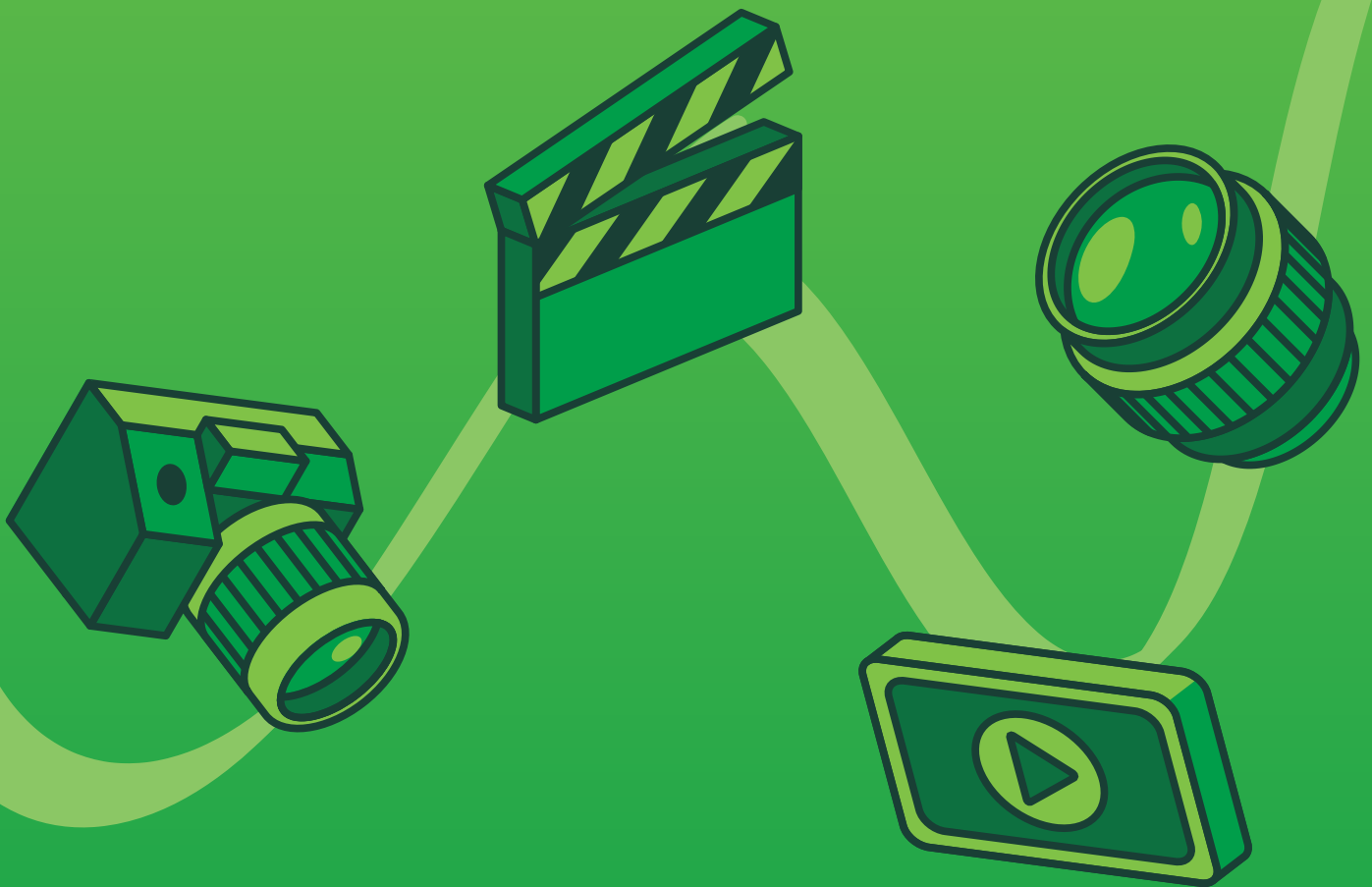




2016-
2026



Ascertainment Report

Arlington Community Media Inc.

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About ACMi

History of PEG in Arlington

Four decades ago, Congress adopted the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984, as amended (the “Cable Act”), which affirmed that local governments have the right to require cable operators to set aside “channel capacity for public, educational or governmental use.” PEG Access channels, Congress explained, “provide groups and individuals who generally have not had access to the electronic media with the opportunity to become sources of information in the electronic marketplace.” Therefore, it is the program producer, not the cable operator, who determines (and is legally responsible for) the content of a PEG access program. A request for a license (or renewal of an existing license) can be denied if a cable operator fails to provide adequate PEG Access “channel capacity, facilities or financial support.” As a result, PEG access requirements have become a staple of cable licenses/franchises during the past forty years, and remain an important source of localism.



However, just as the cable industry has evolved from the delivery of TV services to the supplying of video, voice, data, and other ancillary services, and as streaming services (Netflix, Amazon Prime, Hulu, etc.) have absorbed a larger and larger audience over recent years, PEG access has also evolved. What hasn’t changed is the need for hyper-local content with impact.



The Town of Arlington has had its own experience of this evolution. Since the town licensed its first cable television franchise with American Cable systems in 1980, hundreds and hundreds of citizens have used the available facilities to produce programming for Arlington cable subscribers in the three classic categories: Public, Educational, and Government (PEG). Under that original license, an organization was formed to help the public learn about and make use of the Studio.

The Board of Directors and members of that organization, known as Arlington Cable Access (ACA), maintained the www.arlingtonstudio.com website until the end of September 2006. That site, now listed as www.acmi.tv and operated by Arlington Community Media Inc. (ACMi), is the one that is currently in use.

In April 2003, Arlington Community Media Inc. (ACMi) was incorporated in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a not-for-profit corporation. Subsequently and over time, a Board of Directors was chosen, the organization was designated as Arlington’s official access corporation by Arlington’s Board of Selectmen, and the corporation was granted tax-exempt status by the IRS. ACMi’s first agreement with the Town of Arlington, represented by its Board of Selectmen, was signed in July 2006. Through this agreement, ACMi assumed management of PEG community access television for the town.

On September 26, 2006, ACMi formally undertook the daily operation of the Arlington Studio at 85 Park Avenue in Arlington Heights as the Town’s official community media and public access corporation and as operator and manager of the Arlington Studio. Over the following year, the government access and education channels were reinstated, and ACMi held its first Annual General Meeting in October 2007.

Today ACMi offers one-on-one instruction to its growing membership so that its members may learn to operate the state-of-the-art cameras and other equipment they will subsequently use to produce local programming, or to cover community political, cultural, athletic, and other events. Studio production and technical directing for video production are offered as well. This dissemination of knowledge and skills and the resulting television programs not only serve to bring our community together in common witness of shared events, but also provide marketable skills to community members. Our staff and members have consistently been recognized by the national association of community media stations for a variety of programs, culminating in ACMi winning **the 2025 award for Top Community Media Center of our size in the country!**

ACMi’s staff of nine continues to enthusiastically pursue its mission to place the latest video production and editing technology within reach of all Arlington residents. For the staff, it is both a duty and a pleasure to connect the citizens of Arlington ever more closely with their government, their educators, their small businesses and nonprofits, their community volunteers and caregivers, and each other.



ACMi Today

ACMi takes a very proactive approach to its operations as a PEG access station. Everyone on the ACMi staff is focused on offering fully supported access to equipment, facilities, and training for members. Staffers provide dedicated one-on-one instruction or guidance to members who want to learn something new, develop an idea for a project, or achieve a higher degree of mastery with specific equipment or programs.

Additionally, ACMi is always seeking new ways to connect community members with each other. Arlington nonprofits know that ACMi will help them get their word out to the populace, perhaps in the form of Public Service Announcements; or by producing a show; or by being featured in existing ACMi programming, such as on an ACMi News segment or a Public Affairs show. Members are encouraged to join team-based projects - like making a short film in just 48 hours (!) - and ACMi’s Production Manager sends out weekly crew calls informing our membership and volunteers of opportunities to contribute to productions in the next short while. All three of ACMi’s channels are actively promoted, our staff reaches out to the community to encourage use of the facilities and channels, a variety of training opportunities are offered, and equipment is updated to keep pace with innovation. All of these commitments are targeted towards maintaining a user-friendly environment where members and producers can achieve the technical proficiency required to create high-quality programming that matches their ambitions.



Staff and Administration

ACMi’s current staff consists of nine full- or part-time professionals. As can be seen from the staff biographies and job descriptions that accompany this report (see Appendix G), all of those who work at ACMi combine a wealth of experience in the field with a palpable enthusiasm for doing this particular type of work. They are committed to creating and maintaining a warm and supportive environment in which members, interns, volunteers and students feel empowered to be creative, to make mistakes, and to fully engage in the production process.

The ACMi Board is currently comprised of six Directors elected by the membership. The Board meets regularly to set policy and oversee the financial management of the corporation. They work together with the Executive Director to develop and provide annual as well as long-term strategic planning. (Biographies of current Board members can be seen in Appendix H)



Training

ACMi offers workshops focusing on a broad variety of topics throughout each and every year. The most recent data confirms that ACMi staff taught 255 individuals in 17 different subject areas in Fiscal Year 2025-26. The estimated equivalent market value to the Arlington community of these workshops totaled **\$110,350**. Training often occurs in a very individualized way, catering to the specific interests and varying learning styles of different members. Instruction is readily available across the entire spectrum of production, from basic camera operation to advanced editing techniques.

