

Mechanics Hall

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE HALL?

This week, the Board of Trustees will meet to vote on the FY27 budget, marking the culmination of many weeks of thoughtful planning, analysis, and collaboration. I want to thank our directors, **Jeffrey Levenson, Kelsey Miller, Maria Schrader, Amy Sklar, Maria Schrader, and Graham Sullivan** for the considerable time and care they have devoted to this process. Special shout out to **Kelsey Miller** and **Cheryl Canedo** who do excellent work all year to track exactly what we generate and spend in a year! As we begin a new fiscal year, it is important to remember that every staff member, volunteer, trustee, member, donor, and patron plays a role in ensuring that Mechanics Hall remains a vibrant and sustainable community resource. Thank you for all you do to support this work and our shared future! If you ever have questions regarding the budget or finances at Mechanics Hall, I encourage you to reach out.

WEDNESDAY:

On June 17, we held the Environmental Justic Summit, co-hosted by the Massachusetts Office of Environmental Justice and Equity and Attorney General's Office.

The summit brings together Environmental Justice leaders, Tribal and Indigenous representatives, community advocates, government, and philanthropy to strengthen collective action for EJ in Massachusetts and to keep it grounded in community leadership and lived experience.



THURSDAY:

On June 18, the Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts celebrated the outstanding accomplishments of the Class of 2026 Gold Awards (grades 9-12) and Silver Awards (grades 6-8). This is the highest recognition that Girls Scouts offers. The event featured Keynote Speaker Hank Phillippi Ryan.

Poll:

Did you know that we had an intern start this week?

Isabella Rossi is from **Union College**, majoring in Economics with a minor in Theatre. She will be completing an 8-week (30 hrs/week) internship on Arts Administration this summer. Please welcome her aboard!

Did you have an internship before entering the workforce? Where? What was the best part of the experience?

SATURDAY:



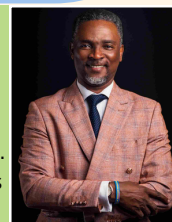
23rd Annual Asian Festival, presented by the Southeast Asian Coalition of Central MA, was held on Saturday. This event was free and open to the public and offered performances, games, food, including 50 community vendors who tabled at the event. The event was a day-long celebration of the cultures and traditions of Southeast Asia. Shoutout to **Amy and Olivia** for nailing down the details on this complex event and the **volunteers** who worked on a beautiful day.

FACILITIES:

Much of the work done by our **Facilities Team** is done behind-the-scenes. Saturday's SEAC Asian Festival required a long, difficult flip from the Girl Scouts event on Thursday (while trying to maintain a true day off for the Juneteenth holiday). The event required significant requests in the Great Hall (50 vendor tables and over 100 chairs after many changes and updates). **Joe O'Casio** made the magic work with his years of experience, though it was no easy task. The rest of the team did endless amounts of physical labor **using the fire stairwells to bring tables from storage on different floors to the Great Hall** due to a down freight elevator. This is just one recent example of the passion our **Facilities Team** has for keeping promises to our clients. We are grateful for their tireless efforts last weekend. Please take a moment to thank them and let them know their work does not go unnoticed.

SUNDAY:

Abraham Lamptey Ministries Worldwide hosted an inter-faith service in the Great Hall. Apostle Abraham Lamptey is a well-known Ghanaian pastor and evangelist who is founder and leader of the Believers House Of Worship International. He is also the founder of the Abraham Lamptey Ministries, which is dedicated to spreading the gospel and ministering to people around the world.



MEETINGS:

June 15: I met with **Tanner Bolton Harris**, a potential new trustee and Human Resources professional at **Saint-Gobain**. Formerly the Norton Company, Saint-Gobain and Mechanics Hall share a deep Worcester connection dating back to the Industrial Revolution.

June 16: Finance & Executive Committee met on Zoom to review the FY27 budget before the full board vote on 6/23. I also want to mention that **Graham** attended the **Mass Energy Summit** hosted by Worcester Business Journal on this day- we're working hard to reduce our energy costs!

June 17: Chris and I met with **Reagan Paras** (Artistic Director for Many Voices Youth Singers). Due to a new opportunity in CT and a need to spend more time with family, Reagan is stepping away from MVYS and Salisbury Singers. We wish him all the best and are grateful that he took some time to speak with us about the future of MVYS.

I also met with **Patricia Davidson** (MH trustee and attorney at **Mirick Law**) on Wednesday about her experience on the board. Over the last 11 months, I have been trying to meet 1:1 with all our trustees. Many thanks to **Heather** and **Monica** for their help in setting up these meetings!

WE HOPE ALL THE HALL DADS HAD A HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!