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**Cultural Center of Cape Cod Hosts European-Inspired Winter Holiday Market**

***Visitors will feel ‘transported to Munich or Strasbourg’ for a traditional holiday experience***

**For Immediate Release**

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**SOUTH YARMOUTH, Mass**. — The [Cultural Center of Cape Cod](https://www.cultural-center.org/) recreates the magic and tradition of European holiday markets with its inaugural Bass River Artisan Winter Market, featuring live events, delicious food and hand-crafted goods. Events run Thursday-Saturday, December 8-10 and 15-17.

“In past years, we held the Great Gifts holiday event. We have now transformed that into a delightful, old-time celebration featuring twice as many artisans as in previous years, plus demonstrations and other surprises. You’ll feel like you have transported to Munich or Strasbourg for a holiday experience that will delight your senses,” said Cultural Center of Cape Cod Director Molly Demeulenaere.

The Cultural Center of Cape Cod is a world-class arts hub housed in an historic building at 307 Old Main St., South Yarmouth. It attracts local and international artists exhibiting new works, and offers shows, classes, meetings and special events year-round. This year, it has hosted 23 art exhibitions and 65 concerts.

The Artisan Winter Market will feature 32 artisans selling beautifully hand-crafted holiday gifts. Several artisans, including the renowned [Cape Cod Woodturners](https://www.capecodwoodturners.org/), will lead demonstrations from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and again from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., over two weeks, Thursday through Sunday.

David Arnone, a member of the Cape Cod Woodturners – who also manages the Cultural Center’s popular Maker Space – says the holiday season in Bass River has “always been a time to meet and greet our many neighbors and local crafts people and share wishes of warm tidings for the season. It is a time when I am very pleased to be a part of this Town and our little village.”

Another Cape favorite, the Bass River Knitters, have spent the year crafting hats, scarves and mittens that will be displayed and for sale at the Winter Market. The Knitters donate the proceeds to the Cultural Center.

As part of this year’s Artisan Winter Market, the Yarmouth Police Foundation will hold its annual Wreath Auction. The wreaths, which are all created by local community members, are a long-standing tradition on Cape Cod. Visitors to the Market can view the hand-crafted wreaths up close and participate in a silent auction. Winning bidders will be announced on Sat., Dec. 10 at 7:00 p.m. Proceeds from the auction support the Foundation.

In addition to the artisans’ booths, the public is invited to explore the Cultural Center’s small artworks for sale, all hand-made by local artists.

On the entertainment front, the Celtic duo [Stanley and Grimm](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tqE-QHyDLiI) will perform their Celtic Christmas Family Celebration on Sat., Dec. 17, at 7:30 p.m. This concert is a long-standing holiday tradition on Cape Cod.

“Thirteen years ago, we played our first Celtic Christmas concert at the Cultural Center; the audience was fantastic, the space was beautiful, and the staff was so wonderful we’ve been back every year through blizzards and a pandemic,” said singer/guitarist Sean Brennan.

Other highlights of the Bass River Artisan Winter Market will include:

* **Opening Reception**: Shop the Cultural Center’s small artworks on display and watch the Cape Cod Woodturners in action. Stay for the tree lighting. Fri., Dec. 9, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
* **17th Annual Holiday Cookie Stroll** Stop by the Cultural Center for delicious cookies on Sat., Dec. 10, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
* **Intro to Old English Handbells Workshop** with [Norma Atwood](https://www.cultural-center.org/normaatwood), on Tues., Dec. 13, 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
* **A Christmas Carol Dinner with Chef Joe Cizynski**, on Thurs., Dec. 15, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
* **Dance Party** with[The Rip-It-Ups](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XfM41CJpE6c), on Fri., Dec. 16, 8:00 p.m.

Media photos are available [HERE](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/dafv862tl8odnxg/AABWXq2briHAc_rkC4DiUwr4a?dl=0).

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***About the Cultural Center of Cape Cod***

*The Cultural Center of Cape Cod is dedicated to enriching and transforming people’s lives through the visual arts, music, hands-on learning, cultural exploration and more. We welcome more than 25,000 people a year to our five galleries, five resident artist studios, performance hall, culinary arts center, recording studio, ceramics studio, makerspace and classrooms. In 2022, the Cultural Center will host more than 500 classes and 65 concerts. Learn more about the Cultural Center of Cape Cod at* [*www.cultural-center.org*](http://www.cultural-center.org/)*.*

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