Equipment

ACMi is deeply committed to reliably providing the Arlington community with access to broadcast-quality production equipment, both hardware and software. From camera kits to microphones, editing suites to switchers, ACMi is committed to meeting industry standards. Constant vigilance to determine what is available at a sensible price ensures that ACMi members have the best equipment available for training and production purposes. This commitment has remained firm even through the significant reduction in revenue brought on by residents dropping their cable subscriptions in increasing numbers over recent years.



Distribution and Viewing Options

ACMi equipment is HD capable, making ACMi fully prepared to air its programming in High Definition. To date, only RCN (3 channels) and Verizon (1 channel) have provided the necessary bandwidth to allow ACMi to cablecast High Definition programming to the community. ACMi is also still waiting to be included on the cable providers' Program Guides, which will make it considerably easier for viewers to know when specific programs are being broadcast. Currently, ACMi provides alternative viewing options so that our audience can access content at their own convenience, including YouTube channels for ACMi, ACMi News, and ACMi Sports, as well as streaming video and Video On Demand that can be accessed on ACMi's website, acmi.tv.

Channel Card

WATCH ON TV	xfinity	verizon	Astound
PUBLIC News, Arts & Culture, Public Affairs	8	915 ³¹	629 ³
EDUCATION Performing Arts, Youth, Sports	9	24	613 ¹³
GOVERNMENT Town Meetings, Select Board, School Committee, Elections	22	26	614 ¹⁵
WATCH ONLINE ACMI.TV — YOUTUBE.COM/ACMITV			
 YOUTUBE.COM/ ACMISPORTS	 YOUTUBE.COM/ ACMINews	 "ACMi" APP	

Programs and Services

PEG Programming

Public

Our Public Channel (Comcast 8, RCN 3 and 629 (HD), Verizon 31 and 915 (HD)) features programming by our member-producers, using ACMi equipment and studio facilities. In 2025, for example, first-run local programming (no repeat airings are included) on the Public Channel totaled 197 hours. Some of the most enduring examples of this kind of content are The Steve Katsos Show (variety show), ACMi News, Studio Sessions (live in-studio music), Tell Me a Story (role-playing game show), and In the Tradition (traditional music show). In addition, we produce a robust series of Public Affairs programs, ranging from Talk of the Town (all things Arlington) to We Hold These Truths (deep-dive interviews). We also air programs from other public access channels and independent producers, including a few distributed via satellite, most prominently Democracy Now! In addition, ACMi covers a variety of local events of general interest, including live coverage from Town Day each year, graduations and commemorations, lectures and presentations at Robbins Library, concerts and shows from the Regent Theater, and much more.



Education

Our Education Channel (Comcast 9, RCN 13 and 613 (HD), Verizon 24) features educational programs, shows produced by local students, and programs made by community producers about educational topics. High school sports are covered extensively, as we provide live broadcasts of virtually all home games for football, boys' and girls' soccer, boys' and girls' basketball, and boys' and girls' hockey, as well as more occasional broadcasts of volleyball, wrestling, baseball, lacrosse, and others. Programming from producers in the local area includes French Cooking; Eat, Sleep, Dance, Repeat; and Hugh Hanley's Circle of Songs. There were 135 hours of first-run local programming (no repeat airings are included) created for the Education Channel in a recent fiscal year. Local programming is supplemented by content from other public access channels and independent producers, including a few distributed via satellite, such as Ted Talks, Cooking with Kids, and Classic Arts Showcase.



Government

Our Government Channel (Comcast 22, RCN 15 and 614 (HD), Verizon 26) features programming by and information about Town governmental bodies, agencies, and committees, including the Select Board, the School Committee, the Redevelopment Board, the Finance Committee, Town Meeting, and others. In addition to featuring local officials regularly in our Public Affairs programming, ACMi works in partnership with the Town to produce both a biweekly Town Hall Update with the Town Manager and a monthly DPCD Update with the Director of our Department of Planning and Community Development. These programs ensure that Arlington residents remain current on developments throughout town, and continue the historic trend of ACMi expanding its municipal government content with each passing year, with first-run local programming on the Government Channel running to 289 hours in FY 2024.



Community Media Services

ACMi provides a wide range of services to Arlington residents. All of these efforts are reflective of, and guided by, our core mission of creating, nurturing, and strengthening connection between and among the various constituencies of the Arlington community.

ACMi Facility

The ACMi production facility, located at 85 Park Avenue, is home to the television studio and control room, post production editing facilities, a production resource center, staff offices, a conference room, and the master control room.

The Master Control Room (MCR) is arguably the most overlooked space in the building, although it has important functions, including housing the specialized equipment that links ACMi to the head end of each cable provider. Its programming servers, cable television transmission and receiving units, and switching and monitoring equipment allow ACMi to deliver local content over our 3 PEG channels 24/7. All internal and playback signals have been upgraded to meet high definition digital technical standards.

With an impressive 10-gigabit fiber optic core internally, we continue to upgrade the speed and capacity of the Arlington INET Municipal Area Network (MAN) at various locations around town. This design benefits all the participants of the INET MAN, since ACMi's connectivity no longer requires sharing bandwidth with local town agencies or the schools.

Internally, the ACMi playback server, Castus, is the engine providing the playback and community programming that feeds our PEG channel distribution. This system also provides ACMi's OnDemand programming and 24/7 livestreams to the ACMi.TV website, Roku digital TVs, and streaming devices. Advanced Castus features include stream keys that use social media and web streams as inputs and/or destinations to reach the community in a variety of ways. Castus allows ACMi to simulcast live events to multiple destinations, record and archive content, curate custom playlists, provide light editing, and insert media, and it is all backed up to Castus Cloud services.



Inception is a professional-grade news production server that hosts a rundown creator with network compatibility, teleprompter control, and software links, providing industry standard tools for producing local news.

ACMi continues to offer exceptional hardware storage with the SNS EVO Edit Server boasting 80TB of active storage, with an additional server providing 40TB for youth programming. The edit server has its own aggregate network switch to allow for dedicated data paths when using any of the ACMi edit suites. Currently, the ACMi edit lab houses Mac Studio Edit Suites, 27" iMacs, and MacBook Pros that can be used as portable edit systems, all of which are available to ACMi members.

The purchase, support and maintenance of most of the master control industrial grade servers and hardware comes to approximately \$10,000/year, or **\$100,000 over the 10-year period**. Large purchases often include varied, multi-year terms of service, protection and maintenance plans. At ACMi, we pride ourselves on being good stewards of the technology and hardware we invest in - planning for internal drive expansion, and maximizing the lifespan of these products. As systems depreciate and become obsolete, ACMi has repurposed older server frames and other hardware for temporary archival back-up systems for both in-house and offsite satellite locations.

ACMi Footprint

ACMi has multiple offsite facilities across town that provide more permanent production environments. Each space has been engineered for quality control and consistency of equipment for training purposes, all with best practices in mind. These spaces allow the direct network connectivity we need to go live, and to create production recordings for replay and archival purposes.

The Town Hall production center is a central hub with control operation of audio, video, and camera controls extending to the Select Board chambers, the Lyons Hearing Room, the Annex conference room, and the large Auditorium's stage and balcony.

Covering government productions is forecast to cost \$95,000 in PTZ cameras, switching and control room gear over the coming ten years.

The new Arlington High School has multiple control rooms for ACMi student members. The production studio shared with the Music Technology classroom is a great space for talk shows, live music videos, and training. The auditorium production booth is strategically placed for live coverage of concerts and special events. Our most popular student activity coverage has been ACMi Sports, with production areas in the gymnasium, the press box at the stadium, and the ice rink. There is also a control room and conference room with microphones and robotic cameras in the administration building to provide live coverage of School Committee meetings.

An expenditure of approximately \$110,000 is anticipated over the next ten years to continue youth/educational programming services.



Town Connectivity & Network Drops

ACMi 10Gig Core Aggregate Switch, Arlington Department of Public Works (DPW)

- 1. ACMi Facility Park Ave Studio
 - 1. Master Control
 - 2. Control Room
 - 3. Edit Suites
 - 4. Staff Offices
- 2. Town Hall
 - 1. Select Board Meeting Room
 - 2. Lyons Hearing Room
 - 3. Annex
 - 4. Town Hall Auditorium
- 3. Arlington High School
 - 1. Auditorium
 - 2. Gymnasium
 - 3. Press Box
 - 4. School Committee Room
- 4. Arlington Community Center
 - 1. Community Meeting Hall, 2nd Floor
 - 2. Council on Aging Lounge, 1st Floor
 - 3. Small Conference Room
 - 4. Arlington Center for the Arts, 3rd Floor



Studio & Control Room

ACMi’s Studio A and control room boast a full range of studio cameras, professional lighting, audio and video mixing, and switching equipment that meet the needs of our active and productive community. The addition of podcasting, sound booth recording, and virtual, hybrid connectivity is a great example of how Studio A functions as a growing and thriving community media hub.

Upgrades to studio hardware and software over the coming decade are estimated to cost approximately \$120,000.

