

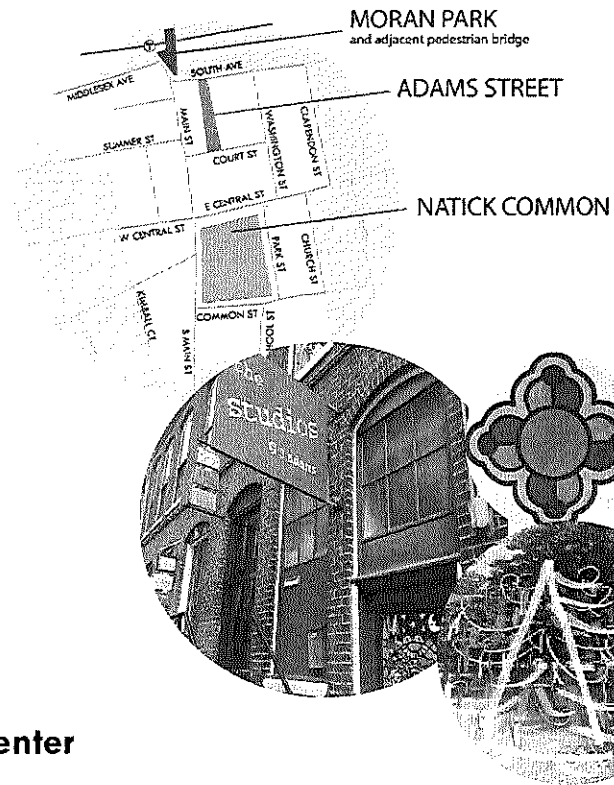
**NATICKCENTER
CREATIVE
PLACEMAKING**

FOR THE LOVE OF NATICK

A CREATIVE PLACEMAKING WEEKEND

November 3-4, 12:00 pm - 4pm

Reception Nov. 4th, 4-6pm Common Street Spiritual Center



Featuring Eddie Bruckner, Beth Fagan, Mark Favermann, Sasha (Alexandra) Kuznetsova, Shahreen Quazi and Rebecca McGee Tuck, and artists affiliated with the Common Street Spiritual Center



MAPC Press Contact: Amanda Linehan, 617-933-0705 alinehan@mapc.org

Natick Center Cultural District Press Contact: Athena Pandolf, 508-650-8848 info@natickcenter.org

Natick Center Cultural District, Town of Natick, & Metropolitan Area Planning Council announce winners of the CALL FOR CREATIVES

Winning creations will be showcased during Natick Center Creative Placemaking Demonstration Weekend, Nov. 3-4

Natick, MA (October 5, 2018) – The Natick Center Cultural District, the Town of Natick, and the Metropolitan Area Planning Council in Boston are excited to announce eight finalists that have been awarded funding to execute temporary art and design projects that aim to transform public spaces in Natick Center.

The finalists were identified through a Call for Creatives that was released this summer as part of the Natick Center Creative Placemaking Project. The Call invited creatives to pitch concepts for temporary art and design that can transform public spaces in Natick Center, specifically the Town Common, Moran Park and the footbridge over the Natick Center Commuter Rail Station and Adams Alley.

Over a dozen members of the Natick and metropolitan Boston region submitted applications in response to the Call. The roster of finalists includes emerging and established artists from a range of backgrounds.

Learn more about each of the selected projects at natickcenter.org/sites/default/files/Finalists.pdf.

Finalists were selected by a juried process involving members of the Natick Center Associates' Public Art Committee and members of the Natick Center Creative Placemaking Advisory Group. The projects range in scale and imagination from performances that would help foster a sense of community to art installations that would facilitate wayfinding efforts within Natick Center.

"Placemaking is the practical application of art in Natick Center to make it a more functional, interesting, welcoming and unique place by honoring its past and embracing its future," said Ted Fields, Senior Planner for the Town of Natick.

"The selected concepts aim to advance the town's vision and values for creative placemaking in Natick Center," said Athena Pandolf, Executive Director of Natick Center Associates.

Each of the six installation/visual artists will be awarded up to \$1,500 for their project which includes cost of materials and labor.



In addition, two performance artists will be awarded \$300 for their involvement in a closing event to the demonstration weekend, which will take place Sunday, Nov. 4, 2018 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The selected projects will demonstrate the potential for arts and culture to transform Natick Center through installations that can activate public spaces in ways that make the Center more interactive, inclusive, sustainable and bold. The projects aim to attract more residents and those who live outside the town to visit and spent more time in the Center and to interact with the local community.

The selected creatives were assigned mentors to help translate their proposals into built projects and demonstrations and to offer consultation on matters of design, construction and installation.

In addition to the roster of projects awarded through the official Call for Creatives, project partners have also been working with the Common Street Spiritual Center, which has commissioned a diverse group of local artists to produce artistic "Visions of Community" that will be displayed on the gazebo on Natick Common, as well as to collaborate with the Natick Coalition for Change on the "We Are Natick" photography campaign launched in 2017.

