

# PUBLIC EVENT/SPECIAL ALCOHOL LICENSE APPLICATION

City of Somerville, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Application #: PEL24-000063

File #: 23-004675

**Application for:** Public Event

**Organization name:** Friends of the Community Growing Center

**Description:** From May through Dec, the Center will offer a range of workshops, children's programming, seasonal community celebrations and cultural events for free. They range from workshops on gardening and herbs, yoga classes, nature study and citizen science, films, music and seasonal festivals in keeping with our mission.

**Date(s):** May through December 2024

**Setup starts at (time):** varies, typically one hour prior

**Cleanup after the event ends at (time):** typically one hour after

**Entertainment:** Some events include music, film or dance, also educational events related to nature, food, growing, crafts, literacy, etc.

**Attendees:**

Max attendance at one time: 150

Maximum attendees accommodated: 250

**Attendee fees or suggested donations:** Events are offered for free, though donations are welcomed.

**Social or cultural benefits:**

The annual calendar for the Growing Center provides multiple opportunities for free cultural and/or educational events and participation for residents of all ages throughout the rest of 2023.

**Event Contact:** Lisa Brukilacchio

**Event name:** Somerville Community Growing Center 2024 Public Events

**Location:** The Somerville Community Growing Center is an 11,000 sq foot city owned public space that is managed by the Friends of the Community Growing Center as an educational and cultural gathering space for the community. In addition to demonstration and food production gardens, the space includes a stage area and room to offer free cultural and educational events.

**Rain date(s):** as indicated in attached listing

**Event starts at (time):** varies

**Event ends at (time):** varies, before 9:30pm at latest, typically earlier

**Temporary Structures:** If needed, dependent on weather, we utilize 10x10 pop up canopies, with leg weights for safety.

Total people attending: 10-350 for selected event

Total Somerville residents attending: generally 75-90%

**What is your budget for this event:** ranges from \$0 to \$3K

**Financial benefits:**

Proximity to Union Square could help introduce visitors to the Center to nearby businesses for food and entertainment.

**Event Contact Phone:** 781-953-4826

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Event Information	Yes/No	If yes, Describe
Open to the public?	Yes	Flyers around the City, social media, outreach through partners
Food served?	Yes	We will be applying for a temporary food license for the June Festa Junina event, to serve traditional pastries catered from Oasis.
Caterer used?	Yes	Oasis, 373 Main St, Medford, MA 02155
Alcohol served?	No	
Grill/open-flame device used?	No	
Streets blocked?	No	
Sidewalks blocked?	No	
Describe any accessibility features available to		The Center's paths, stage areas and porta-potty are ADA

attendees/participants

accessible.

**Arrangements:**

Police Detail: No

Parking (for Attendees)? No

Restrooms? Yes

Liability Insurance? Yes

we have an on site accessible porta-potty

We have a policy for \$1M liability, as part of our license with the City.

Will any public parks be used? Yes

Somerville Community Growing Center

Has the event occurred in the last two years? Yes

2021, 2022, 2023

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**Approval Conditions:**

Approved By:

CS Mayor, Approved

Kevin Roche, Approved

Charles Breen, Approved

CS Traffic and Parking, Approved

Eric Weisman, Approved

Timothu Mitsakis, Approved

Andrea R. Torres, Approved

**May:**

**Spring Garden Day**

Saturday, May 4, 12-2 pm, rain date May 5

Celebrate spring with the annual Morris Dancing and participatory Maypole dance. Take home native seeds harvested at the Center. Bring or take seeds or seedlings from a Seed Exchange Table. Make a Pollinator Button to take home.

Contact: Lisa at [lisa@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:lisa@thegrowingcenter.org)

**Pub Sings**

Tuesdays, May 7 and 21, 7-9 pm

A pub-style sing along. Anyone can lead a song, but no-one is obliged to. Drinking songs and sea chanteys always go over well, but anything with a good, singable chorus will be appreciated!

Contact: Jeff at [jeff.keller@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.keller@gmail.com)

**Yoga with Jenn**

Sunday, May 12, 9:30-10:30 am

An hour of mindful movement practice to turn off from obligations and connect to the body and mind.

Offered by Jenn Pici Falk, who also offers some online sessions [here](#).