Portable Equipment

ACMi’s production resource center has continuously grown over the years to adapt to the variable needs of the creative membership. From beginners to professionals, content creators are making more of our community media resources than ever before.

Podcasting has become a great vehicle for news, public affairs and educational programming. It expands our local content to new platforms, building our outreach, and engaging new audiences. ACMi offers a series of podcast-production consoles, which can include both audio and video switching, go live options, and onboard recorders. In addition to training workshops and courses, ACMi has been offering podcast publishing and distribution services, allowing for community programming to live on multiple platforms.

Independent filmmaking, documentaries and digital storytelling at ACMi have grown over the years to include award-winning films that have garnered local, regional, and most notably, national recognition. Cinema cameras, specialty lenses, and advanced tools such as gimbal stabilizers, pro lighting and field audio add up to a vibrant collection of useful assets. ACMi’s A-Town Teen Film Festival, and our regular participation in events like Crowdsourced Boston, and other maker community events, have proven that making our state-of-the-art equipment and expertise available to creatives in our community can reap enormous benefits.

We will continue to increase and adapt our production resources to support the productivity of the ACMi staff and membership. Youth production studios use field gear engineered to work in multi-camera settings, with switchers and mixers, lights, and recorders. These pop-up studios are very effective in engaging and entertaining the public. They represent community media operating at its very best. The cost for these efforts over the past ten years was more than **\$230,000**.

Office equipment and editing systems at ACMi are upgraded approximately every five years, and we have increased the number of seats from 4 to 6 seats at about \$2,000/suite, and it is estimated that the cost for ongoing improvement in computer performance and hardware upgrades over the next ten years will be **\$85,000**.



Youth Media Programs

The ACMi Youth Program is one of our shining lights. It serves students grades 6-12 in the Arlington Public Schools. Over the past ten years, the growth of the youth program included securing a second studio (Studio B) to cater primarily to Arlington students. Studio B was a resounding success, until funding issues regrettably led us to shut it down.



Happily, even the loss of that cherished space has not stopped the youth program from continuing to thrive. For example, ACMi offers week-long TV production workshops for middle schoolers several times a year during school vacations in conjunction with Arlington Community Education. We also run an after-school video production club called Focus Media at the high school, and we assist with the Ottoson after-school TV club as well.

In addition, many of the major events in Arlington Public Schools - concerts, sports, performances, and graduations - have been covered by crews comprised of student volunteers. On the whole, these have been

multi-cam productions live streamed to YouTube and the ACMi Education channel. In the 2025-2026 school year, over 206 hours of first-run content was produced as part of the youth program.

ACMi Sports Coverage

- Fall Sports
 - Soccer - 26 games (39 hours)
 - Football - 5 games (15 hours)
- Winter Sports
 - Hockey - 20 games (30 hours)
 - Basketball - 20 games (30 hours)
- Spring Sports
 - Lacrosse - 12 games (18 hours)
 - Boys Volleyball - 5 games (10 hours)
 - Baseball - 1 game (3 hours)
 - Softball - 1 game (3 hours)

Concert Coverage

- 24 concerts covered total (48 hours)

Focus Media

Focus Media is an afterschool club at Arlington High School run by ACMi for students interested in video production. Over the years students have produced short films, news segments, and promo videos as part of the club.



workshops typically run during school summer vacation and/or during February and April breaks. Students learn a variety of video production skills such as storyboarding, camera operation, video editing, directing, and more.

Battle of the Bands

Battle of the Bands is a long-standing annual music competition held by Arlington High School at the Regent Theater. Student bands are each allotted a 20-30 minute performance slot and are judged by a panel of local Arlington community members to determine a winner. ACMi has been covering the event for over a decade with a camera crew composed entirely of student volunteers.

Stringfest

Stringfest is an annual orchestra concert held outdoors at the Ottoson Middle School by the Arlington Public Schools Performing Arts Department. The concert features student performers grades 3-12 and APS faculty members. The concert has grown to include over 700 performers as well as a 16 by 9 foot LED Wall. ACMi has provided multi-cam video coverage of the event as well as operated controls for the LED Wall.

Band Blast

Band Blast is the newest annual concert from the Arlington Public Schools Performing Arts Department and is held outside at Robbins Farm Park. The event features band student performers grades 4-12. 2026 was the first year the concert was held and ACMi provided multi-cam coverage of the event.

AHS Pops Concert

The Arlington High School Pops Concert is an annual concert held by the Arlington High School Performing Arts Department at the Arlington Town Hall. The concert features student performers from the choir, band and orchestra programs. ACMi has provided live multi-cam coverage of the event for the past several years.

Town Day

Arlington Town Day is a yearly street festival that takes place along Massachusetts Avenue in Arlington. The massive festival features booths from local businesses and non-profits as well as a mainstage musical performance. The all-day music performance is filmed by an entirely student volunteer crew and is livestreamed alongside the rest of ACMi's coverage of the event.

Week-Long Workshops

ACMi has run a number of week-long workshops for middle school students with Arlington Community Education. These



A-Town Teen Film Festival

The A-Town Teen Film Festival is an annual event held at the Regent Theater and organized by ACMi and Arlington High School. The film festival invites students from the town of Arlington and beyond to submit films no longer than 10 minutes in length to be shown on the big screen in front of a live audience. ACMi hosts and manages the film submissions on the ACMi website as well as works with AHS to organize the event. A jury judges the films and gives out awards recognizing the most exceptional entries of the festival.

Arlington High School Graduation

ACMi has provided live multi-cam coverage of the Arlington High School Graduation for many years. For the past couple of years, ACMi has also provided live translation captioning services across six languages for the event.

Ottoson Middle School Graduation

ACMi has provided coverage of the Arlington Ottoson School Graduation for many years. ACMi has also provided A/V support for the event itself.



ACMi NEWS



ACMi’s news division has been through a number of iterations over the last 10 years, including its rebranding as ACMi News (from Arlington Public News) in 2019. It has always been a key component of the value ACMi brings to our community. It not only provides up-to-the-minute information about stories and events of interest, but has also functioned as a weekly training ground for scores of members and interns to hone their studio production skills.

Jeff Barnd left a 35-year career as a big-city news anchor to take the helm of ACMi News in 2019, and under his leadership our weekly newscast blossomed to the degree that it was recognized as **the best community media news program in the country for two years running!** Jeff’s retirement in 2024, along with a precipitous drop in funding due to residents canceling their cable subscriptions, led to ACMi News going on hiatus for a number of months in 2025.



Happily, ACMi News returned with a bang in early 2026 under the stewardship of News Producer Josh Guicherit. Josh adeptly took up the mantle of being a “run and gun” reporter - capable of producing multiple news stories each week on his own - and he also proved highly effective leading a team of eager and talented college interns to take on increasingly large roles in producing our weekly newscast. A small sampling of the news stories we produce would include:

Jane Doe Inc.’s Advocacy Day - On March 16th, 2026, the Massachusetts Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence held its Advocacy Day, a conference that brought together survivors, advocates, and community partners, and featured speakers from the state legislature.

Arlington Boys and Girls Club Court Initiative - On May 17th, 2026, the Arlington Boys and Girls Club unveiled a brand new basketball and futsal court. The project was led by the Pat Connaughton Foundation and the Miles of Change Foundation, and an all-star lineup of guests that included Governor Maura Healey and Arlington native/ member of the US Men’s Soccer team, Miles Robinson, attended the ceremony.

Arlington Porchfest and Garageband - On June 20th, 2026, Arlington’s 10th annual Porchfest featured more than 300 musical performances at venues throughout the town. ACMi hosted its own porch, with four bands playing. After Porchfest, the ACMi News team raced over to record the official afterparty, titled Garageband, which featured Lunatic Neighbor, a Somerville-based retro funk band.

East Coast Aero Club - On June 26th, 2026, ACMi News intern Lydia Chen presented her latest high quality segment spotlighting businesses in the Greater Boston area. Her focus in this case was the East Coast Aero Club, the largest flight school in New England. She interviewed the owner as the first step, and went on to film on location at the school itself - even getting a chance to sit inside an aircraft!



Community Impact

Outreach and Engagement

Promotion of Programming
ACMi makes use of multiple mediums to publicize and promote the content on its channels. We use our social media accounts across several platforms (detailed below), reaching thousands of engaged followers and viewers on a weekly basis to build excitement and awareness of upcoming programming. Similarly, by posting near-daily immersive, behind-the-scenes content, we provide a vivid window into the different roles, tech, and production elements viewers can explore through volunteering, taking workshops, and participating in ACMi programming. We also promote our programs, recently completed and upcoming, through our newsletter, engaging hundreds of readers (and counting) on a monthly basis.



Below are the latest metrics regarding followers we have accumulated over the last decade across our social media platforms.

- General Instagram (@acmitv): 1,228 followers
- Youth Instagram (@acmiyouth): 267 followers
- ACMi News (@acminews): 646 followers
- General FB (@acmitv): 1k followers
- News FB (@acminews): 892 followers
- General YouTube (@AcmiTv): 4.56k subscribers
- News YouTube (@ACMiNews): 1.67k subscribers
- Sports YouTube (@ACMiSports): 2.1k subscribers

We have ceased operations on Twitter, now known as “X,” and maintain a presence there strictly to own the username so that it is less likely to be usurped for malicious purposes.