"The gazebo is an iconic structure at the center of our common life, so presenting these visions at this spot is symbolically potent and very exciting," said the Rev. Dr. Ian Mevorach, Founder of the Common Street Spiritual Center. "We hope these creative expressions will inspire people who live, work, and play in Natick to imagine a more inclusive world in which people of diverse racial and national backgrounds are fully celebrated. The 'We Are Natick' photo campaign has a similar purpose, to awaken appreciation for the diversity of our community."

All of the public art installations and performances will be showcased at the Natick Center Creative Placemaking demonstration weekend, which takes place November 3-4, 2018 in Natick Center. The artwork displayed that weekend will also be on view for an additional two weeks following this kick-off weekend.

The demonstration is a part of the Natick Center Creative Placemaking Strategy, which is being produced for the Town of Natick and Natick Center Associates by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC). The goal of the plan is to provide the town with actionable recommendations that aim to improve the breadth and quality of arts and cultural experiences in public places within Natick Center.

To learn more about the project, visit www.mapc.org/natickcreativeplacemaking.

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About the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) is the regional planning agency serving the people who live and work in the 101 cities and towns of Metropolitan Boston. Our mission is to promote smart growth and regional collaboration. Our regional plan, MetroFuture, guides our work as we engage the public in responsible stewardship of our region's future. MAPC's Arts and Culture Division delivers technical assistance in emerging practice areas including cultural planning, creative placemaking, creative community development, arts and cultural data collection and analysis, and cultural policy. Learn more at www.mapc.org/our-work/expertise/arts-and-culture.



About the Natick Center Creative Placemaking Strategy

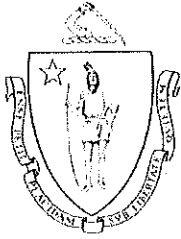
MAPC is providing technical assistance to the Town of Natick to help with the development of a Natick Center Creative Placemaking Strategy. The project will produce recommendations for new processes, tools, and strategies that the Town of Natick and Natick Center Associates can use to facilitate continued creative placemaking in Town Center. This project is funded by a grant from MAPC's Technical Assistance Program that was made possible with funding provided by the Barr Foundation. Additional funding is also provided by the American Planning Association (APA), Americans for the Arts (AFTA), the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), and in-kind support is provided by the Town of Natick and Natick Center Associates (NCA).

For more information, visit www.mapc.org/resource-library/natick-center-creative-placemaking

About the Natick Center Cultural District

Natick Center Cultural District is home to more than 100 working artists, The Center For Arts in Natick, the Morse Institute Library, The Walnut Hill School for the Arts, many independently owned businesses and cultural organizations, and an active Parks and Recreation Department, all contributing to a busy year-round schedule of arts and cultural events. The Cultural District is fostered by a private-public partnership, managed by Natick Center Associates. This nonprofit organization is comprised of property owners, retail and office workers, concerned neighbors, town officials, nonprofits and corporations with a history of more than 40 years working together for downtown revitalization.

For more information, visit www.natickcenter.org



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October 23, 2018

Ronald Alexander
P.O. Box 81003
Wellesley, MA 02481

RE: Open Meeting Law Complaint

Dear Mr. Alexander:

We understand that on September 19, 2018, September 20, 2018, and September 23, 2018, you filed complaints with the Natick Board of Selectmen (the "Board"), alleging violations of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §§ 18-25. The Board is required to notify our office of the complaints and any remedial action taken to address the complaints. G.L. c. 30A, § 23(b); 940 CMR 29.05(5). Our office received notification and a response from the Board on October 10, 2018.

Under the Open Meeting Law, our office may only review your complaints after 30 days have passed from the time you first filed your complaints with the Board. G.L. c. 30A, § 23(b); 940 CMR 29.05(6). After 30 days, you may file a request with our office for further review of your complaints.

Thirty days have now passed since you first filed your complaints with the Board. You may file your complaints for further review with our office up until ninety days have passed since the alleged violation date. Accordingly, we will presume that the action taken by the Board was sufficient and will close these files unless we receive requests for further review and copies of the initial complaints by the following dates:

- Review of your two complaints dated September 19, 2018, alleging violations of the Open Meeting Law on August 20, 2018, must be requested by **November 19, 2018**.
- Review of your complaint dated September 20, 2018, alleging a violation of the Open Meeting Law on August 20, 2018 must be requested by **November 19, 2018**.
- Review of your two complaints dated September 23, 2018, alleging violations of the Open Meeting Law on September 21, 2018 must be requested by **December 20, 2018**.
- Review of your three complaints dated September 23, 2018, alleging violations of the Open Meeting Law on September 13, 2018, must be requested by **December 12, 2018**.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about the Open Meeting Law complaint process.

Sincerely,

Mira Netsky

Mira Netsky
Paralegal
Division of Open Government

cc: Karis L. North, Esq., Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane, LLP
Natick Board of Selectmen