



**ISLIP ARTS COUNCIL**

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

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate release

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Islip Arts Council receives a grant from the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation to bring Art and Music to Historic Homes and sacred houses of worship in the Town of Islip.

*Funds will support a public program entitled **Music and Art in Historic Houses.***

East Islip – The Islip Arts Council has been awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation to support a public program of art and music in historic houses, including sacred houses of worship for the calendar year 2020. This innovative programming is needed to enhance public visitation to the historic homes and introduce a new purpose for visitation to the venue. “This award is viewed as a model for future collaborations between Long Island’s art organizations and our historic stewards. Programs such as this one offered by the Islip Arts Council will bring new audiences to historic settings, leading to greater community outreach and engagement. Inclusion of the Arts can repurpose a historic setting and bring it new life,” said Kathryn M. Curran, Executive Director of the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation.

The art exhibitions will be in the form of an Open Call – a customary open call is available to all participants to enter, regardless of expertise. Each open call will be curated by a team of curators who are also members of the Art Advisory Board of the Islip Arts Council Board of Directors. This grant will be used in part to award a stipend to the curatorial team members, as well as to pay musicians for their performances during a concert. Additionally, this grant will enable the Islip Arts Council to purchase needed exhibition materials to be used in the various venues where art exhibitions are not the norm.

For each site, the Islip Arts Council, through this grant, will award the historical society (managing agency of the venue) or the sacred house of worship – a small fee for the use of their venue.

The Islip Arts Council is the managing agency of the Islip Art Museum which is owned by the Town of Islip. Both the arts council and the museum have been in existence since 1976 and are in Historic Brookwood Hall in East Islip.

The Robert David Lion Gardner Foundation was founded in 2004 and supports the study of Long Island and New York history’s role in the American experience.