Contact: Jen at [jennpfalk@gmail.com](mailto:jennpfalk@gmail.com)

**Anthotypes\***

Saturday, May 25, 1-3 pm (rain date, June 1)

Anthotype (means *flower print*) is an Eco-friendly photo-based process that uses colorful flowers and plant emulsion to create ephemeral images and photograms, using the sun to make exposures. It was discovered during the Victorian era by the same inventor of the more familiar Cyanotype (sunprint) process. Join local artist, photographer and gardener Mary Kokol for an anthotype demo showing how to extract color from plants to make images. For all ages and experience levels. \*Supported in part by funding from the Somerville Arts Council, a local commission supported by the City of Somerville and the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Contact: Lisa at [lisa@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:lisa@thegrowingcenter.org)

**Wayward Vine**

Saturday, June 25, 4-6 pm

Wayward Vine is a Boston-based Americana and indie-folk band performing harmony-based originals, including their song "End of May"! Come bring a chair or blanket, maybe a picnic with non-alcohol beverages or food from a Union Square business and enjoy music in a garden setting.

Contact: Liza at [lpkitchell@gmail.com](mailto:lpkitchell@gmail.com)

**Herb of the Month: Lemon Balm**

Sunday, May 28, 4-5:30 pm

Spend some afternoon time with clinical herbalist Mo Katz-Christy getting deeply acquainted with one medicinal plant each month! Learn through drawing, tasting, science and storytelling. Bring your journal and leave with an in-depth account of botany, history, clinical use and more.

Contact: Lisa at [lisa@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:lisa@thegrowingcenter.org)

**Plant Walk with Mo**

Wednesday, May 29, 5:30-6:30 pm

Come for an exploratory walk around the Center to observe and learn about the plants with host Mo Katz-Christy. What is growing now, what are some of the names and stories of some of the plants in this urban greenspace? Monthly walks will also be moving around the city and nearby towns, then circling back to the Center in the fall.

Contact: Lisa at [lisa@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:lisa@thegrowingcenter.org)

## **JUNE:**

### **Pub Sings**

Tuesdays, June 4 and 18, 7-9 pm

A pub-style sing along. Anyone can lead a song, but no-one is obliged to. Drinking songs and sea chanteys always go over well, but anything with a good, singable chorus will be appreciated!

Contact: Jeff Keller at [jeff.keller@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.keller@gmail.com)

### **Red Fire Farm CSA Distribution**

Wednesdays, June 5- Oct 16, 3-6:30 pm

The Center is a pickup site for a weekly pre-ordered farm share including veggies & herbs with the option of adding fruit and more. Sign up [here](#) to order a 20 week share to be picked up at the Center. The Center is open to the public during this time. .

Contact: Red Fire Farm at [csa@redfirefarm.com](mailto:csa@redfirefarm.com)

### **Spoken Word/Poetry Open Mic**

Saturday, June 8, 6:30-8:30 pm

All invited to share spoken word poetry, first come-first served to sign up. Community agreements to keep everyone safe and supportive.

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

### **Foraging with Sage**

Sunday, June 9, 11am-12 pm

Sage McTaggart will teach us how to identify some edible and medicinal plants on walks in the Center and nearby.

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

### **Teddy Bear Picnic**

Thursday, June 13, 6:30-8:30 pm

Bring a picnic and your teddy bears (or other cuddly toys) and join with local families and friends of all ages.

Contact: Courtney at [cscooke@live.com](mailto:cscooke@live.com)

### **Terra+Soma nature arts event "Tea Party and BYO Picnic"**

Sunday, June 9, 12-2 pm

Offered by Terra+Soma, who will demonstrate loose leaf teas and how you might make them. Bring your own picnic and cups to enjoy tea tasting along with your food. This event aims to bring together community members to engage in a fun workshop that incorporates nature and art.

Contact: Lisa at [lisa@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:lisa@thegrowingcenter.org)

### **Teddy Bear Picnic**

Thursday, June 13, 6:30 - 8:30 pm, rain date

Bring a picnic and your teddy bears (or other cuddly toys) and join with local families and friends of all ages.

Contact: Courtney at [cscooke@live.com](mailto:cscooke@live.com)

### **Festa Junina/ Brazilian Harvest Festival\***

Saturday, June 15, 1:30-4:30 pm, rain date June 16

Festa Junina is a traditional harvest celebration in Brazil. This Growing Center event will include craft stations (root printing, lantern making, making dance accessories), participatory Quadrilha dancing, traditional treats and music by Trio Let's Vamos. It will also feature numerous Kamishibai created and presented by Yumi Izuyama, interweaving her Japanese and Brazilian roots.