Across these social media platforms, we employ the “tagging” feature, which attaches content to individuals, companies, nonprofits, and other institutions whom we interview and interact with, allowing us to view and repost the social media content created about them, thereby broadening our reach and engaging new viewers in and around Arlington. Our interns also post highlights of their activity and experience on their social media accounts as an extension of Employee Generated Content, or “EGC,” to make a wider audience privy to ACMi and its robust programming.

Lastly, we have increased our “boots on the ground”-style promotions significantly since the onboarding of our Social Media, Marketing, and Fundraising Manager. By speaking with local businesses in advance of events we are hosting about how their businesses may benefit or be involved, we have increased awareness of ACMi programming, and given interested parties an opportunity to submit their own programming ideas for consideration, thereby increasing local involvement and strengthening relationships across town.



Participating in Porchfest in this way was a notable success in various ways. Marina and our Marketing intern Karma collaborated to produce outstanding social media content, tagging the bands and various host organizations, and reposting the content to further increase awareness and outreach. Several ACMi volunteers played pivotal production roles both cheerfully and expertly, further deepening their own connection with what we do in and for the community. This is just one case study of how “boots on the ground”-style promotions have yielded additional awareness, involvement, and enthusiasm about ACMi.

Outreach

The most significant step taken to expand the reach and effectiveness of ACMi's outreach is the recent hiring of Marina Goldman as our Social Media, Marketing, and Fundraising Manager to spearhead these and other marketing, communications, and PR activities. The addition of a Marketing, Communications, and Business Development intern from a local business school has further amplified those efforts. Their enthusiastic presence at events and news interviews, thoughtful cross-marketing endeavors, and efforts to engage major public figures and institutions, ACMi's pair of outreach specialists have brought increased attention and awareness of the studio, its mission, and its activities. (FYI, a selection of the materials referred to in this section can be found in Appendix A.)”

ACMi

Arlington Community Media Inc.

'S FIRST TIME HOSTING

ARLINGTON PORCH FEST

SATURDAY JUNE 20 11:00 AM - 4 PM

As Seen From Space

Queer on Sunday

Lars Wicklund

The Morningside Messengers

Presented by:

ACA

ARLINGTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS

ACMi in the Community (a Case Study)

In addition to the aforementioned program promotion strategies, outstanding methods by which we have been increasing outreach to the community include being a Porchfest “host” for the first time ever. While we have covered previous Porchfests, having ACMi's parking lot serve as a “porch” greatly increased our awareness and connections within town and beyond. Marina Goldman, our Social Media, Marketing, and Fundraising Manager, emcee'd the event, and took the opportunity to describe ACMi, its mission, and the ways attendees can get involved and access our offerings.



Community Voices

Through its consistent efforts over the years to engage, inform, and support the Arlington community, ACMi has earned a considerable degree of good will within the town. From individual citizens who look to ACMi as an authoritative source for information about local government, cultural events, and high school sports, to the non-profits and town government officials who work in partnership with the studio to get their message to residents, ACMi has carved out a solid base of support within the community. This section of the report provides insight into the nature and extent of that support.

Letters of Support

As part of this ascertainment process, ACMi solicited feedback from the Arlington community in the form of comments about their experience with ACMi. While the full comments can be found in Appendix C, the following excerpts are an accurate reflection of the general tone and tenor of the feedback we have received:

ACMi is an essential partner in promoting government transparency, public access, and community engagement. Through its Government Channel, ACMi provides residents with comprehensive coverage of the Town’s many government bodies, agencies, boards, and committees, ensuring that local government remains accessible to everyone. Each year, ACMi produces over 300 hours of meeting coverage, including live broadcasts of the Select Board, School Committee, Annual Town Meeting, and numerous other board and committee meetings. These meetings are also streamed online and archived through ACMi’s Video-on-Demand service, allowing residents to watch them at their convenience and remain informed about local decisions and policies...

ACMi continually expands its coverage in response to issues of importance to the community. ACMi also provides bi-weekly Town Hall updates and coverage of the Department of Planning and Community Development, strengthening communication between local government and residents...

ACMi is an indispensable community asset that informs residents, preserves local history, supports transparent government, and provides opportunities for creative expression and public participation. Its dedication to public service strengthens our community every day. I enthusiastically support ACMi and the essential services it provides to the Town of Arlington.

Sincerely,

James Feeney
Town Manager

I am writing this letter of enthusiastic support for the importance of supporting our local community media outlet and their programming here in Arlington, Massachusetts. I have served as the Superintendent of the Arlington Public Schools for the past five years, and as I enter year six, I can confidently assert that without the support and programming that ACMi offers, we would not be able to share our rich programming with our community, we would not be able to share crucial moments of pride and development with our students’ families, and we would not be able to offer nearly as much rich and engaging programming for our students...

I would like to note that our colleagues at ACMi are truly community partners. They show up for the schools when we need support sharing something with the community, and they do so without fail, even in moments when they are strained to adequately staff or supply a broadcast. This is evident at major events like Town Day, as well as for routine governance meetings, such as our School Committee meetings, which are broadcast to the Community to provide greater access and visibility. They arrive early to ensure that we are prepared for every broadcast, and they work with our staff and teams supportively. Two examples of this partnership that have positively benefitted the AHS community specifically have included their documentation of the AHS building project in partnership with the AHS Building Committee, and filming major school events that do not carry copyright implications, including athletics, graduation, concerts, and other significant programs...

ACMi’s coverage ensures that our schools remain at the heart of our community and connections between residents and their families. The number of events we are able to share with the broader community - including our students’ grandparents and relatives in other communities - thanks to ACMi’s support enriches our programming and helps our students proudly demonstrate their expertise, whether they are being filmed, are helping behind the scenes, or are standing behind the camera...

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I hope that the Cable Advisory Committee will do all that is necessary to ensure that ACMi receives the revenue required to continue to operate the rich programming it already has in place - as well as some of the programming that it has been able to run in the past, such as operating a second studio for youth programming - without placing the Town and Schools in the difficult position of cutting more services that benefit families of all ages, all over the Town of Arlington. I further hope that the industry will revisit its financial models to ensure the stability of local media outlets, supporting them to integrate themselves into the changing landscape of content dissemination. This changing landscape carries very real infrastructural costs and structural challenges that might be easy for a major media company to address, but are more cost- and resource-prohibitive for smaller local organizations.

I deeply appreciate the opportunity to write on behalf of ACMi, who have served as such fantastic partners for our schools – both during my tenure and for decades before I joined the Arlington team.

Sincerely,

Dr. Elizabeth C. Homan
Superintendent, Arlington Public Schools

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for our long-standing partner, ACMi.

Many people do not realize the number of older adults who are still not tech savvy and who still rely

on cable TV and print media for their news and information. As the Director of the Council on Aging in Arlington, a town with over 12,000 residents age 60+, this is certainly changing, but there is still almost 50% of our population that does not have access to streaming services, internet, social media or cell phones. ACMi is an organization that helps us share information with people who we cannot otherwise reach, through their Public, Education and Government cable TV channels. On the flip side, we don't have to worry about missing the younger residents who are only connected through streaming and social media because ACMi covers that, too.

ACMi is a key partner for the COA in the community, and we value their expertise and ability to share important information. They often help us by coming on site to record important programs so that the content can be shared with older adults who are homebound or those who do not have the capacity to leave their homes. They also provide an opportunity for this information to be shared via links at a later time if people are simply not able to attend the live program. This was especially helpful when we were sharing information on Property Tax Relief Programs this past year, an important and very relevant topic for older adults who choose to age in place...

ACMi also offers wonderful and engaging opportunities for Older Adults in Arlington to volunteer in the community. They provide training to teach people the skills they need in order to work the equipment, providing a positive and connecting experience for people who have great skills to offer, but just need a little education to get started.

ACMi is an important fixture in the community and is a way that many of our older adults connect to important information.

Thank you,
وک ى دتم ام نا
Kristine Shah Executive Director
Council on Aging

I am pleased to offer this sincere letter of support to ACMi from myself and the entire Regent Theatre team. I have enjoyed working with everyone there from the youngest volunteers and interns to the most seasoned veterans.

During my 25 years here, ACMi has been a constant, enthusiastic partner for us, whether capturing events such as the annual Arlington High School Battle of the Bands and sponsoring and organizing the A-Town Teen Video Contest and Awards, or interviewing me and our performers (including iconic actor, Ed Asner, for his 90th birthday celebration a few years back!) on a consistent basis--one memorable story capturing our 100th Anniversary Celebration in 2016. Now, ten years later, I can say that ACMi has "always been there" and we hope you continue your excellent work for years to come.

Lastly, as an Arlington resident for 45 years, I have seen the impact ACMi has throughout the community. Furthermore, the education you have provided to new generations of technicians, videographers, journalists, and others has been admirable. Bravo!

Sincerely with gratitude,

Leland Stein, Director of Programming and Community Relations, Regent Theatre

ACMi is an important resource that many of us rely on to stay connected to the town community and engage with civic and government issues. As a working mother of young children, I rarely have time to attend town events; ACMi's coverage allows me to watch important events like the Meet the Candidates night, and also tune into lectures and events of interest, such as Richard Duffy's local history presentations, that I wouldn't otherwise have access to. I know many others in our community depend on ACMi's event coverage to stay informed about what's happening in our town. It's important that our town continue to have ACMi now and for many years to come!

