

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, ARTS AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT  
MASSACHUSETTS STATE HOUSE  
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Chairwoman Representative Sarah K. Peake (D-Provincetown) and Chairwoman Senator Eileen Donoghue (D-Lowell) both of the Joint Committee on Tourism, Arts, and Cultural Development announced today that the fifth annual "Artists Under the Dome event" will be held on November 17th at the State House.

The free event will provide artists of all disciplines with the opportunity to become more engaged with State House Officials. The 2011 event is brought to you by the Joint Committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development, the Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies, Treasurer Steve Grossman, the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, the Joint Committee of Community Development and Small Businesses, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Cultural Caucus, and the Massachusetts Artists Leaders Coalition.

"The cultural sector and those who work in the creative economy contribute so much to Massachusetts; to our economy, to our schools, and to our humanity, yet this is often overlooked. I'm looking forward to welcoming all artists to the State House to celebrate their accomplishments and to work collaboratively to support and enhance their work." said Representative Peake.

"The arts and cultural communities are vital to the well-being of Massachusetts," said Senator Donoghue. "We are thrilled to welcome artists from across the Commonwealth to the State House so we can recognize and celebrate their role in tourism, job creation, and their numerous benefits to local communities."

"We have hit a real milestone as this is the 5th Annual Artists Under the Dome Event for Massachusetts artists of all disciplines" said Kathleen Bitetti, artists and co-founder of [artistsunderthedome.org](http://artistsunderthedome.org) and the Massachusetts Artists Leaders Coalition. "No other state in our country invites their visual artists, craft artists, writers, performing artists and filmmakers to their state capitol to thank them for their work and contributions"

"Artists are at the center of the state's rich and vibrant cultural life and their economic, social and educational impact can be seen in every community in the Commonwealth" said Anita Walker, Executive Director of the MCC. "The annual Artists Under the Dome provides a unique opportunity for them to come together and discuss how state government can help create a supportive environment for them to thrive."

This event will be held from 10am to 3:00pm primarily in the Great Hall. A portion of the event will include remarks from legislators and other State officials. There will be time for networking at a bring-your-own brown bag lunch, time for the artists to visit their legislators offices and to participate in an afternoon discussion on protecting the rights and property of individuals and small businesses who create intellectual property.

Artists are strongly encouraged to RSVP for this event. For more information and to RSVP:  
[www.artistsunderthedome.org](http://www.artistsunderthedome.org)