Contact: Yumi at [yumiisu65@gmail.com](mailto:yumiisu65@gmail.com)

### **Yoga with Jenn**

Sunday, June 16, 9:30-10:30 am

An hour of mindful movement practice to turn off from obligations and connect to the body and mind.

Offered by [Jenn Pici Falk](#), who also offers some online sessions [here](#).

Contact: Jen at [jennpfalk@gmail.com](mailto:jennpfalk@gmail.com)

**30th Anniversary Fun Party for All!**

Saturday, June 22, 2-5 pm; rain date June 23

Be part of celebrating 30 years of the Growing Center! Join the festivities, including dancing to the tunes of local band Lunatic Neighbors.

Contact: Lisa at [lisa@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:lisa@thegrowingcenter.org)

**East Somerville Plant Walk with Mo**

Wednesday, June 26, 5:30-6:30 pm

Come for an exploratory walk around the East Somerville Library, meeting at 115 Broadway, to observe and learn about the plants with host Mo Katz-Christy. What is growing now, what are some of the names and stories of some of the plants in this urban greenspace? Monthly walks will be moving around the city and nearby libraries.

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

**Herb of the Month: St John's Wort**

Sunday, June 30, 4-5:30 pm

Spend some afternoon time with clinical herbalist Mo Katz-Christy getting deeply acquainted with one medicinal plant each month! Learn through drawing, tasting, science and storytelling. Bring your journal and leave with an in-depth account of botany, history, clinical use and more.

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

**JULY:****Pub Sings**

July 2 and 16, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

A pub-style sing along. Anyone can lead a song, but no-one is obliged to. Drinking songs and sea chanteys always go over well, but anything with a good, singable chorus will be appreciated!

Contact: Jeff Keller at [jeff.keller@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.keller@gmail.com)

**Fresh Herbal Tea workshop**

Sunday, July 7 10am-12 pm

Discover the fragrance of fresh herbal tea blends! Bring a mug and come learn about the uses, flavors, and energies of different tea herbs. Part information and science, part sensory exploration, this class will be as playful as it is educational!

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

**Wayward Vine**

Thursday, July 11, 6:30-8:30 pm

Wayward Vine is a Boston-based Americana and indie-folk band performing harmony-based originals. Bring a chair or blanket, maybe a picnic with non-alcohol beverages or food from a Union Square business and enjoy live music in a garden setting.

Contact: Liza Kitchell at [lpkitchell@gmail.com](mailto:lpkitchell@gmail.com)

**Foraging with Sage**

Sunday, July 14 TBC, 11 am-12 pm

Sage McTaggart will teach us how to identify some edible and medicinal plants on walks in the Center and nearby.

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

**The Hidden Colors of Nature (session 1): exploring solar dyeing with plants**

Saturday, July 20, 10 am-12 pm (rain date, Sunday July 21)

A family friendly event, for all ages. Enjoy storytelling and hands-on activities to learn about creating dye colors using plant materials like onion skins and avocado pits and skins and utilizing the power of the sun! Please bring a glass jar to take home to see yarn change color over time. (At a 2nd session on August 3, these materials can be used for a weaving project.)

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

**Poetry Reading: Celebrating Amy Lowell**

Saturday, July 20, 4-5 pm

Come to the Center to join poet Denise Provost-and others- in a garden setting. This special event with focus on the poetry and life of Amy Lowell.

Contact: Denise Provost at [denise.provost@verizon.net](mailto:denise.provost@verizon.net)

**Herb of the Month with Mo-Calendula**

Sunday, July 21, 4-5:30 pm

Come spend the afternoon getting deeply acquainted with one medicinal plant each month! We'll spend time getting to know each plant through drawing, taste, science, and stories of herbalists' experience. Bring your journal and leave with an in-depth account of botany, history, clinical use, safety, preparation and dosage, and much much more. Come each month to build your materia medica or just once to meet a new plant friend! Explore a different herb each month with herbalist Mo Katz-Christy as part of our Community Herb Project.

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

**Kadanz Jazz: Standards with Caribbean/Latin Flavors\***

Friday, July 26, 7-8:30 pm

Enjoy music in the garden, with local professional musicians sharing American Jazz Standards, with new twists integrating rhythms from French Caribbean traditions. Led by Growing Center volunteer Mark Torgerson on guitar, who will be joined by keyboard, sax, bass and percussion.

Contact: Mark at [clavebeat@yahoo.com](mailto:clavebeat@yahoo.com)

**Spoken Word/Poetry Open Mic**

Saturday, June 28, 6:30-8:30 pm

All invited to share spoken word poetry, first come-first served to sign up. Community agreements to keep everyone safe and supportive.