Sincerely,
Liz Epstein, Arlington resident

As a longtime Arlington resident, I appreciate all that ACMi has contributed to the Arlington community!

ACMi newscasts are informative, interesting, and high-quality, especially given the very small staff. Besides keeping Arlington residents current on what's happening in Arlington, the news programs also highlight community businesses. This supports local businesses -- Arlington needs to increase its commercial tax base, and this kind of publicity is very helpful...

In addition to its news programs, ACMi has produced a number of shows that enrich the cultural scene in Arlington, such as covering Town Day and providing opportunities for local musicians to perform and get visibility.

When I retired, I was looking to learn about something new. ACMi provided the training, equipment, and support I needed to learn about what goes into producing a piece to be broadcast -- I learned enough new skills to be able to produce a couple of pieces about educational initiatives in Arlington. As a volunteer for news program broadcasts, I learned about the complexity of putting together a news program. My experience allowed me to look at state and national news programming with a new perspective.

ACMi does a fantastic job, because of its dedicated and talented staff and volunteers. Although they do so much with limited resources, their efforts depend on an adequate level of funding. They are an important part of what makes Arlington such a great place to live!

Thanks,
Greg Bartlett

ACMi is an incredible resource that I have been very grateful for, as I lead Housing Corporation of Arlington. You have, multiple times over the last several years, provided us with opportunities to educate the public about our work to support low income families and provide affordable housing, and to introduce members of our staff to the public...

As a local nonprofit leader who must remain aware of what is happening in Town Hall and throughout our community, I frequently watch various shows that you put out with Town Hall leaders or others, to help keep me informed. Those shows are invaluable for getting the most up to date information on a wide range of issues that are deeply relevant for HCA.

I know that some of our members have watched public hearings filmed by ACMI when HCA's affordable housing projects were before the Arlington Redevelopment Board in order to follow that story, even though they were unable to attend in person. This is especially helpful for people with disabilities, which many of our tenants live with...

I have done this kind of housing development/family support/advocacy work in many Greater Boston communities. A benefit of doing this work in Arlington specifically is that we have such a thoughtful and caring wider community that supports HCA's mission in a variety of ways. I am certain that residents' wide and deep knowledge of what happens in the town contributes to making Arlington the thoughtful, welcoming place that it is. ACMI plays a crucial role in providing that information to the average local resident -- and in contributing to this caring local culture.

Erica Schwarz
Executive Director
Housing Corporation of Arlington

On behalf of the Philharmonic Society of Arlington (PSA), I am offering this letter of support for Arlington Community Media, Inc. (ACMi). There are several connections between these two community organizations which I would like to highlight here...

Last year, for the Arlington250 celebrations, the PSA featured a special Pops Concert program in June. In March 2025, at the Arlington250 "kickoff" event at the Capitol Theatre, Jeff Munro of ACMi was situated at the table next to the PSA table. After hearing about the PSA upcoming Pops Concert featuring a special Arlington250 themed performance, Jeff agreed to live-stream that June concert and post the recording afterwards, so any community member who could not attend the live performance at Town Hall could still enjoy the concert.

And, the connection made at the kickoff event led to an invitation for myself and a member of the PSA Chorale to be interviewed ahead of the concert, on ACMi's "Talk of the Town" program. It was a rewarding experience for us to be able to talk about the Philharmonic Society of Arlington... Many people in Arlington don't realize that there's an orchestra and chorus in town, and this aired interview truly helped us spread the word.

In February of this year, the orchestra performed a concert entitled "Armenia", at the Arlington High School. We were thrilled to have ACMi there to record the concert, with multiple close-up camera angles that highlighted all different sections of the orchestra- a very impressive outcome...

In all the collaborations of the PSA with ACMi, I have found them to be a wonderful and important community organization. Each member of ACMi I've dealt with has been responsive in back and forth communications, very professional, and talented in their work. Arlington is lucky to have ACMi in our community, and I strongly support the continuation of operational and capital funding to help ACMi continue to grow and reach even more people in Arlington.

Julie Goldberg
PSA Board Vice-President, Community Liaison

I have been a resident of Arlington for 35 years, so I am well aware of how absolutely essential ACMi is to our community. Quite simply, it provides news, services, and community building that no other entity can provide.

In this era of the decline and reduction of newspapers and other traditional news sources, exemplified by the end of our own Arlington Advocate, ACMi is really the only professional broadcast journalism providing coverage of Arlington Town government and community news. Such information is an absolutely necessary condition for preservation of our Town's democracy. Its wonderful extensive coverage of Town Meeting, Select Board, etc. is incredibly important. With the public's wide adoption of and acceptance of online meeting technology since the COVID-19 era, these simulcasts are more valuable and accessible than ever. And this allows many, who because of infirmity, disability, or time conflicts to have unprecedented accessibility.

This alone would be enough to justify continued maximum and increased support for this Town treasure.

But ACMi does much more in its coverage of cultural and other events, regular news programming, documentation of many of our Town's unique cultural institutions and groups. As a Board Member of the Friends of Robbins Farm Park for 23 years, I can speak directly of how helpful ACMi has been in covering and publicizing our group's many free cultural, musical, educational, and family friendly events and projects.

Another extremely important part of ACMI is that it provides incredible opportunities to learn by doing in the studio and in the field. Young teenagers and older get the chance to work with professional video, audio and other equipment, do their own reporting and broadcasting and go to the field to do in-person reporting and documentary coverage. This is priceless education, a great entree into journalism, that benefits them and our community and society as a whole.

In sum, I give my enthusiastic recommendation to the continued support of ACMi.

Respectfully,

Anthony Vogel
3 Eustis Street
Arlington, MA 02476

I am writing to lend my support to the important and quality work that ACMi provides to the Arlington community. From news reporting to quality programming, we all benefit from ACMi's work. Arlington EATS has benefited from their coverage in many ways, whether it's publicizing our fundraising efforts (i.e. the annual Turkey Trot) or spotlighting the various programs we offer to inform the community members who may be in need of our services.

Over the years, I have had the pleasure of working with several of the staff and volunteers at ACMi and have found them to be incredibly professional and courteous. They are part of what makes Arlington a great place to live and work.

In an era when local media keeps shrinking, it's important to maintain our local media outlets so that local news is highlighted and residents remain informed. Arlington EATS strongly supports

ACMi’s continued operation and encourages the Town of Arlington to ensure that ACMi has the resources to continue this vital work.

Sincerely,

Andi Doane
Executive Director

This letter is to express my deep gratitude to ACMi for their dedication, enthusiasm and benevolence in their unwavering support of Arlington neighbors and community.

ACMi does an incredible job of covering local events across wide variety of topics, from political (town committee meetings and elections) to arts, history, education and local events (such as school strings concerts) and even cooking. It’s hard to overestimate ACMi’s impact on Arlington’s community. This is such a vital source of independent local journalism that is indispensable and getting increasingly endangered...

My direct interaction with ACMi happened when I was running for a candidacy at the Arlington School Committee. Here ACMi proved as an essential vehicle for supporting fair and unbiased elections. As a candidate without any institutional sponsors, I didn’t have funds for any advertisements, and without ACMi my candidacy would have been barely noticeable. The coverage of all candidates which ACMi did helped me to showcase my candidacy on par with other candidates...In addition, ACMi provided dedicated time for recording and producing candidates’ video profiles, which all candidates promptly displayed on their websites. Thanks to ACMi, all candidates were given ample time and opportunity to highlight their agendas. This is an enormous contribution that ACMi provided towards supporting fair elections, unaffected by candidates’ financial resources.

I cannot stress enough how important it is to have such an amazing media production here in Arlington. I am extremely grateful to ACMi’s team, their passion and drive, their enthusiasm and care. Their service to Arlington is invaluable.

With gratitude,
Dmitry Vasilyev

My name is Grady Mangrum, and I am a rising freshman at Arlington High School. I first came across ACMi two years ago when they were looking for middle schoolers to help livestream concerts, specifically middle school orchestra, band, and chorus concerts. After learning how to operate all the equipment, I started regularly helping with the concerts, and also occasionally visited the ACMi studio for various reasons, such as when I needed to borrow a microphone or edit a video for school. I am planning to record sports games next year with ACMi equipment and get community service hours for doing so. ACMi has been extremely helpful to me and will likely play a part in my High School career by furthering my knowledge related to livestreaming, video, audio, and executive functioning. ACMi is one of Arlington’s valuable resources, and I hope it continues to be in the future.

I write in support of the value of ACMi as a community outreach partner for municipal employees. When the Town has a message to get out to the public, ACMi is an unparalleled resource for technical expertise and professional coaching.

Over my 14 years as the Recycling Coordinator for Arlington Public Works, I partnered with ACMi to produce over a dozen educational videos, which continue to be featured on the Town’s website. I gained life-long production and video editing skills with their guidance, while creating content that has retained its value for a decade.

I’ve been interviewed for regular programs, such as Talk of the Town, and our DPW events have been featured as news segments. ACMi staff make interviews, whether in their amazing TV studio or in the field, very comfortable and rewarding. The final programs, circulated on their stations and linked on the Town’s web pages, help the Town reach new audiences.

