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FYI SALEM

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From the Mayor's Desk



Dear Salem resident,

Thank you for reading the most recent issue of the FYI Salem newsletter. As always, we strive to provide you with a useful summary of important City news and updates in our twice-monthly newsletter.

In this issues you'll find details about the City's Taxpayer Scholarship Fund, including the new deadline for seniors to apply for the fund and where to get the scholarship application.

We also have details about the always fun

Salem's So Sweet festival. This annual celebration features ice sculptures throughout our walkable historic downtown, lots of great chocolate, and more. Don't miss out!

Speaking of our downtown, the City is looking for creative entrepreneurs to participate in the 2019 season of Artists' Row. Read more in this issue of the newsletter about how you can apply for one of the locations on the Row for this year.

One of the things that makes Salem such a remarkable place is the dedication of the hundreds of volunteers who serve on City boards, committees, and commissions. Each week we post a listing of vacancies at www.salem.com/mayor. Read more in this issue of the newsletter about some current board opportunities

we're looking to fill.

Finally, as Salem continues to work toward the Welcoming City designation, we're proud to have strong community partners in our efforts. One of them, Open Door Immigration Services, will be holding free citizenship classes this spring. Read more in the newsletter to get all the details about their program and this important opportunity.

Thank you again for taking the time to read the FYI Salem newsletter! If you have a friend or neighbor who might be interested in this newsletter, please feel free to forward it along or encourage them to subscribe themselves by visiting www.salem.com/subscribe.

Kim Driscoll
Mayor
City of Salem

Scholarship Applications



The City of Salem's Scholarship and Education Committee has released the scholarship application form for students graduating from Salem High School, Salem Academy Charter School, or other high schools, and entering college or university in the fall. The one-page application form is available now at <https://www.salem.com/scholarship-and-education-committee>. Applications are due back to the committee by May 15.

In June of 1987, Salem Mayor Tony Salvo and Superintendent of Schools Hank O'Donnell advanced a proposal to adopt Chapter 194 of the Acts of 1986, a measure that enabled cities and towns to set up a scholarship account for graduating seniors, funded through voluntary donations made by local residents on their tax bills. The City of Salem's Scholarship & Education Committee oversees both the Scholarship Fund, to provide educational financial aid to deserving city residents and the Education Fund, to provide supplemental educational funding for local educational needs or to provide funding for existing adult literacy programs.

The committee is comprised of residents appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the City Council, as well as a designee of the Superintendent. Its members monitor the funds' balances, engage in efforts to increase donations to the funds, and evaluate applications for awards from the funds. Since 2003 the committee has awarded over \$75,000 in scholarships to Salem students graduating from Salem High School, Salem Academy Charter School, and other area schools. Scholarship amounts vary from year to year, based on the number of applications and the amount donated by residents.

Salem's So Sweet

The 17th annual *Salem's So Sweet* Chocolate & Ice Sculpture Festival takes place February 8-10, featuring delectable chocolate, sparkling ice sculptures, and Valentine's Day shopping. Starting the morning of Saturday, February 9, over 20 ice sculptures will begin appearing all around downtown Salem. Some of this year's sculptures will include Mary Poppins, a dove, a butterfly, a sailboat, the Tin Man, and Cupid. Be sure to make plans for a special evening stroll on Saturday, Feb. 9, when the sculptures will be illuminated by Retonica between 5 and 9 pm!



The Salem Trolley offers trolley rides around the festival route weather permitting on February 9 & 10 from 12 pm to 4 pm for only \$2 an adult (free for children). Many downtown businesses will offer chocolate samplings and sweet discounts around downtown Salem all weekend in celebration of Valentine's Day. Check to see who is participating in the "Golden Ticket" – make a full-price purchase at one participating downtown business and get 10% off your purchase at the next participating business! Offer is good Feb. 9 and 10 only, some restrictions may apply. In addition, many of Salem's finest restaurants and retailers will be offering their own luscious chocolate and love-inspired specials and events. More information about the ice sculptures and specific Golden Ticket promotions is available online at www.salemsosweet.com. Golden Tickets and brochures will be available at participating businesses around town.

Salem's So Sweet is organized by Salem Main Streets and the Salem Chamber of Commerce, and supported by Destination Salem, Creative Collective, Retonica, Scarlet Letter Press, St. Jean's Credit Union, and Rockafellas. Visit www.salemsosweet.com or follow the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/salemsosweet>.



Artists' Row 2019

Mayor Kimberley Driscoll is looking for Creative Entrepreneurs to participate in the 15th season of Artists' Row, a City of Salem Art Space Initiative. Artists' Row is centrally located in historic downtown Salem at 24 New Derby Street, across from Old Town Hall and Derby Square. This area at the heart of the City was originally built as a marketplace and continues to be a thriving public plaza and pedestrian way.

Artists' Row is a seasonal program (May 16-Dec. 31, 2019) that provides space for artisans looking to build their audience through daily engagement with residents and visitors to Salem. Artists' Row is a "front porch" shared by artists and visitors, enjoying unusual arts-related goods and activities in an animated public place. Activities considered for Artists' Row spaces includes uniquely produced or hand-crafted products and artwork that appeal to a wide audience.

The City is interested in activities that will contribute to the vibrancy of Artists' Row and this important gateway to Salem's bustling downtown. Of particular interest are placemaking activities that help residents and visitors re-imagine public spaces as places to play, engage, and create. The goals of Artists' Row are:

- To create a lively atmosphere and add to the diverse cultural offerings available for residents and tourists visiting historic downtown Salem.
- To give individuals or partnerships an opportunity to share their unique products and artisanal practices with the public in an engaged retail environment.
- To offer cultural enrichment to the public in the form of free and open workshops (demonstrations, presentations, performances, participatory activities) given by participants relating to the materials and practices of the producers and their unique products.
- To contribute to the ongoing economic vitality of downtown Salem.

Read the full details and more information at <https://www.salem.com/home/news/call-creative-entrepreneurs-2019>.

Board Openings

Salem Mayor Kim Driscoll is seeking interested applicants to fill vacancies on a number of City boards and commissions.

Those interested in being considered for a seat should fill out the application form available at <http://www.salem.com/mayors-office/files/application-board-or-commission-appointment> and return it with an up-to-date resume to mayor@salem.com, by fax to 978-744-9327, or by mail to Office of the Mayor, Salem City Hall, 93 Washington Street, Salem MA 01970. Additional details about these and all City boards are available online at <http://www.salem.com/boards>.

Board	Term	Meeting details
Bicycling Advisory Committee	3 years	3 rd Tuesday, 6:30pm
Cemetery Commission	3 years	As needed
Conservation Commission	3 years	2 nd Thursday, 6:30pm
Disabilities Commission	3 years	3 rd Tuesday, 4pm
Scholarship & Education Committee	3 years	As needed
Tree Commission	3 years	To be determined



CITIZENSHIP CLASS IN SALEM SPRING 2019 - FREE*!

**MARCH 5th - MAY 21st
EVERY TUESDAY 7-9 pm**



**ESPACIO
PUNTO**

(105 Congress St. Salem)

Are you eligible to become a citizen through naturalization?

- * Are you 18 years of age or older?
- * Have you had your Green Card for 5 years or 3 years if married to a US Citizen?
- * Have you lived in the US for the majority of the time you've had a Green Card?

If you answered YES to the questions above, you may be eligible to apply for US citizenship!

Come join us as we

- * Learn about the naturalization process
- * Study for the citizenship interview and the civics test
- * Practice speaking English with conversation partners

Call now to reserve your spot!

978-594-1095

- * Citizenship workbook for the class costs \$10

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