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

**West Somerville Library Plant Walk with Mo**

Wednesday, July 31, 5:30-6:30 pm

Come for an exploratory walk around the West Somerville Library, meeting at 40 College Ave, to observe and learn about the plants with host Mo Katz-Christy. What is growing now, what are some of the names and stories of some of the plants in this urban greenspace? Monthly walks will be moving around the city and nearby towns.

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

**AUGUST****The Hidden Colors of Nature (session 2): weaving with yarn colored by solar dyeing with plant materials**

Saturday, August 3, 10 am-12 pm, (rain date, Saturday, August 10)

A family friendly event, for all ages. Learn about dyeing with plant materials and the sun, through a show and tell of yarns dyed at the July 20 workshop. Use these yarns to weave a friendship bracelet or simple basket. Yarns and ribbons will be provided. If you attended in July, bring your yarn to show—and to weave.

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

**Stuffed Animal Campout**

August 4, 6-7:30 pm

Drop off your stuffies for an overnight camping experience! We'll have a camping-themed Pajama Storytime for the kids prior to saying their good-byes, and then it's party time for just the animals, with garden exploration time, hide-and-peek, (pretend) s'mores making, singalongs, and more! Follow along in the fun on social media! Additional drop-off times and pick-up opportunities to be announced.

Contact: Betsy at [betsy@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:betsy@thegrowingcenter.org)

**Pub Sings**

August 6 and 20, 7-9 pm

A pub-style sing along. Anyone can lead a song, but no-one is obliged to. Drinking songs and sea chanteys always go over well, but anything with a good, singable chorus will be appreciated!  
Contact: Jeff Keller at [jeff.keller@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.keller@gmail.com)

#### **Film Shorts**

Wednesday, August 7, 8-9:30 pm,  
Come enjoy short films and lively discussion in a garden setting.  
Contact: Maddie at [maddie@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:maddie@thegrowingcenter.org)

#### **Foraging with Sage**

Sunday, August 11 TBC, 11 am-12 pm  
Sage McTaggart will teach us how to identify some edible and medicinal plants on walks in the Center and nearby.  
Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

#### **Herb of the Month with Mo-Marshmallow**

Sunday, August 18, 4-5:30 pm  
Come spend the afternoon getting deeply acquainted with one medicinal plant each month! We'll spend time getting to know each plant through drawing, taste, science, and stories of herbalists' experience. Bring your journal and leave with an in-depth account of botany, history, clinical use, safety, preparation and dosage, and much much more. Come each month to build your materia medica or just once to meet a new plant friend! Explore a different herb each month with herbalist Mo Katz-Christy as part of our Community Herb Project.  
Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

#### **Plant Walk with Mo**

Wednesday, August 28, 5:30-6:30 pm  
Come for an exploratory walk around the Center to observe and learn about the plants with host Mo Katz-Christy. What is growing now, what are some of the names and stories of some of the plants in this urban greenspace? Monthly walks will also be moving around the city and nearby towns, then circling back to the Center this month.  
Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

#### **Film Shorts**

Wednesday, August 28, 8-9:30 pm  
Come enjoy short films and lively discussion in a garden setting.  
Contact: Maddie at [maddie@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:maddie@thegrowingcenter.org)

### **SEPTEMBER:**

#### **Pub Sings**

September 3 and 17, 7-9 pm  
A pub-style sing along. Anyone can lead a song, but no-one is obliged to. Drinking songs and sea chanteys always go over well, but anything with a good, singable chorus will be appreciated!  
Contact: Jeff Keller at [jeff.keller@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.keller@gmail.com)

#### **A Gathering of Fairies: Celebrating Nature Spirits**

Saturday, September 7, 2:00 - 5:00 pm. (Rain date September 8).  
Come learn about nature spirits from around the world—and our imaginations! Everyone is invited to come dressed up as their favorite magical being. Celebratory activities in the garden for fairies and their friends include storytelling, building a fairy house and creating a fairy wand. Donations are encouraged to support the Growing Center and Gathering of Fairies.  
Contact: Betsy Larkin at [blarkin@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:blarkin@thegrowingcenter.org)

#### **Foraging with Sage**

Sunday, September 15, TBC, 11 am-12 pm

Sage McTaggart will teach us how to identify some edible and medicinal plants on walks in the Center and nearby.

