



# WESTPORT CULTURAL COUNCIL

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**Contact information:**

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**For Immediate Release:**

**April 17, 2015**  
**Helen E. Ellis Trust Grant**

The Westport Cultural Council is pleased to announce \$23,000 in grants awarded to 18 non-profit organizations and artists through the Helen E. Ellis Trust. The Council reviewed all applicants and selected those that promise to engage the citizens of Westport with creative, innovative programs and benefit a wide variety of neighborhoods and ages.

Westport resident Helen E. Ellis (1889-1987) had a lifelong dedication to the arts and culture. Miss Ellis cultivated community-wide interests and encouraged others to develop their creative talents. She was elected to the National Association of Women Artists and Sculptors. The Helen E. Ellis Trust was established to carry on her mission and honor her memory.

Each year the Westport Cultural Council solicits ideas and applications for programs that will enrich our community. This year we are excited to support musical concerts, school programs, artists in residence, and open studio tours. Nature and science programs offer a special highlight of the summer season.

**Grants for 2015 have been awarded to:**

- Helfand Farm Community Gardens – Cooking the Season's Harvest
- Paskamansett Bird Club – World of Birds Presentation by Bird Photographer
- Westport Elementary – 1st Grade Trip to New Bedford Art Museum/Artworks!
- Westport Community Schools – Professional Development / Student Film Festival
- Westport Historical Society – Artisan Fair
- Westport Public Library - Chamber Music Concert
- Westport Public Library - Magic Show and Music for Families
- Westport Elementary School – 4th Grade Student Trip to Fuller Craft Museum
- Westport Kindergarten – Artists-In-Residence and Student Performance
- Nancy Burkholder – Publish Local History Book “Poetry of Stone in Westport”
- Tom Whalen, Film Producer/Teacher – Summer Film Production Youth Workshop
- Westport Non-Profit Groups – Summer Passport Project for Youth
- South Coast Artists – Open Studios Tours
- Westport Art Group – Summer Camp Student Scholarships
- Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary – Summer Celebration / Educational Display
- Westport High School – Drama Club
- Westport River Watershed Alliance – Annual River Day Festival
- Westport Land Conservation Trust – Concert at Westport Town Farm

**For more information about the Westport Cultural Council, please visit**

**[www.westportculturalcouncil.org](http://www.westportculturalcouncil.org)**