When I lead summer campers through ACMi’s door, the staff are incredibly patient and enthusiastic. The youth get to create their own media content, with professional equipment and under the direction of seasoned producers. ACMi is able to help us see through our mission of building youth leadership and voice in local environmental issues.

Thank you to ACMi for enriching my role in outreach and education with our town residents. I look forward to continuing as a volunteer producer for years to come.

Sincerely,
Charlotte Milan

I was welcomed to Arlington Community Media Inc. as a Production Intern in 2016 where I quickly became accustomed to the nonstop flurry of people and productions. Local news stories needed covering, musicians needed microphones in the studio, and videos needed editing. One of the first big projects I worked on was supporting the ACMi Awards, an evening celebrating and honoring ACMi members. The volunteer members at ACMi are the heart and soul of the organization. ACMi provides a community for these Arlington residents to get involved, be creative, and learn. In return, what the volunteers give back to the community is invaluable.

You are probably aware of the content and services that ACMi provides the town...But what has always amazed me about ACMi is that they are dedicated to positively impacting every single person that walks through their door. Whether you are an experienced filmmaker looking to borrow equipment, someone who lost their job hoping to learn a new skill, a youth in need of volunteer hours, or if you are lonely and trying to find your community, ACMi will greet you with the same enthusiasm. They are unwavering in their support of every single Arlington resident.

In particular, I’d like to highlight that youth productions (sports, theater, music concerts, graduation) are filmed by the youth. With the help of ACMi staff, afterschool groups learn how to work together as a professional team, planning, producing, and filming live events for their school. These are invaluable skills that you can’t learn in the classroom. These youth are motivated by their interests and each other, they learn teamwork and leadership, build confidence, and figure out how to handle stressful situations (live broadcasting doesn’t allow for second takes). Many of these students have gone on to make careers out of what they have learned thanks to ACMi.

When I joined ACMi as an intern a decade ago I was at a crossroads professionally, and I wasn't sure what career I wanted to pursue. Today I am a Senior Media Technician for Harvard University. I wouldn't be here without the skills and hands-on experience that I acquired working with the amazing people at ACMi. My experience is not unique, I am one of many people for whom ACMi made a real tangible impact. ACMi is part of the fabric that makes Arlington a special place. I hope they continue to receive the support they need to continue to impact lives for a long time to come.

Sincerely,
Katie Chang

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for Arlington Community Media, Inc. (ACMi) and the vital role it plays in our community. As a longtime Arlington resident, I have witnessed firsthand how ACMi serves as an indispensable electronic forum for information, connection, creativity, and civic engagement. Your work truly embodies "Media for Arlington, by Arlington," and it deserves continued strong funding and support.

ACMi keeps our community informed, entertained, and united in ways no other local resource can match. Your hyper-local programming brings us together by highlighting what makes Arlington special, from government transparency to cultural celebrations, youth achievements, and everyday neighborly stories. In an era of fragmented national media, ACMi provides the authentic, community-driven content that strengthens our town's fabric. I am particularly grateful for how accessible your channels are on Comcast, RCN, and Verizon, as well as on-demand via acmi.tv and YouTube...

ACMi is not just a TV station; it's a community hub that promotes education, democracy, and connection. I strongly urge the cable providers and town officials to maintain and grow funding so that ACMi can continue expanding these wonderful services. Losing or diminishing this resource would be a significant loss for Arlington.

Thank you for all you do. Please feel free to include this letter in the Ascertainment Report. My family and I all believe wholeheartedly in ACMi's mission and future!

Best regards,

Marc Prud'hommeaux
4 Wollaston Ave, Arlington MA

As Town Moderator, I am writing to express my strongest possible support for Arlington Community Media Inc. (ACMi) for their Ascertainment Report. ACMi is an indispensable partner in our local democratic process, providing the technical infrastructure and civic platform that allow our town government to function transparently and inclusively.

The professionalism and technical expertise displayed by the ACMi team are exemplary. Managing the complex, multi-room A/V configurations at Town Hall is a formidable task, yet ACMi ensures these setups are reliable and seamless session after session. I am particularly impressed by their ability to troubleshoot and resolve unexpected technical issues with remarkable speed, ensuring

that the deliberations of Town Meeting operate with minimal technical interruptions...

Beyond technical support, ACMi provides immense civic value as a primary vehicle for public communication. Their platform allows candidates and office holders to reach the community directly, fostering a more informed electorate. I am eager to make even greater use of ACMi's platform in the future to engage a broader range of residents on the vital mechanics of our local democracy. ACMi is an essential component of Arlington's virtual public square...

I offer my full and enthusiastic recommendation for ACMi and look forward to our continued partnership in service to the people of Arlington.

Sincerely,
Greg Christiana

I'm very pleased to support Arlington Community Media, Inc.

I've served on the Arlington School Committee for 24 years and on Town Meeting since 2001. ACMi plays a critical role in ensuring the Arlington community can watch public meetings of the Select Board, School Committee, Finance Committee, and other bodies. ACMi's broadcast of the annual Town meeting is watched by thousands of people each year, and ACMi televises high school sporting events and other programming.

I'm particularly grateful to ACMi for the coverage they gave to the high school building project. As chair of the committee, it was helpful to have ACMi regularly broadcast updates to the community.

Over the years, our family has enjoyed seeing our children's school performance on ACMi, and we've enjoyed news and other programming. Finally, ACMi does a wonderful job of training local residents interested in starting shows and programs as I did many years ago with "The Public Square," a program that featured discussions with Arlington leaders.

I'm proud to support ACMi and grateful that it is part of our community.

Sincerely,
Jeff Thielman
Member, Arlington School Committee and Arlington Town Meeting
Chair, Arlington High School Building Committee

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the critical role Arlington Community Media, Inc. (ACMi) serves in our community. Having been an active member since I produced Hola Arlington! in 2004 and having had the privilege of serving on the Board of Directors for several years, I have seen firsthand the profound and positive impact this organization has on our community. My other productions include Face The Book TV and Ready, Row! USA; I've also served on the crew for countless studio and field productions.

ACMi is far more than just a media center—it is a vital civic hub. It empowers local voices and organizations, fosters creative expression, and provides essential, transparent coverage of our

town's government and public events. Over the past two decades, I've watched ACMi continuously evolve to meet changing media landscapes while staying fiercely dedicated to its core mission of open access, education, and community connection.

The dedicated staff and passionate volunteers make ACMi an invaluable community asset. I strongly endorse their ongoing mission and encourage full community support for their continued work.

Sincerely,
Charlotte Pierce

Looking Ahead

Future Needs

High Definition Across Our Channels

Fulfilling a commitment we made in the last Ascertainment Report (2015), ACMi now has the capability to produce and deliver HD programming at a quality at least equal to that of our Licensees' other HD programming. What we don't yet have, however, is the Licensee-provided resources to ensure our HD programming can be received by our entire audience. RCN delivers our content in the HD format for all three of our PEG channels, but Verizon offers only one channel in HD and, incredibly, Comcast still offers not a single channel in HD. This situation was already a significant problem in 2015, and the impediment of having our content viewable only in SD simply cannot be overstated. This is the most significant of ACMi's future needs.

ACMi Programming on Cable Providers' Program Guide

Many respondents to the Town's survey indicated that they would like to more easily access ACMi programming via an electronic Program Guide, as they do with broadcast channels. This would be in addition to the current methods used by ACMi – specifically, the ACMi website, ACMi YouTube channels, and Roku. ACMi's programming titles on the cable provider's Program Guide would facilitate this community request. In addition, the three ACMi channels should also be clearly identified as Public, Education, and Government, instead of the use of a generic term such as "local" or "access."

In Sum

Over the last ten years, ACMi has made enormous strides in our core mission of serving Arlington's needs in every way we can. We have developed and maintained a host of close productive partnerships with nonprofits throughout the town, including Food Link, Arlington Eats, the Arlington Commission on Arts and Culture (ACAC), the Arlington Philharmonic, the Arlington Center for the Arts (ACA), the Arlington Housing Authority, the Housing Corp of Arlington, and many more.

On behalf of these organizations, we not only play a vital role in helping them inform Arlingtonians of what they provide, but we also actively train their own staff and volunteers around how to create their own video content, empowering them (as we do our own members) to be more self-sufficient in this vital area.

Our active support extends well beyond local nonprofits, as other stakeholders throughout the town find us increasingly indispensable when it comes to amplifying their own message. Town officials, boards, and agencies are regularly featured on our weekly newscast and our public affairs programming, and Arlington's citizenry more and more look to ACMi as a virtual town square, where useful information, public conversation, and divergent viewpoints can all be found.

The result is that viewers learn more about the community they live in, voters can make truly informed decisions about candidates and questions, and government transparency is not simply an aspiration but a reality. This is the work in front of us, and we're thrilled to take it on - we ask no more (and no less) than to be able to continue to do so far into the future.

A. Outreach Materials





Arlington Community Media, Inc. is a nonprofit community media center. The town of Arlington relies on us for making the free exchange of ideas accessible through public broadcasting, digital streaming, and archival footage.

