

For Immediate Release

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Cape Ann Community Foundation Announces 2024 Grant Recipients at June 6 *Candlepins for a Cause* Celebration

The Cape Ann Community Foundation (CACF) announced its 2024 grant recipients on June 6 at the first-ever *Candlepins for a Cause* event at Cape Ann Lanes.

More than 90 bowlers and dozens more supporters came together to celebrate the non-profit organizations and community programs funded by the Foundation. Since its inception in 2015, the Foundation has awarded more than 50 grants totalling over \$100,000 to Cape Ann non-profit organizations.

This year's grant recipients are:

- Essex Historical Society & Shipbuilding Museum – the Foundation's grant will support a program aimed at helping 5th graders transition to a unified middle school, intertwining art, science and engineering while promoting community connection and environmental responsibility; Natasha Taylor represented the museum at the event
- Gloucester High School Vocational Tech – this grant will support the school's integrated Workforce Development and Financial Empowerment programs; Career/Vocational Technical Education Coordinator Brenda Waslick represented the Voc Tech at the event
- Manchester by the Sea Museum – the Foundation's grant will support the museum's new seasonal "Tea by the Sea" venture, which will offer visitors both light refreshments and information on sightseeing and tourist attractions; Matthew Swindell and Sue Thompson represented the museum at the event
- Manchester by the Sea Summer Stage – this grant will support a program that enables young people to participate in professional-caliber theater productions

- Ocean Alliance – the grant will support Ocean Alliance’s focus on marine research, community engagement, blue economy development and environmental sustainability; Allyson Wyle represented Ocean Alliance at the event
- Rockport Public Library – the Foundation’s grant will support STEAM programs for elementary and middle school students, art and storytimes for preschoolers, community service and art opportunities for teens, and family concerts; Emily Souza represented the library at the event
- Rocky Neck Art Colony – this grant will support the production of a video that showcases art colony activities and cultural venues across Cape Ann; CEO Elizabeth Carey and Trustee Susan Alvey represented the art colony at the event
- Sargent House Museum – this Foundation grant will support programming that will focus on the history of enslavement on Cape Ann, including a Downtown Gloucester walking tour and a community-wide book club; representing Sargent House Museum at the event was Board President Jeremy Melvin

These eight grant recipients were selected by the Foundation’s board from the more than 40 grant applications received during this April’s proposal submission period.

At the June 6 event, the Foundation also honored former Board President Ruth Pino, who led the organization since it was founded in 2015. In January, Gloucester attorney Britta Cahoon and Blue Shutters Beachside Inn owner Tony Sapienza were named board co-chairs, succeeding Pino.

The *Candlepins for a Cause* event included 15 teams, representing businesses and organizations across Cape Ann, including:

- BankGloucester
- Cape Ann Savings Bank
- Cape Ann Motor Inn
- The Greater Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce Board
- The Chamber’s Tourism Council
- Gloucester Marine Genomics Institute
- The Manchester-Essex Rotary
- The North Shore Health Project
- Pratty’s
- The Works

- And other teams organized by Foundation board members

Based on the success of this year's event, the Foundation plans to make *Candlepins for a Cause* an annual celebration centered around the announcement of its grant recipients.

"We were thrilled by the support for the Foundation and our grant recipients demonstrated by bowling teams drawn from businesses and other organizations across Cape Ann," said Cahoon. "This *Candlepins for a Cause* event spotlighted the Foundation's efforts to enhance Cape Ann's economic environment and improve the overall quality of life by supporting organizations like this year's grant recipients."

"This was a milestone night not only for the Cape Ann Community Foundation, but for the important programs we support," said Sapienza. "Most are aware of the Foundation's management and promotion of the Cape Ann License Plate and our use of plate revenues to fund important community programs. *Candlepins for a Cause* demonstrated how the Foundation continues this work while finding new ways for Cape Ann to support its charitable efforts."

About the Cape Ann Community Foundation

The Cape Ann Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization established in 2015 by the Cape Ann Chamber of Commerce to manage and award grants from the proceeds from sales of the Cape Ann License Plate. The Foundation has used revenue from plate sales, donations, and other funding sources to award over 50 grants totalling more than \$100,000 to Cape Ann non-profit organizations, with a focus on enhancing the economic environment and the overall quality of life of the region.

To learn more about supporting the Foundation, the Cape Ann license plate, and the organizations funded by CACF grants, visit the Foundation website at www.lovecapeann.com.

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