Commission Announces 2021 Local Arts and History Grant Awards

Commissioner Virginia E. Haines is happy to announce a total $120,000 to 25 (8 historical and 17 arts) grants have been awarded to Ocean County arts and heritage organizations towards programs and projects in 2021 through a highly competitive, peer reviewed process. Each year, the Commission offers funding, through a competitive, peer reviewed application process, to Ocean-County based non-profit arts and heritage organizations, units of local government, and institutions of higher education seeking to provide quality arts and history programming and services to the public.

The following heritage organizations received a total of $50,000 in grant awards from Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission's Local History Program Grant towards General Operating or Special Project Support in FY 2021:

Downtown Toms River BID ($5,240), John F. Peto Studio Museum ($9,170), Lacey Township Historical Society ($5,720), Long Beach Island Historical ($8,410), Navy Lakehurst Historical Society ($5,000), Stafford Township Historical Society ($6,540), Toms River Seaport Society and Maritime Museum ($3,430), Vintage Automobile Museum of New Jersey, Inc. ($6,490)

These organizations will receive funding this year from a grant administered by the Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission from funds granted by the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State.

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The following arts organizations received a total of $70,000 in grant awards from the Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission's Local Arts Program Grant towards General Operating or Special Project support in FY 2021:

The Arc of Ocean County ($1,500), Brick Children's Community Theatre ($8,660), The Clubhouse of Toms River ($4,000), Downtown Toms River Business Improvement District ($4,300), Garden State Philharmonic Symphony Society ($7,660), Island Singers ($1,500), John F. Peto Studio Museum ($8,150), Laurelton Art Society ($1,500), Lavallette Borough ($1,500), Lighthouse International Film Festival ($4,400), O.C.E.A.N. Inc. ($1,500), Ocean County Artists' Guild ($8,920), Ocean Professional Theater Company ($7,810), Pine Shores Art Association ($4,100), Stafford Twp. Historical Society ($1,500), Toms River Artist Community ($1,500).

The Local Arts Program Grant is made possible in part by a grant administered by the Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission from funds granted by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. These grants are given to local groups in order to support, promote and develop the arts in Ocean County.

For more information regarding the grant program, contact the Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission at **732-929-4779**, visit their website at: **www.co.ocean.nj.us/cultural/index.htm**, or email: **culturalheritage@co.ocean.nj.us.**