

Nancy Salmon
Freeport

My name is Nancy Salmon. I live in Freeport and am on the Board of Directors of the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Freeport (ACAF). ACAF was in the middle of comprehensive campaign to raise funds to renovate a historic church on Main Street to house an arts center. The renovated space will include a 200-seat performance space, an art gallery and a community meeting room. The COVID pandemic shut down our fundraising efforts but not our commitment to our community to create such a space for arts and cultural gatherings. It has delayed renovation completion, our opening and, thus, our ability to earn operational income and to help our downtown economic growth. We have persisted and will open Meetinghouse Arts at 40 Main Street this spring.

On behalf of ACAF, our Meetinghouse Arts project, and all the arts organizations and individual artists in our state, I urge you to pass this bill. Thank you.