new ways of enlarging the narrative".

Painter Pat Hogan made images with cold wax and encaustic. "I like the way the cold wax floats over the waxy encaustic surface like water. It evokes, for me, an enticing yet foreboding invitation to slip into the mysterious depths."



Black and white images are presented by photographer Bruce Panock. Drawn to Asian influences, abstraction, and black and white, these sweeping images take an abstract look at the ocean off Cape Cod.

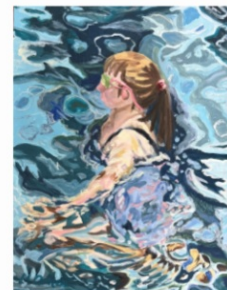
Ceramic sculptor Moira O'Grady is inspired by the fleeting shapes and colors of water, as well as by what dwells within it. She combines sculpture, wood cutting, and painterly techniques with underglazing and glazing combinations.

Long a landscape painter, Marilyn Orner loves water for its fluidity, reflective qualities, and distortions. In this show, along with more conventional landscapes, there is also a melting popsicle, and swimmers in a pool.

When: July 3 - July 27

Gallery Open: Thursday - Sunday from 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Where: Art on Main Gallery, 38 Main Street, West Stockbridge



Creative Economy Jobs

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

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:

- [Chief Financial Officer, Child Care of the Berkshires](#)
- [Major Gifts Officer, Berkshire Health Systems](#)
- [Part-time Evening Library Assistant, Berkshire Community College](#)



- [Senior Manager of Branded Content and Design, Mass MoCA](#)
- [Director of Finance and Administration, Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center](#)
- [Dance Faculty Artist, Community Access to the Arts](#)

The National Organization for Arts in Health (NOAH) provides transformational leadership to bring the arts in health together and advance the field.



Check out current open hybrid/remote positions in the field of arts in health [here](#).

Arts Funding and Resources

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



Learn about grants, events, and resources, find fellowships and apprenticeships, and identify art spaces by subscribing to [MCC's Monthly Newsletter](#)

[Opportunities & Resources for Orgs – July 2025](#)

Live Theater Tax Credit Pilot Program - will award up to \$7 million a year in tax credits for live theater productions in Massachusetts. Deadline: August 26th, 2025 at 5pm.

National Association of Realtors' Placemaking Grants - fund state and local REALTOR® association-led projects that create new, outdoor public

gathering spaces and destinations in a community on unused or underused sites. Applications accepted through October 15t, 2025, or until commitment levels reach 100%.

Trust for Public Land's On Common Ground Grant - supports parks and public space projects to foster social connection and bridge community divides. They are accepting proposals for community engagement projects that help community members connect across lines of difference. Deadline: Rolling.

MassDevelopment's Brownfields Redevelopment Fund Rolling Round Program - finances the environmental assessment and remediation of brownfield sites in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Eligible applicants include community development corporations, nonprofit organizations, EDICs, and municipalities and their agencies for publicly owned sites with an identified developer. Awards of up to \$250,000 in site assessment funding, and/or up to \$750,000 in remediation funding are available. Learn more about the application. Deadline: Rolling.

An overview of MCC's FY25 Programs and Funding Opportunities is available [HERE](#).



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 August and September 2025](#)

[Corning Museum of Glass Black, Indigenous, & People of Color Residency](#) -

This residency is an extension of The Studio's Artist in Residency program. Through this dedicated residency, the Museum aims to welcome underrepresented artists while actively fostering a culture and community of inclusion that promotes, respects, and celebrates diversity. Artists spend five weeks at The Studio exploring new directions in glassmaking or expanding on their current bodies of work while using the immense resources of the world's leading glass museum.

Deadline: August 31st, 2025.

[Alterwork Residency](#) - This residency was designed to allow emerging contemporary artists time and space to create new work exploring their practice. Artists may submit a proposal of how they intend to utilize the space as a studio to create new work or a specific project. The residency will culminate in a solo closing reception that is promoted across our extensive network. Proposals should have a contemporary art focus showing experimentation and career reach for the artist. We are especially interested in projects that involve conceptual art, practice or theory or involve the public in their creative process. Deadline: September 30th, 2025

Creative Capital

Access online courses and resources designed to help artists build thriving practices at any career stage and in any discipline.

[Creative Capital Artist Lab](#) - is a new online professional development curriculum designed to help artists build thriving practices at any career stage and in any discipline. Free for individual use, courses are created by art professionals, industry experts, and fellow artists who share vital concepts, skills, and tools to help grow artists' careers—including courses on crafting artist statements, grant proposals, managing multiple income streams, and more.

Videos include ASL and Spanish interpretation, as well as CART services.



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](#)



ArtsHub is an ever-evolving idea designed to highlight and bring together the amazing

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.](#)

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 Massachusetts's economic and civic vibrancy.

MASSCreative's [Action Network](#) fights for policies that benefit cultural nonprofits, creative businesses, and individual artists in Massachusetts. Where arts, culture, and creativity are recognized as vital components of civically engaged, economically vibrant, and equitable communities.

Great Barrington Public Libraries: Programming & Events



Adult Programs - Mason Library

OtherWords Reading Series: Enjoy spoken word poetry and refreshments.

