

Middletown Presenters

ARTFARM
www.art-farm.org

Artists for World Peace
www.artistsforworldpeace.org

CT Gilbert & Sullivan Society
www.ctgands.org

CT Poetry Society
www.ctpoetry.net

Ekklesia School of Ballet
www.ekklesiaballet.org

Every Note Counts Music Program
www.everynotecounts.org

FREE CENTER
www.freecenter.us

Futures Inc.
www.Futures-ct.org

Greater Middletown Military Museum
www.gmvmm.com

Jewett Center for Community
www.wesleyan.edu/jccp

Middletown Arts Fest
www.facebook.com/middletownartsfest

Middlesex Hospital Vocal Chords
www.vocalchords20.org

Middletown Pride
www.middletownpride.org

Middletown Stage Company
www.middletownstagecompany.org

Middletown Symphonic Band
www.middletownsymphonicband.org

Oddfellows Playhouse Youth Theater
www.oddfellows.org

Resonant Motion
www.resonantmotion.org

The Buttonwood Tree Performing Arts Center
www.buttonwood.org

The Greater Middletown Chorale
www.gmchorale.org

The Greater Middletown Concert Association
www.greatermiddletownconcerts.org

Theater Makers Lab
www.theatermakerslab.org

Wadsworth Mansion at Long Hill Estate
www.wadsworthmansion.com

WESU 88.1 FM
www.wesufm.org

Vinnie's Jump and Jive
www.vinniesjumpandjive.com



MIDDLETOWN COMMISSION ON THE ARTS

Meetings are held at 5:00 p.m.
the 4th Wednesday of every month

City Hall, Room 208
245 deKoven Drive
Middletown, CT 06457

Hybrid/WebEx
Public session is held at the beginning of the agenda.

City of Middletown Arts & Culture Office
Arts & Culture Coordinator, Municipal Staff
Room B-11, Municipal Bldg.
245 deKoven Drive
Middletown, CT 06457
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www.middletownct.gov/arts
arts@middletownct.gov
www.facebook.com/CityArtsOffice

Mission Statement

Recognizing the essential value of the arts and artists in the cultural, educational, social and economic vitality of Middletown, the Commission supports artistic excellence, fosters cultural development through the arts, and increases public understanding of, participation in and support for the arts in Middletown, contributing to an improved quality of life for all citizens, enhancing the image of the City and meeting the needs of the varied constituencies.



Mayor Benjamin D. Florsheim



MIDDLETOWN COMMISSION ON THE ARTS

Serving the citizens of the City of Middletown, Connecticut
through arts and cultural opportunities.



Arts & Culture

About the Commission

The City of Middletown Commission on the Arts was established by City Ordinance in March of 1972. It is known today as the City of Middletown Commission on the Arts (MCA). It is now comprised of thirteen Commissioners; two ad hoc members of the Common Council and eleven citizens from the community who are appointed for three-year terms by the Mayor.

The Commission conducts its business through monthly meetings held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. in City Hall, room 208. The administration of the Commission's business is conducted by the municipal staff of the City's Arts & Culture Office.

For over 50 years, the Commission has maintained a program of encouraging interest and participation in the arts by providing services, resources, information and events to and for artists, organizations and the general public.

Municipal Arts Grant Award Program

The MCA welcomes grant applications for programs and/or projects that enrich the lives of Middletown residents through arts and cultural related activities and programs. The intent of the Municipal Arts Grant Award Program is to provide eligible applicants support for arts and cultural projects, events and activities that benefit Middletown residents.

Annual Events

- **Concerts and special events** are performed for free and held on the City's showmobile.
- **4th of July Fireworks Festival** is presented annually over the Connecticut River featuring live music and food vendors.

Kids Arts/The Children's Circus of Middletown

The Children's Circus of Middletown delivers a unique blend of traditional summer camp with the excitement of an immersive, arts-based environment to local young people every year since 1990. Presented by Oddfellows Playhouse Youth Theater, this 5-week interdisciplinary full-day program culminates in a spectacular circus performance presented to families, friends and community members. The Children's Circus is sponsored in part by the City of Middletown and presented by Oddfellows Playhouse Youth Theater, serving kids ages 5-15 yrs.

City Art Collection

The City's Art Collection is a unique Middletown asset that brightens up our building and has been viewed by thousands of people. It is a permanent collection of art works purchased from local artists, and the collection can be viewed in the halls of the Municipal Building, Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., excluding state and federal holidays.

MCA Accolades

Arts Advocacy Award

The MCA presents an Arts Advocacy Award annually to an individual, group and/or organization group who has significantly contributed to the cultural and artistic enrichment and/or has shown extraordinary support and initiative for the arts in Middletown.

MHS Senior Art Award

The MCA recognizes the ongoing excellence of the art program in the Middletown Public Schools. This award, seeks to encourage young people to pursue a career in the visual arts. Each year, a panel of three commissioners select an outstanding work of art from the Middletown High School Senior class. The winning artist receives an award at the MHS Senior Awards Assembly. The art work is then displayed in City Hall for the following year.

Music Ambassador Award

The City annually highlights a local musical talent to a resident musician/ composer, conferring the award of Music Ambassador. Each has their own style and each claims Middletown as home. Their music is featured as our music on hold when you call any City office.

Poet Laureate

The City of Middletown Poet Laureate program is designed to foster public appreciation of and participation in poetry and literary arts activities in schools, colleges and the local literary community. The City has honored two poets since its inaugural year in 2015, the late Susan D.E. Allison (2015-2018) and Cheryl Anne Hale (2019-2022).

Resources in the Arts

Middlesex County

- Community Foundation of Middlesex County
 - Middletownct.gov/arts
 - [Facebook.com/cityartsoffice](https://www.facebook.com/cityartsoffice)
 - Shoreline Arts Alliance

State and National

- Americans for the Arts
- Connecticut Arts Alliance
- Connecticut Council for Philanthropy
 - Connecticut Humanities
 - Connecticut Office of the Arts
 - Creative Ground
- National Archive of Data on Arts & Culture
- National Assembly of State Arts Agencies
 - National Council of Non Profits
 - National Endowment for the Arts
- National Endowment for the Humanities
- New England Foundation for the Arts

Galleries, Libraries, & Museums

City Art Collection at the Municipal Building
www.middletownct.gov

Godfrey Memorial Library
www.godfrey.org

KidCity Children's Museum
www.kidcitymuseum.com

CT State Community College–
Middlesex Pegasus Gallery, The Niche Gallery
www.mxcc.edu/art-exhibits

Middlesex County Historical Society
www.mchscct.org

Russell Library
www.russelllibrary.org

Wesleyan University
CFA/Davison Art Center/Zilkha Gallery
www.wesleyan.edu/cfa

Local Arts Businesses & Galleries

Caffery's Dance and Gymnastics Studio
www.cafferys.net

Coffeehouse Recording Studio
www.thecoffeehouse.net

Fred Astaire Dance Studio
www.fredastaire.com/middletown

Klekolo World Coffee
klekoloworldcoffee.com

Middletown Framing
www.middletownframing.com

Middlesex Music Academy
www.middlesex-music-academy.com

RJ Julia Independent Booksellers
<https://www.rjjulia.com>

Stage Left Dance Studio
www.empowermovement.org

The Library Studio
www.librarystudioct.com

Ursel's Web
www.urselsweb.com

Wesleyan Potters, Inc.
www.wesleyanpotters.com

Business Connectors

Downtown Business District (DBD)
www.downtownmiddletown.com

Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce
www.middlesexchamber.com