ACMI.TV / JOIN
Be immersed in town experiences

WATCH ON TV xfinity verizon Astound

PUBLIC
News, Arts & Culture, Public Affairs 8 915³¹ 629³

EDUCATION
Performing Arts, Youth, Sports 9 24 613¹³

GOVERNMENT
Town Meetings, Select Board, School Committee, Elections 22 26 614¹⁵

WATCH ONLINE
ACMI.TV — YOUTUBE.COM/ACMITV

ACMi SPORTS
YOUTUBE.COM/ACMISPORTS

ACMi NEWS
YOUTUBE.COM/ACMINEWS

Roku
"ACMi" APP



ACMI.TV/JOIN



Arlington's only broadcast news, serving hyperlocal stories and the Greater Boston area.

ACMI.TV / NEWS
Be immersed in town experiences

ACMi is the only media outlet offering extensive coverage of Arlington's diverse community events. From school graduations and Town Meeting to Town Day and the 250th Anniversary of the Revolutionary War, ACMi ensures that those unable to attend in person won't miss these historical moments.

Local Government

ACMi gives viewers access to a broad range of meetings, including Select Board, School Committee, Housing Authority, Finance Committee, Redevelopment Board, and the Zoning Board of Appeals. ACMi also provides complete coverage of elections, including candidate debates, profiles, and live ballot results.

Youth Sports, Concerts, & Performances

ACMi delivers high-quality coverage of AHS sports and performances thanks to the dedication of youth and member volunteers who receive comprehensive training to capture these always-popular events.

Public Affairs

ACMi's Public Affairs programming features regular Updates with the Town Manager, the Planning Director, and the DEI Director, as well as deeper dives into issues that impact our community. In this way, ACMi supports the informed, engaged citizenry on which Arlington thrives.

"ACMi is a crucial partner of the Town and a vital community resource that provides a front row seat to the important deliberations and decisions happening in Town."

Jim Feeney,
Arlington Town Manager

ACMi content is available on Comcast, RCN, and Verizon cable channels, our website, YouTube, and even on Roku. Everything that's happening right now—plus VOD and more than 30 years of archival programming—all at your fingertips!

ACMi News

This award-winning hyperlocal weekly newscast focuses on stories of interest to Arlington residents, businesses, and government agencies. ACMi News and its citizen journalists and interns connect you to the heart of the community.

Public Affairs

ACMi's Public Affairs programming features regular Updates with the Town Manager, the Planning Director, and the DEI Director, as well as deeper dives into issues that impact our community. In this way, ACMi supports the informed, engaged citizenry on which Arlington thrives.

"When I think of the many enterprises that Arlington has to be proud of, ACMi is at the top of the list... and the community is richer for it."

Lisa Mullins,
WBUR host and Arlington resident

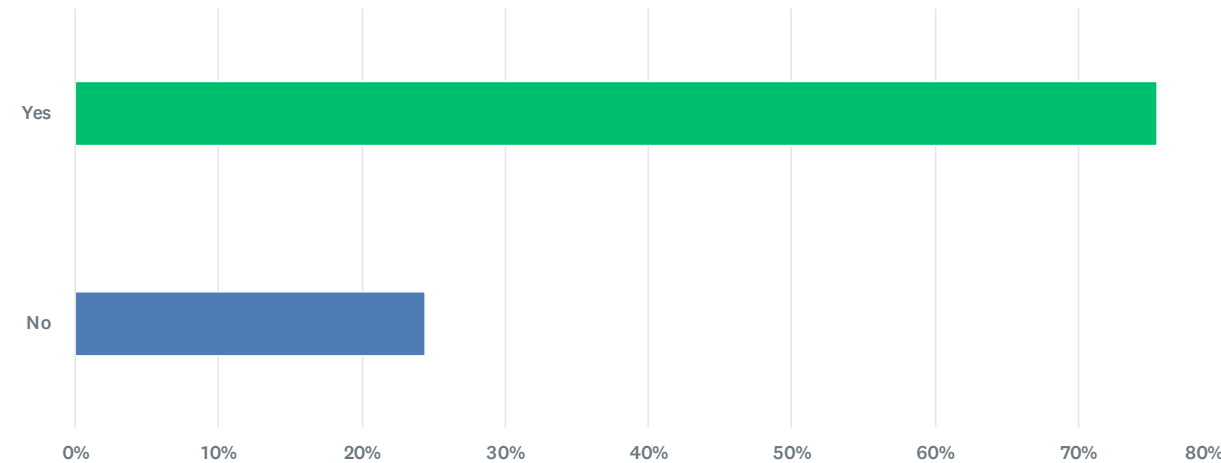


B. Town Survey Results

From the benchmark of the Town Survey results of ten years ago, when we produced our last Ascertainment Report, there has been an increase in both the awareness of ACMi (**68%** of respondents in 2015, **75%** of respondents in 2026), and in the percentage of respondents who are either Satisfied or Very Satisfied with ACMi's programming (**90%** in 2015, **94%** in 2026). See the charts below for this year's Survey results.

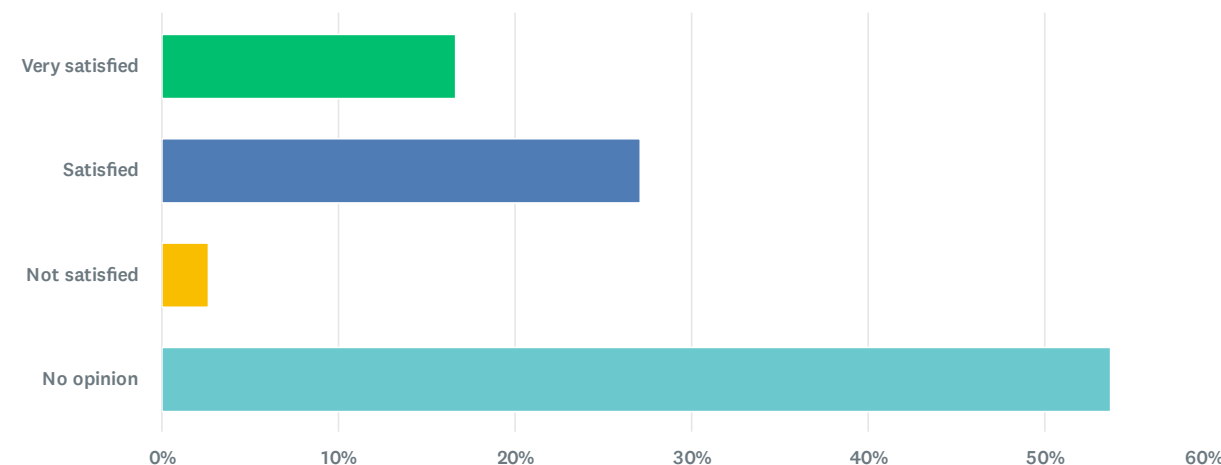
Q4 564 responses

There is a nonprofit organization in Arlington called Arlington Community Media, Inc., (ACMi). ACMi provides local public, educational, and governmental ("PEG") access programming to cable television subscribers, such as Select Board meetings, School Committee meetings, talk shows, and various other events. Are you aware of ACMi and its programming?



Q5 488 responses

If yes, what is your level of satisfaction with programs presented by ACMi? Please check one.



C. Letters of Support



Town of Arlington
Office of the Town Manager

James Feeney
Town Manager

730 Massachusetts Avenue
Arlington MA 02476-4908
Phone (781) 316-3010

July 22, 2026

To the Arlington Community,

I am pleased to write this letter in strong support of Arlington Community Media (ACMi) and its ongoing commitment to serving the Town of Arlington and its residents.

ACMi is an essential partner in promoting government transparency, public access, and community engagement. Through its Government Channel, ACMi provides residents with comprehensive coverage of the Town's many government bodies, agencies, boards, and committees, ensuring that local government remains accessible to everyone. Each year, ACMi produces over 300 hours of meeting coverage, including live broadcasts of the Select Board, School Committee, Annual Town Meeting, and numerous other board and committee meetings. These meetings are also streamed online and archived through ACMi's Video-on-Demand service, allowing residents to watch them at their convenience and remain informed about local decisions and policies.

Beyond meeting coverage, ACMi broadcasts public forums, public hearings, local election programming, candidate debates, and the League of Women Voters' Candidates' Night. ACMi also works directly with candidates to produce video profiles that give voters the opportunity to hear each candidate's priorities and vision for the community. These services help ensure that residents have access to balanced, nonpartisan information and encourage informed participation in local elections.

ACMi continually expands its coverage in response to issues of importance to the community. ACMi also provides bi-weekly Town Hall updates and coverage of the Department of Planning and Community Development, strengthening communication between local government and residents.



TO: Arlington Cable Advisory Committee
FROM: Dr. Elizabeth C. Homan, Superintendent
RE: ACMi Impact on Arlington Public Schools
DATE: 07/31/2026

Dear Cable Advisory Committee,

I am writing this letter of enthusiastic support for the importance of supporting our local community media outlet and their programming here in Arlington, Massachusetts. I have served as the Superintendent of the Arlington Public Schools for the past five years, and as I enter year six, I can confidently assert that without the support and programming that ACMi offers, we would not be able to share our rich programming with our community, we would not be able to share crucial moments of pride and development with our students' families, and we would not be able to offer nearly as much rich and engaging programming for our students.

