

# PUBLIC EVENT/SPECIAL ALCOHOL LICENSE APPLICATION

City of Somerville, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Application #: PEL26-000024

File #: 26-008447

**Event Name:** Big Gay Dance Party

**Business Name:** Somerville Arts Council (Big Gay Dance Party)

**Application Type:** Public Event License

**Location:** 90 Union Square

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## APPLICANT

**Company Name:** Somerville Arts Council

**Contact Name:** Iaritza Menjivar

**Business Address:**

50 Evergreen Ave  
Somerville, MA 02145

**Home Address:**

50 Evergreen Ave  
Somerville, MA 02145

**Work Phone:**

**Email:** imenjivar@somervillema.gov

**Home Phone:**

**# of days:** 1

**Does this event occupy a public space or significantly affect nearby residents?:** Yes

**Are you the party applying for the Public Event License?:** Yes

**Describe the location in detail:** An outdoors event taking place in Union Square Plaza and partial use of Union Sq Municipal Lot. Closest address is 90 Union Square.

**In the last 5 years, have you been found guilty, liable, or responsible, in any judicial or administrative proceeding, for any violation of the City Wage Theft Ordinance or any State or Federal laws or regulations regulating the payment of wages?** [City Wage Theft Ordinance](#): No

**Date:** 06/27/2026

**Event Setup Begins:** 02:30 PM

**Start Time:** 04:30 PM

**End Time:** 08:30 PM

**Event Cleanup Ends:** 09:30 PM

**Do You Have a Proposed Rain Date for Your Public Event?:** Yes

**Date:** 06/28/2026

**Start Time:** 02:30 PM

**End Time:** 09:30 PM

**Organization name; if none, your name:** Somerville Arts Council and Health and Human Services

**Describe any social or cultural benefits of this event for Somerville residents :** The Big Gay Dance Party is an inclusive celebration that brings together Somerville residents to honor Pride Month through music, dance, and community connection. As part of the ArtsUnion event series, which enhances the cultural and economic vitality of Union Square, this free outdoor event creates a welcoming space for LGBTQ+ individuals and allies to express themselves freely, fostering a sense of belonging and visibility. Beyond being a joyful gathering, the event strengthens community bonds, promotes acceptance, and highlights Somerville's commitment to diversity and inclusion.

**Describe any financial benefits of this event for Somerville businesses or organizations:** By drawing attendees to Union Square, the Big Gay Dance Party supports local businesses and enriches the city's cultural landscape, reinforcing Somerville's reputation as an arts-friendly and socially progressive community.

**What is the budget for this event?:** 3,000

**Complete Mailing Address** : 50 Evergreen Ave Somerville, MA 02145

**Contact name for follow-up questions (Will be available to the public):** laritza Menjivar

**Email:** imenjivar@somervillema.gov

**Phone (Will be available to the public):** 857-270-4988

**Event Name** : Big Gay Dance Party

**Describe the Event:** This event is a small outdoor dance party to celebrate Pride month. We also feature performers and some interactive activities for all. We invite community groups to table.

**Describe any Entertainment at the Event (if none, type None):** There will be a DJ to spin tunes for the dance party. There will be pride flags decorating the plaza. We will also have a local artist showcasing their work and host LGBTQ+ focused organizations and community groups to table. There is also a drag queen and king performance.

**Describe any tents, inflatables, or other temporary structures to be used (if none, type None):** tables, 10x10 tents, chairs

**Describe any accessibility features available to attendees/participants:** Sidewalks and crosswalks will remain clear to ensure easy navigation. Designated accessible parking will be available. We will also have a reserved seating area with chairs, along with earplugs and water for those who may need them.

**Estimated maximum attendance at one time** : 300

**Estimated total number of people attending:** 500

**Estimated total number of Somerville residents attending** : 400

**Maximum number of attendees you will accommodate:** 500

**Attendee fees or suggested donations** : free

**Will this event be open to the public?:** Yes

**Describe your outreach/publicity:** Posters, Newsletter, online calendars, social media, Press Release.

**Will food be served?:** No

**Will a grill/open-flame device be used?** : No

**Will any streets be blocked?** : No

**Will any sidewalks be blocked?** : No

**Will any public parks be used?** : No

**Has this event occurred in the last two years?** : Yes

**If yes, prior dates** : June 22, 2024, June 21, 2025

**Police Detail** : No

**Parking for Attendees** : Yes

**If yes, describe::** The Union Sq Lot will be reserved for parking.

**Restrooms** : Yes

**If yes, please describe the restrooms being provided, and if you are providing portable toilets, state how they will be delivered and removed::** We will work with DPW to get one portable restroom. Typically they get dropped off on Friday and picked up on Monday.

**Liability Insurance** : No

### **Approval Conditions:**

**Reviewer:** Kevin Roche, Engineering, Approved with Conditions

1. Parking will be further reduced by additional outdoor seating that is not shown on plan. Event layout is otherwise approved.

**Reviewer:** Charles Breen, Fire Prevention, Approved with Conditions

1. Please make sure that emergency access remains open for Sanborn Court.

**Reviewer:** CS Mayor, Mayor's Office, Approved

**Reviewer:** Eric Weisman, Public Works, Approved

**Reviewer:** Suzanne Rinfret, Traffic and Parking, Approved

**Reviewer:** Mackenzie Richardson, Police, Approved

**Reviewer:** Kimberly M. Wells, City Clerk, Approved

**Reviewer:** Jesse Moos, Engineering, Complete