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## Maine Bicentennial Commission awards final round of community grants

AUGUSTA – The Maine Bicentennial Commission (Maine200) recently awarded its third and final round of Bicentennial Community Grants,

With all three rounds of the grants now complete, the Commission has disbursed a total of \$667,429 assisting 170 successful applicants with their local bicentennial plans.

“The interest in this program has shown us that Mainers across the State are eager to embrace this bicentennial as an opportunity to reflect on our history and celebrate who we are today,” said Sen. Bill Diamond, chairman of the Maine Bicentennial Commission.

As the hallmark program of the Maine Bicentennial Commission, the [Bicentennial Community Grants program](#) is providing funding for bicentennial-themed projects that benefit the public, such as festivals, concerts, exhibits, historic preservation efforts, lectures and curriculum. The commission received grant applications from Maine community non-profit organizations, such as historical societies and libraries, arts and cultural organizations, towns and schools.

The Bicentennial Community Grants program has provided full or partial funding for both large and small projects in every county across the State of Maine.

This final round of more than \$80,000 in grants includes projects such as an art exhibit of Maine-shaped cutouts in downtown Milbridge; a re-enactment of the original Union Fair; and development of interactive driving tours highlighting Maine history.

“While our commemoration has been postponed due to the pandemic restrictions, we are confident that all of these grant recipients will realize their projects and events in 2021, and we can’t wait to see their successes,” said Sen. Diamond.

The grant awards process is administered by the Maine Arts Commission. A full listing of all grant recipients in each round is available on the [Bicentennial Community Grants page](#). For more information about the Maine Bicentennial Commission (Maine200) and its planned programs and events, visit [Maine200.org](#).

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