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

### **North Cambridge Library Plant Walk with Mo**

Wednesday, September 25, 5:30-6:30 pm

Come for an exploratory walk around the O'Neill Library, meeting at 70 Rindge Ave, to observe and learn about the plants with host Mo Katz-Christy. What is growing now, what are some of the names and stories of some of the plants in this urban greenspace? Monthly walks will be moving around the city and nearby towns, then circling back to the Center in the fall.

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

### **Harvest Festival: Gathering in Gratitude**

Saturday, September 28, 1:30 - 4:00 pm. (Rain date September 29).

Harvest activities and games, pumpkin decorating and a celebration of the bounty nature shares with us throughout the year.

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

### **Herb of the Month with Mo-Mint**

Sunday, September 29, 4-5:30 pm

Come spend the afternoon getting deeply acquainted with one medicinal plant each month! We'll spend time getting to know each plant through drawing, taste, science, and stories of herbalists' experience. Bring your journal and leave with an in-depth account of botany, history, clinical use, safety, preparation and dosage, and much much more. Come each month to build your materia medica or just once to meet a new plant friend! Explore a different herb each month with herbalist Mo Katz-Christy as part of our Community Herb Project.

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

## **OCTOBER:**

### **Pub Sings**

Tuesdays, Oct 1 and 15, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

A pub-style sing along. Anyone can lead a song, but no-one is obliged to. Drinking songs and sea chanteys always go over well, but anything with a good, singable chorus will be appreciated!

Contact: Jeff Keller at [jeff.keller@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.keller@gmail.com)

### **Foraging with Sage**

Sunday, Oct 6 TBC, 11am-12 pm

Sage McTaggart will teach us how to identify some edible and medicinal plants on walks in the Center and nearby.

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

### **Songlines II**

Sunday, Oct 13, 2-3 pm

**Songlines** is a conceptual piece (meaning that the musical score suggests notes, textures and events) that is based on the **soundscape** of the Growing Center.

Contact: Liza at [lpkitchell@gmail.com](mailto:lpkitchell@gmail.com)

### **Herb of the Month with Mo-Tulsi**

Sunday, October 13, 3-4:30 pm

Come spend the afternoon getting deeply acquainted with one medicinal plant each month! We'll spend time getting to know each plant through drawing, taste, science, and stories of herbalists' experience. Bring your journal and leave with an in-depth account of botany, history, clinical use, safety, preparation and dosage, and much much more. Come each month to build your materia medica or just once to meet a new plant friend! Explore a different herb each month with herbalist Mo Katz-Christy as part of our Community Herb Project.

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)



**Seasonal Salvage Sale**

Saturday, Oct 19, 12-5 pm, rain date Oct 20

An innovative Yard Sale featuring seasonally-themed salvaged goods. Local makers and crafters are invited to share their goods and crafts.

Contact: Betsy Larkin at [blarkin@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:blarkin@thegrowingcenter.org)

**Pumpkin Carols and AntiMorris Dancing and**

Thursday, October 31, 5:00 - 7:00 pm, rain or shine

Pumpkin Carols followed by the AntiMorris at Sunset, danced by Recently Traditional Fictional Morris. The dancers shall fade silently into the night upon conclusion of the dance.

Contact: Jeremy Kessler at [greenquv@peculiarity.net](mailto:greenquv@peculiarity.net)

**NOVEMBER:****Pub Sings**

Tuesday, 5 and 19, 6:00 - 8:00pm

A pub-style sing along. Anyone can lead a song, but no-one is obliged to. Drinking songs and sea chanteys always go over well, but anything with a good, singable chorus will be appreciated!

Contact: Jeff Keller at [jeff.keller@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.keller@gmail.com)

**Foraging with Sage**

Sunday, November TBC

Sage McTaggart will teach us how to identify some edible and medicinal plants on walks in the Center and nearby.

Contact: [info@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:info@thegrowingcenter.org)

**DECEMBER:****Pub Sings**

Tuesdays, December 3 & 17, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

A pub-style sing along. Anyone can lead a song, but no-one is obliged to. Drinking songs and sea chanteys always go over well, but anything with a good, singable chorus will be appreciated!

Contact: Jeff Keller at [jeff.keller@gmail.com](mailto:jeff.keller@gmail.com)

**Celebrate the Solstice!**

Saturday December 21, 4-5:30 pm

A mid-winter seasonal celebration at the turning of the year, looking forward to the coming spring even in the dark of the season. Enjoy the warmth of joining in community, sharing songs, stories, hope and cheer.

Contact: Lisa at [lisa@thegrowingcenter.org](mailto:lisa@thegrowingcenter.org)