



Cultural District

East Somerville



What is a Cultural District?

From Mass Cultural Council: *Launched in 2011 by an act of the state legislature, Cultural Districts drive economic growth, strengthen our distinctive local character, and improve the quality of life of families across Massachusetts. By supporting arts, humanities, and science organizations, Cultural Districts attract tourists and entrepreneurs, which in turn help communities foster their cultural sector and expand their tax base.*



What makes up a Cultural District?

From Mass Cultural Council:

- *A cultural district is a specific area in a city or town.*
- *It has a number of cultural facilities, activities, and assets.*
- *It is a walkable, compact area.*
- *It is easy for visitors and residents to recognize.*
- *It is a hub of cultural, artistic and economic activity.*

Boston's Latin Quarter

Cultural District is Centre St. from the Connolly Library to Jackson Square

Local Businesses

3. El Oriental de Cuba
4. El Mundo Newspaper
5. Tails Pet Supply Store / Brendan Behan Pub
6. Ultra Beauty Salon
7. Blue Nile
8. Fat Ram's Pumpkin Tattoo
9. Vasallo Fashion
10. Alex's Chimis
17. Fernandez Barbershop
18. Gondres Bakery
20. Franklin CD

Housing

12. Betsaida Gutierrez Coop
22. Bromley-Heath Housing/Mildred C. Hailey Apartments
24. Urban Edge (CDC)

Public Resources

1. Mary E Curley School
2. Connolly Library
14. Hennigan School
15. John F. Kennedy Elementary School
16. Mozart Park
23. Jackson T Stop
25. Southwest Corridor

Cultural Organizations

11. JP Arts and Civic Center
13. Hyde Square Task Force
26. Spontaneous Celebrations

Non Profits

19. Hyde-Jackson Main Strs.
21. Martha Elliott Health Cntr
27. Nurture Child Care



List of Cultural Districts in MA

Amherst Center Cultural District - Hampshire County

Aquinnah Circle Cultural & Historic District - Martha's Vineyard

Arlington Cultural District- Greater Boston

Barnstable Village Cultural District- Cape Cod

Beverly Arts District - North of Boston

Boston Literary Cultural District - City of Boston

Boston's Latin Quarter - City of Boston

Canalway Cultural District - Greater Merrimack Valley

Central Square Cultural District - Greater Boston

Concord Center Cultural District - Greater Merrimack Valley

Cottage Street Cultural District - Hampshire County

Crossroads Cultural District - Franklin County

Downtown Lynn Cultural District - North of Boston

Essex River Cultural District - North of Boston

Fenway Cultural District - City of Boston

Glass Town Cultural District - Cape Cod

Great Barrington Cultural Distirct - The Berkshires

Harbortown Cultural District - North of Boston

HyArts Cultural District - Cape Cod

Lenox Cultural District- The Berkshires

Marlborough Downtown Village Cultural District - Metro West

Maynard Cultural District - Greater Merrimack Valley

Nantucket Cultural District - Nantucket Island

Natick Center Cultural District - Metro West

Newburyport Cultural District - North of Boston

North Adams Cultural District - The Berkshires

Orleans Cultural District - Cape Cod

Paradise City Cultural District - Hampshire County

Plymouth Bay Cultural District - Plymouth County

Provincetown Cultural District - Cape Cod

Riverfront Cultural District - North of Boston

Rockport Cultural District - North of Boston

Rocky Neck Cultural District - North of Boston

Roxbury Cultural District - City of Boston

Salisbury Cultural District - South-Central Massachusetts

Scituate Harbor Cultural District - Plymouth County

Seaport Cultural District - Southeastern Massachusetts

Shelburne Falls Cultural District - Franklin County

Shovel Town Cultural District - Southeastern Massachusetts

Springfield Central Cultural District - Greater Springfield

Town of Montague - Franklin County

Upstreet Cultural District - The Berkshires

Vineyard Haven Harbor Cultural District -Martha's Vineyard

Wellfleet Cultural District - Cape Cod

West Concord Junction Cultural District - Greater Merrimack Valley

Williamstown Cultural District - The Berkshires

***BOLD – Boston or Greater Boston**

Arlington Cultural District



Arlington Cultural District



The Arlington Cultural District is a hub for arts, culture, dining and entertainment. From Arlington Center to East Arlington's Capitol Square, it showcases the town's natural beauty, history, contemporary arts and cultural offerings.



MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE

BROADWAY



MINUTEMAN BIKEWAY



Shop **Local** Arlington.
Eat **Local** Arlington.
Spend **Local** Arlington.
Celebrate **Local** Arlington.

Boston's Latin Quarter



Located in Jamaica Plain's Hyde/Jackson Square, the Latin Quarter is a dynamic cultural district where Latino immigrants, primarily from the Caribbean, have thrived for decades. The area has more than 125 businesses, 65% of which are immigrant owned. In Boston's Latin Quarter one will find crowded Dominican barbershops, Latina beauty salons, bright murals, sculptures, Latin American travel agencies, cuisine from various cultures, and corner bodegas, all while cars cruise by blasting the latest bachata song. El Oriental de Cuba, a destination restaurant, and El Mundo Boston, Boston's leading Spanish-language newspaper, are located in the district.



JUL 24 Summer Series - Neighborhood Table
Public - Hosted by Hyde Square Task Force and Boston's Latin Quarter



JUL 31 Summer Series - Feel the Rhythm
Public - Hosted by Hyde Square Task Force and 2 others



AUG 7 Summer Series - Movie Night
Public - Hosted by Hyde Square Task Force and Boston's Latin Quarter

Central Square



The mission of the Central Square Business Association is to support a lively cultural and business district and to enhance the quality of experience in Central Square.

Cambridge Arts River Festival 2015
Past(06/6/2015) 12:00PM - 6:00PM
All Ages
Central Square Cultural District

26th Cambridge Carnival International
Past(09/9/2018) 12:00PM - 7:00PM
Free With Registration
Central Square Cultural District



Central Flea
Past(07/30/2017)
Central Square Cultural District

Cambridge Carnival International, Cambridge's largest festival, is held in Central Square, Cambridge, MA. Cambridge Carnival, rooted in African and Caribbean traditions, is a colorful and festive celebration that honors the contributions of local Caribbeans through the arts, food, and culture. The FREE festival, embarking on its 26th year, is a Cambridge Institution and is the largest festival in Cambridge, with over 100,000 attendees. The highlight of the festival is an elaborate costume parade accompanied by rich rhythmic musicality promoting all types of cultures. Participants can be seen as revelers masquerading through the streets in dazzling handmade costumes, dancing to the beat of the Carnival while partaking in international foods, and purchasing multicultural crafts from around the world!

What's in it for East Somerville?

- Promote the area as a cultural hub – celebrate our unique character
- Awareness of assets including local businesses, non-profits and events already happening
- Make the area attractive to new businesses and artists (fill our vacant storefronts)
- Funding (not guaranteed) to program the district



How to be designated?



There are three stages to the application process:

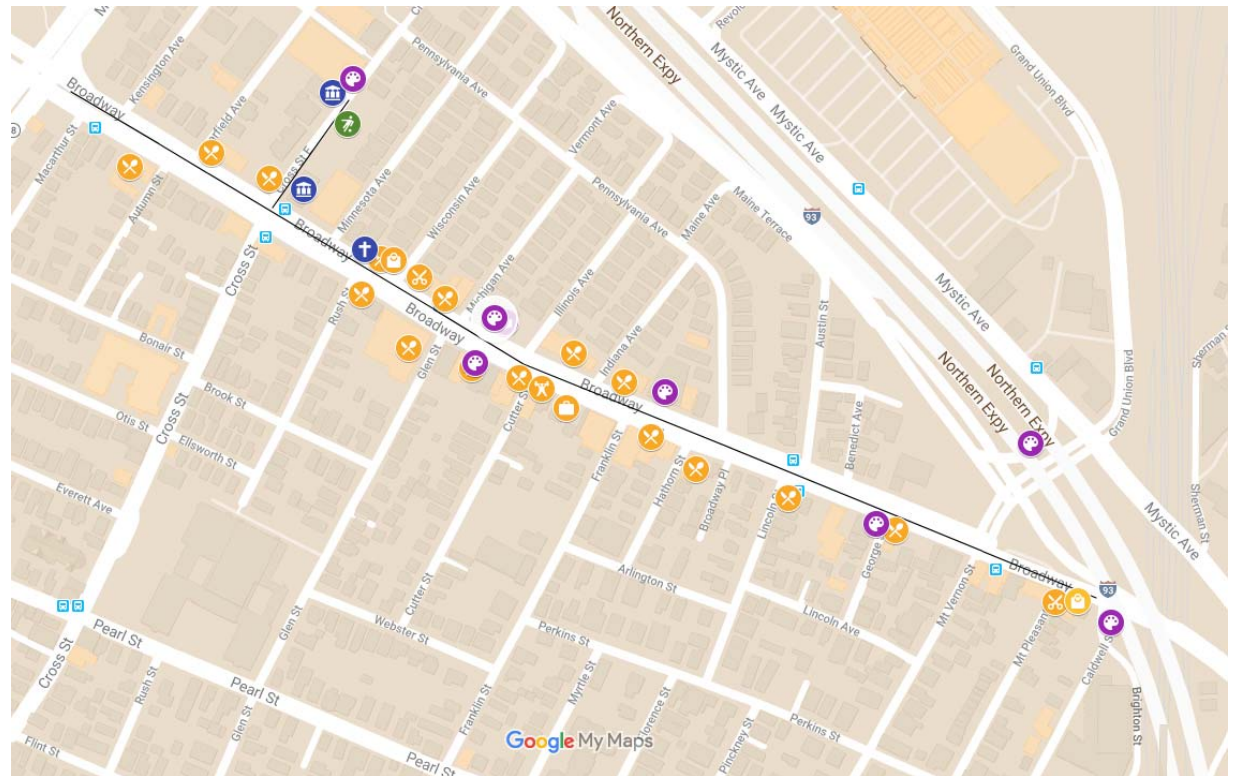
1. Confirm that your city or town is eligible
2. Complete the application
 - **Agree on a map your proposed district**
 - Must be walkable & have defined boundaries
 - **List of assets within proposed district**
 - Cultural Institutions, Culturally Significant Businesses, Events, Historic Assets, Public Space & Amenities
3. Complete a site visit
 - MCC visits and makes recommendations
 - MCC approves – official recognition by the state



Proposed area for Cultural District

Cultural Assets of East Somerville:

- Mudflat Ceramic Studio
- Public Art (murals & mosaic)
- Cultural Spaces (Connexion)
- Public Nodes (Parks & Senior Center)
- Immigrant-owned businesses (International Restaurants)



Assets in East Somerville

- **Businesses:** International Restaurants
 - Historic Restaurant: Mount Vernon
- **Non-profits:** Mudflat, Teen Empowerment, Project Soup, Welcome Project, Connexion, El Sistema Somerville
- **City (Civic Assets):** Senior Center, Library, Chuckie Harris Park
- **Cultural Events & Programs:** East Egg Hunt, Porchfest, Historic Walking Tours, Neighborhood Clean-ups, Carnaval, Movie Nights, Foodie Crawl, Halloween Bloc Party, Illuminations, Open Studios, Community Meal, Library programs, etc.
- **Public Art:** Murals, library mosaic, telephone box art, windows art, etc.



Questions or Comments?

- Is this something you (the community) think would be valuable?
- How do you see this being useful or not to East Somerville?
- If approved for a cultural district - What would you like to see come from this project for East Somerville?

