

Arts & Culture: A Community Nicety or Necessity?

The Leadership South Shore Arts and Culture Program Day took place on July 26, 2017.

The day began at the South Shore Conservatory in Hingham with a panel discussion on the arts and the economy. Panel participants included Union Point's Director of Retail Management; Lisa Simmons of the Mass Cultural Council, Zoe Bradford and Alison Gordon of the Norwell Company Theatre; Lorna Norris, VP of Education for South Shore Conservatory and from the South Shore Arts Center, Executive Director, Patrice Maye. The discussion touched on resource allocation for the arts, arts as an indicator of a community's overall health, arts and culture as a driver of economic growth. In addition to the panel discussion the group was entertained with an amazing piano performance by a student of the Conservatory.



The group travelled by bus from Hingham to Plymouth, but this was not just any bus ride. During the trip Eve Montague, Director of Creative Arts Therapies at South Shore Conservatory led the group in a music exercise. LSS participants definitely "experience the learning".

At the Plymouth Center for the Arts, various representative of this vibrant art community discussed the growth of the arts and tourism in Plymouth – the challenges and the successes. Adding to the conversation were representatives from the Plymouth Philharmonic, The Spire Center for Performing Arts, Destination Plymouth and the Plymouth Area Chamber of Commerce.

By day's end, the Cohort deemed that the role of arts and culture in the community is more than just a nice add on, but rather the arts are an integral part of healthy communities.



Leadership
South Shore