



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bellforge Arts Center Awarded Historic Preservation Grant for Former Medfield State Hospital Infirmary

Medfield, MA – The Bellforge Arts Center is thrilled to announce the receipt of a \$9,300 matching grant from the Massachusetts Historic Preservation Matching Grant Program, administered by Preservation Massachusetts in partnership with The 1772 Foundation. This grant will support critical exterior restoration work on the former Medfield State Hospital Infirmary, a key component of our ongoing efforts to preserve and revitalize historic spaces for community use.

The grant is part of a competitive program that saw over \$303,000 requested in funding this year. Bellforge Arts Center is one of only sixteen organizations across Massachusetts to receive this honor in a highly competitive field, emphasizing the importance of our project in the broader context of state and national preservation efforts.

"We are deeply honored to receive this grant, which will help us preserve the architectural integrity and historical significance of the former Medfield State Hospital Infirmary," said Jean Mineo, Executive Director of Bellforge Arts Center. "This funding not only supports our preservation efforts but also reaffirms our commitment to revitalizing the Bellforge campus as a vibrant hub for arts, culture, and community engagement."

The grant funds will be used to address urgent exterior restoration needs at the former infirmary, ensuring that it can continue to serve as a valuable asset for community arts programming and events. The project underscores Bellforge Arts Center's dedication to integrating cultural heritage into the fabric of everyday community life, making the arts accessible to all.

"We extend our deepest thanks to The 1772 Foundation and Preservation Massachusetts for their support and recognition of our work. This grant is a testament to the strength of our mission and the community's desire to see this historic site preserved for future generations," added Renana Kehoe, Director of Development.

The Bellforge Arts Center looks forward to continuing its work with local partners and the community to ensure the successful restoration and integration of this historic building into our expanding suite of cultural and artistic programming.

For more information about Bellforge Arts Center and our projects, please visit bellforge.org.

About Bellforge Arts Center:

Bellforge Arts Center is a dynamic multi-arts complex located in Medfield, Massachusetts, offering a range of arts and cultural events, educational programs, and community activities designed to foster creativity and community engagement. Housed on the historic grounds of the former Medfield State Hospital, Bellforge is committed to the preservation of historical architecture and the promotion of the arts within the community.