- July 26th - 4:00 pm

1 on 1 Financial Planning with Luke Delorme, CFP, of Tableaux Wealth has offered to give 30 minute appointments to our patrons. Schedule yours today!

- See available appointments on our website. Each appointment is 45 minutes in length.
- Thursdays

Classical Music Listening Party

- Friday Friday of the month starting 8/1

Edna St. Vincent Millay and Steepletop: 100 Years Later

- Friday August 8th - 4:00 pm

Staged Play Reading of Livia: A Roman Tragedy by Paul David Young

- Friday, August 15th - 3:00 pm

Author Talk: Birds of New England by Zach Adams

- Friday, August 22nd - 4:00 pm

Demystifying Decluttering & Moving with Emily Kloeblen

- Friday, August 29th - 4:00 pm

Author Talk: Getting to Know You by Claudia Gold

- Friday, September 26th - 4:00 pm

Children's Programs - Mason Library

Read to or Visit a Therapy Dog!

- Join us in the Children's Room most Friday mornings at 11:30, to meet a therapy dog who will be available for an hour for patrons to greet, pet, and read to.
- Fridays - 11:30 am

BerkCirque Circus Arts Class

- In this high-energy, hands-on workshop, you'll do things like: Balance peacock feathers, Spin plates, Juggle scarves, rings, & balls, and more. Children ages 6+ and their families. Registration required.
- Saturday, July 26th - 10:30 am

Magnificent Circus Puppet Show

- Come one, come all, to a circus like no other! Encounter magnificent creatures from the wilds of your imagination as their quirky human caretaker tries to teach them new tricks. This colorful, silly, multi-sensory show full of friendly monsters is a perfect match for young audiences.
- Saturday, August 2nd - 1:00 pm

Balloons Galore

- Join us to play with water balloons, paint with balloons, and have a balloon animal made by Balloon Ben! Enjoy cotton candy and have summer fun in the Mason children's garden.
- Saturday, August 9th - 12:00 pm

Be sure to visit the [Great Barrington Pubic Libraries](#) website to view more and programming and events!

What | When | Where



What: [Paul Resier](#)

When: Friday, July 25th | 8:00 pm

Where: Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center

Details: Comedian, actor, television writer, author and musician Paul Reiser is one of Hollywood's most prolific creatives. Voted by Comedy Central as one of the Top 100 Comedians of All Time, Reiser regularly performs sold-out standups at venues nationwide.

What: [From Castello to Canzano](#)



When: Saturday, July 26th | 3:00 pm

Where: Saint James Place

Details: *Baroque Chamber Music – Into the 21st Century!* Peter Sykes, Director, harpsichord; Daniel Stepner, Rafa Prendergast, baroque violins; Laura Jeppesen, viola da gamba and viola; Loretta O'Sullivan, baroque cello; Kelsey Burnham, traverso.



What: [Up, Up, and Away: The Rise of the Silver Age of Comics](#)

When: Sunday, July 27th

Where: The Triplex Cinema

Details: Author Brendan Mathews joins us to discuss the political and cultural influences that led to the Silver Age of Comics after the 4:15 pm screening of Superman on July 27th.

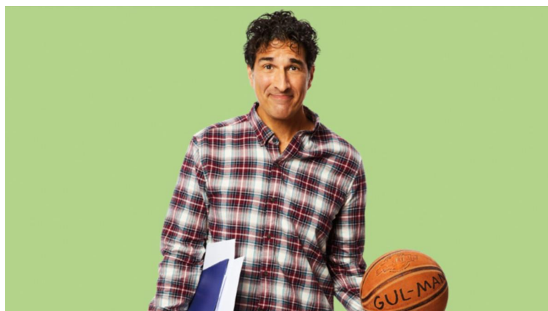


What: [Triplex Movie Trivia](#)

When: Wednesday, July 30st | 8:30 pm

Where: The Triplex Cinema

Details: Free to play in The Triplex Lobby! Starts at 8:30 pm



What: [Gary Gulman: Misfit Stand Up Tour](#)

When: Thursday, July 31st | 8:00 pm

Where: Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center

Details: A product of Boston, Gulman has been a scholarship college football player, an accountant, and a high school teacher. He has made countless television appearances as both a comedian and an actor. Gulman has made five masterful TV specials including his most recent stand-up special, *Born on Third Base*, which premiered December 2023 on MAX.

What: [Summer Concert](#)

When: Saturday, August 2nd | 7:00 pm

Where: Saint James Place

Details: The Olga Dunn Dance Company will perform original works to live music on Saturday, August 2 at 7:00pm. Pay at our



red front doors: \$25. Children twelve and under free; first come, first served seating; no intermission.



What: [Bill Blagg - Family Magic](#)

When: Monday, August 4th | 5:30 pm

Where: Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center

Details: *Family Magic* is a unique blend of interactive entertainment and awe-inspiring magic that guarantees an unforgettable adventure for all ages. Join in for this magical family event which is sure to create unforgettable memories with your loved ones!



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](#).

Downtown Great Barrington Cultural District | 334 Main Street | Great Barrington, MA 01230
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