

June 17, 2021

Hull recipient of \$12,000-plus for free beach events, programs

Save the Harbor/Save the Bay is bringing 150 free events and programs back to the state Department of Conservation and Recreation's beaches this summer, as in-person programming resumes on the region's public beaches from Nantasket to Nahant.

On Saturday, June 12, Save the Harbor/Save the Bay and the DCR awarded more than \$300,000 in Better Beaches program grants to 67 organizations and creatives to support 150 free beach events and programs in nine communities in 2021.

A total of \$12,200 in grants went to five Hull organizations and individuals to support free beach events and programs. This year's grant recipients include Hull Haus, Hull Nantasket Chamber of Commerce, Friends of Paragon Carousel, Hull Lifesaving Museum, and Friends of Nantasket, Beach who will host events including a music and surf festival, an art exhibit, story time and more.

Save the Harbor has invested nearly \$1.5 million dollars to support free beach events and programs since it began its Better Beaches Program partnership with DCR in 2007.

This year's grants will bring free concerts, beach parties, circus performances, DJ sets, yoga and fitness classes, art classes, kayaking and paddle boarding, movie nights, pedicabs, mobility mats, beach wheelchairs, and more to the region's waterfront neighborhoods and beachfront communities of Hull, Lynn, Nahant, Revere, Winthrop, East Boston, South Boston, Dorchester, and Quincy.

"It is exciting to have so many new organizations on board this year," said Maya Smith, Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's community engagement manager. "I am certain that they will bring new visions, new voices, more food choices, more accessibility and a more diverse audience to the beach."

Funds to support the program come from a legislative appropriation to the DCR and include \$50,000 in proceeds from the Virtual Harpoon Shamrock Splash, which will be awarded to organizations and creatives that empower, amplify, and invest in community members of color and improve beach access for people with disabilities.

"Save the Harbor is committed to increased equity and improved access in all our programs and on our beaches." said Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's Executive Director Chris Mancini. "Thanks to the support of House Speaker Ron Mariano, Senate President Karen Spilka, the Baker/Polito administration, the Metropolitan Beaches Commission, and all our program, community, and funding partners, including Harpoon Brewery and JetBlue, it is going to be a great summer on the beach."

DCR Commissioner Jim Montgomery shares Mancini's enthusiasm.

"Our green and blue spaces are priceless locations and the betterment of these natural, cultural, and recreational resources continues to be a priority for DCR and the Baker-Polito administration," said Montgomery. "I look forward to seeing Better Beaches programs that are accessible



to many, work to achieve our shared goals, and carry on DCR's mission to protect, promote, and enhance the Massachusetts state parks system."

These free events and programs would not be possible without the support of the legislative leadership of the Metropolitan Beaches Commission. Nor would the success of the program be possible without the support of Save the Harbor's program partners and event sponsors, including Harpoon Brewery, JetBlue, Mix 104.1, The Blue Sky Collaborative, The Boston Foundation, The Richard Saltonstall Charitable Foundation, Beacon Capital Partners, P&G Gillette, National Grid, the Daily Catch, and Comcast.

"It is going to be a terrific summer, with terrific free events and programs that celebrate our diversity and resilience," said Bruce Berman, director of strategy and communications at Save the Harbor/Save the Bay. "After a very difficult year like no other, we are looking forward to seeing you all face-to-face on the beach."

To learn more about Save the Harbor/Save the Bay and the work they do to restore, protect, and share Boston Harbor, the waterfront, islands, and the region's public beaches with all Bostonians and the region's residents, visit its website at www.savetheharbor.org and follow @savetheharbor on social media. ***r*

Step 1: Preliminary CPC application for project eligibility; deadline is Sept. 30. Complete preliminary application and submit as soon as you know of a worthy project. A CPC member will contact you to confirm that your project falls within the boundaries of eligibility. If your preliminary CPA application is eligible, you will proceed to Step 2.

Step 2: Final CPA application; deadline is Oct. 28. The final application is more detailed. A CPC member will be assigned to your application to assist you as you complete a final application. If a project is town-owned, then you must get permission to submit a CPC application.

Be sure to allow enough time to get on the Select Board's agenda. It is also important to get before the respective board (Conservation, Historic, Park and Rec, Community Housing) to gain its support with your project.

Refer to the town's website for additional information regarding this application process, and visit the CPC site at https://www.town.hull.ma.us. Questions should be emailed to the CPC administrator at CPCadmin@town.hull.ma.us. +rr