

Official Name/Title of Department:

Commission on the Arts and Culture Activities of the City of Middletown (6/7/1976)
City of Middletown Commission on the Arts (5/6/2002)

The City of Middletown Commission on the Arts & Cultural Activities was founded by resolution on March 6, 1972 (copy attached); with an ordinance established on June 7, 1976.

Current Commission on the Arts Ordinance, Adopted by the Common Council, 5/6/2002

Sec. 24-1. Middletown Commission on the Arts (MCA): Established; Membership; Appointment; Terms of Office: Chairman; Vice-Chairman; Secretary.

There shall be a Commission known as the Middletown Commission on the Arts (MCA). The Commission shall consist of eleven members; not more than seven of whom shall be registered members of the same political party; who shall be appointed by the Mayor, with the consent of the Common Council. In addition to the eleven members of the Commission, there shall be two ad hoc members of the Commission from the Common Council; one from each political party, which ad hoc members shall have the right to vote but shall not be counted in determining a quorum of the Commission. The Common Council members shall serve only during their terms of office as Council members and upon the expiration of such terms of office, vacancies shall exist which shall be filled by the Mayor with the consent of the Common Council.

Members of the Commission shall serve for a term of three years commencing July 1 of the year of appointment. Each vacancy shall be forthwith filled by the Mayor with the consent of the Common Council for the unexpired portion of the term of the member whose place shall become vacant. At its first meeting subsequent to July 1 of each year, the Commission shall elect a Chairman, Vice Chairman and a Secretary.
(6/7/76; 7/7/80; 8/3/92; 5/6/02)

Sec. 24-2. Middletown Commission on the Arts: General Purposes; Duties.

The purpose of the Commission shall be to promote, stimulate and encourage general interest and participation in the sharing and expression of cultural traditions within the community and in the creative, performing and visual arts among the citizens of and in the City of Middletown. The Commission shall establish such bylaws, rules and regulations as may be necessary to achieve the purposes set out herein. The Commission shall prepare a monthly arts calendar and make a semi-annual report to the Mayor and the Common Council.

(6/7/76; 7/7/80; 6/2/97; 5/6/02)

Sec. 24-3. Merger of the Office of Arts and Culture into the Office of the Mayor.

In accordance with Chapter V, Section 1B and Chapter III, Section 6 of the Charter of the City of Middletown, the Office of Arts and Culture is merged into the Office of the Mayor.

(4/20/98; 5/28/98)

Mission Statement

The City of Middletown Commission on the Arts (MCA) is a municipal agency. 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 its varied constituencies.

Critical Success Factors

- The availability and management of sufficient resources (funds, personnel, facilities, equipment, volunteers, information and knowledge)
- Communication and coordination with public and private components (organizations, business, departments, etc.)
- Participation and involvement of Arts & Culture Commission members
- Public awareness and support
- Awareness of local, state and national trends, social conditions and laws and compliance with legal factors
- The availability of opportunities for sharing, public participation and celebration
- The availability of effective formats of mass media and information distribution
- Consistency and accountability in policies, procedures and legislation
- The availability of quality and affordable services
- Continuing systems of planning and evaluation

Revised: November 19, 2003

Department Heads and Term of Office

Sybil Paton	1978 - 1979
Corinne Gill, Coordinator	1979 – 1998
Stephan Allison, Coordinator	1999– 2018
Kisha Michael, Coordinator	2018-present

Current and Past Locations of the Department

Current location	Municipal Building, Room B-11
Apr 23, 2007 – present	100 Riverview Center, Suite #140
Aug 2004 – Apr 2007	Municipal Building, Room B-19
Jan 2003 – Aug 2004	Municipal Building, 245 deKoven Drive, Room 114
July 2000 – Dec 2002	51 Green Street
1999 – July 2000	Municipal Building, Mayor’s Office
July 1991 - 1999	Moved to Municipal Building, 245 deKoven Drive, Room B-25
August 1987	Moved to 62 Washington Street
October 1983	Moved to Spencer Municipal Annex, Westfield Street
July 1982	Moved to Stillman Municipal Annex, 62 Loveland Street
Feb/Mar 1979	Commission office moved from 179 Main Street (staff-U.S. Bicentennial Committee) to Fraternal Order of Oddfellows, corner of Main and College Street (now Thai Gardens).

Revised – April 2007

Business Hours

8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
8:30am – noon, Monday through Friday (part time hours effective 1999)

Constituencies/Areas Served

Adults and children of the City of Middletown