



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Massachusetts Cultural Council awards grant to  
Highfield Hall & Gardens**

Highfield Hall & Gardens has announced that it has received a grant of \$5,000 from the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC), a state agency. This grant was awarded through the MCC's Cultural Investment Portfolio Program which offers unrestricted funding for a wide range of quality projects in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences, with special consideration given to projects that are innovative.

The grant from the MCC will support the creation of web-based videos over a two year period to share the work and programs of Highfield Hall with a broader community. Short videos will draw upon the expertise of staff members to provide insightful information in the core program areas of history, music, art, nature and culinary arts. Once completed the videos will be posted on the Highfield Hall & Gardens website and shared through Facebook and YouTube. The goal is Highfield to be able to reach beyond its on-site audience to inform, engage and attract new visitors.

Falmouth videographer Peter Cook has been hired to film and edit the videos. Cook has worked extensively in film for twenty years, including service for PBS and NPR. Locally, he has produced videos for the Falmouth Enterprise, NOAA and numerous others. One of his most recent works is a documentary about local band, Stage Door Canteen.

“We are honored to have received funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Council,” said Barbara Milligan, Highfield Hall & Gardens Executive Director. “The MCC itself has been a big proponent of using video and social media to reach new constituents – so we actually took a page

from their book in designing this project.” The videos will be incorporated into a new, updated website that the organization plans to launch later this summer.

The mission of the MCC is to promote excellence, education, access and diversity in the arts, humanities and sciences in order to improve the quality of life for all Massachusetts residents and to contribute to the economic vitality of our communities. The not-for-profit cultural industry has a \$4.2 billion economic impact in the state.

Highfield Hall & Gardens is an engaging historic property that has been restored and revitalized to serve as a center of cultural and community life in Falmouth. With its unique combination of resources -- including the 1878 mansion, the gardens, and neighboring Beebe Woods, Highfield provides an interactive learning environment for adults, children and families. Highfield Hall is located at 56 Highfield Drive. Directions and information about programs and private rentals can be found at [highfieldhall.org](http://highfieldhall.org) or by calling (508) 495-1878.

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