There are many things to highlight about our partnership with ACMi in the schools, but there are a few things I will choose to focus on as examples. That said, these examples are certainly not an exhaustive list. But before I talk about specific programs, I would like to note that our colleagues at ACMi are truly **community partners**. They show up for the schools when we need support sharing something with the community, and they do so without fail, even in moments when they are strained to adequately staff or supply a broadcast. This is evident at major events like Town Day, as well as for routine governance meetings, such as our School Committee meetings, which are broadcast to the Community to provide greater access and visibility. They arrive early to ensure that we are prepared for every broadcast, and they work with our staff and teams supportively. Two examples of this partnership that have positively benefitted the AHS community specifically have included their documentation of the AHS building project in partnership with the AHS Building Committee, and filming major school events that do not carry copyright implications, including athletics, graduation, concerts, and other significant programs.

ACMi's youth programming provides middle and high school students with opportunities to learn about broadcasting and digital content development through extracurricular activities and partnerships with Arlington Community Education (a program housed within the Arlington Public Schools) that provide opportunities to work directly with their professional staff. They partner to provide vacation camp opportunities, engage the students in real broadcasting opportunities that allow us to share over 60 concerts each year and countless more athletic events with the full community, and allow them to create their own content as well. I have partnered with students to share content related to our strategic plan, as well as information about initiatives important to implementing that plan. These collaborations with our student producers both



enriched their learning and helped them contribute to the work of their schools and the community as a whole.

In the past, ACMi's youth coordinator helped connect students with media production and provided more support for student coverage of school events. ACMi has struggled to maintain the staffing capacity to sustain a regular student news program like the Pondercast at the high school, though recently they hired a new youth coordinator who we look forward to building programming with moving forward. It has been difficult to establish the consistent, ongoing schedule that would be needed to build a robust student media program as a result of budgetary constraints. Increased resources for dedicated staffing would ensure the stability of our work with students and allow APS to develop more regular news and media programming. As we prepare for potentially building a new Middle School, we are hoping that it will be able to house a recording studio and newscast for our middle school students, ensuring the capacity for the robust programming that we have had in place in the past.

Finally, ACMi's coverage ensures that our schools remain at the heart of our community and connections between residents and their families. The number of events we are able to share with the broader community - including our students' grandparents and relatives in other communities - thanks to ACMi's support enriches our programming and helps our students proudly demonstrate their expertise, whether they are being filmed, are helping behind the scenes, or are standing behind the camera.

We all know that the digital content creation and dissemination landscape has changed dramatically in recent years, and I worry about the impact of this on cable outlets such as ACMi, who are pivotal to the cohesiveness of a community. Local media channels are suffering as a result of these changes, diminishing resources that are critical to both governance and public services. Arlington has a rich history of sharing local expertise, wisdom, events, and opportunities with the support of our local broadcasting organizations. As much as the public schools and municipal leaders have attempted to support ACMi through these challenges, our resources are limited as well. Just this past year, we eliminated \$1.4M in faculty positions, and that was **after** a successful override. The demands placed on all of our local organizations to provide robust and compelling services to residents are high, the costs are increasing, and the resources and revenue streams continue to dwindle as the economic landscape favors consolidation over localization.

I hope that the Cable Advisory Committee will do all that is necessary to ensure that ACMi receives the revenue required to continue to operate the rich programming it already has in place - *as well* as some of the programming that it has been able to run in the past, such as operating a second studio for youth programming - without placing the Town and Schools in the difficult position of cutting more services that benefit families of all ages, all over the Town of



Arlington. I further hope that the industry will revisit its financial models to ensure the stability of local media outlets, supporting them to integrate themselves into the changing landscape of content dissemination. This changing landscape carries very real infrastructural costs and structural challenges that might be easy for a major media company to address, but are more cost- and resource-prohibitive for smaller local organizations.

I deeply appreciate the opportunity to write on behalf of ACMi, who have served as such fantastic partners for our schools – both during my tenure and for decades before I joined the Arlington team.

Sincerely,

Dr. Elizabeth C. Homan
Superintendent, Arlington Public Schools



Greg Christiana
Town Moderator, Town of Arlington
gchristiana@town.arlington.ma.us
781-819-2781



July 28, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

As Town Moderator, I am writing to express my strongest possible support for Arlington Community Media Inc. (ACMi) for their Ascertainment Report. ACMi is an indispensable partner in our local democratic process, providing the technical infrastructure and civic platform that allow our town government to function transparently and inclusively.

The professionalism and technical expertise displayed by the ACMi team are exemplary. Managing the complex, multi-room A/V configurations at Town Hall is a formidable task, yet ACMi ensures these setups are reliable and seamless session after session. I am particularly impressed by their ability to troubleshoot and resolve unexpected technical issues with remarkable speed, ensuring that the deliberations of Town Meeting operate with minimal technical interruptions.

Following a decisive 146-34 vote of support for further exploring hybrid participation at Town Meeting ([2026 Article 89](#)), the Town of Arlington has begun planning a critical pilot for 2027. ACMi's role in this transition will be essential. As we collaborate with the Hybrid Town Meeting Study Committee, the Town Meeting Procedures Committee, and our electronic voting system vendor, we will rely heavily on ACMi's institutional knowledge and technical guidance to ensure a successful and equitable experience for all members, whether participating in person or remotely.

Beyond technical support, ACMi provides immense civic value as a primary vehicle for public communication. Their platform allows candidates and office holders to reach the community directly, fostering a more informed electorate. I am eager to make even greater use of ACMi's platform in the future to engage a broader range of residents on the vital mechanics of our local democracy. ACMi is an essential component of Arlington's virtual public square.

I want to specifically commend Norm McLeod, Jeff Munro, Sean Keane, and James Milan; their deep technical expertise is matched only by the warmth and professionalism they bring to every interaction. They are true partners who go above and beyond to serve the Town.

I offer my full and enthusiastic recommendation for ACMi and look forward to our continued partnership in service to the people of Arlington.

Sincerely,

Greg Christiana
Town Moderator, Town of Arlington



July 23, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to offer my strong support for Arlington Community Media, Inc. (ACMi) and its continued role as a vital resource for the Town of Arlington.

ACMi serves an essential function in our community by providing residents with access to local government proceedings, community events, educational programming, and opportunities for civic engagement. Through its commitment to local storytelling and public access media, ACMi helps foster transparency, community awareness, and civic participation throughout Arlington.

The Arlington Housing Authority has benefited directly from ACMi's partnership and community outreach efforts. Over the years, ACMi has covered a number of AHA programs, partnerships, initiatives, and resident-centered events, helping to raise awareness of the services and opportunities available to our residents. ACMi has also helped share the stories and accomplishments of AHA residents, ensuring that their voices and experiences are represented within the broader Arlington community. This coverage has been invaluable in promoting community engagement and highlighting the positive impact of our work.

In addition to supporting organizations such as the AHA, ACMi provides vital coverage of Town Meeting, Select Board meetings, committee meetings, and other municipal activities that keep residents informed and connected to local government. ACMi's programming reflects the diversity, creativity, and civic spirit of Arlington and serves as an important platform for community voices.

The services ACMi provides cannot be easily replicated by commercial media outlets. Its ability to educate, inform, and connect residents strengthens the fabric of our community and contributes significantly to Arlington's quality of life.

I strongly support ACMi's continued operation and the funding necessary to sustain and expand its services. This organization is an important community asset, and its continued success will benefit Arlington residents and local agencies for years to come.

Sincerely,


Jack Nagle
Executive Director



July 23, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to lend my support to the important and quality work that ACMi provides to the Arlington community. From news reporting to quality programming, we all benefit from ACMi's work. Arlington EATS has benefited from their coverage in many ways, whether it's publicizing our fundraising efforts (i.e. the annual Turkey Trot) or spotlighting the various programs we offer to inform the community members who may be in need of our services.

Over the years, I have had the pleasure of working with several of the staff and volunteers at ACMi and have found them to be incredibly professional and courteous. They are part of what makes Arlington a great place to live and work.

In an era when local media keeps shrinking, it's important to maintain our local media outlets so that local news is highlighted and residents remain informed. Arlington EATS strongly supports ACMi's continued operation and encourages the Town of Arlington to ensure that ACMi has the resources to continue this vital work.

Sincerely,



Andi Doane
Executive Director



TOWN OF ARLINGTON
COUNCIL ON AGING
27 MAPLE STREET
ARLINGTON, MA 02476

TEL: 781-316-3400
FAX: 781-316-3409

July 22, 2026

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for our long-standing partner, ACMi.

Many people do not realize the number of older adults that are still not tech savvy and who still rely on cable TV and print media for their news and information. As the Director of the Council on Aging in Arlington, a town with over 12,000 residents age 60+, this is certainly changing, but there is still almost 50% of our population that does not have access to streaming services, internet, social media or cell phones. ACMi is an organization that helps us share information with people who we cannot otherwise reach, through their Public, Education and Government cable TV channels. On the flip side, we don't have to worry about missing the younger residents who are only connected through streaming and social media because ACMi covers that, too.

ACMi is a key partner for the COA in the community, and we value their expertise and ability to share important information. They often help us by coming on site to record important programs so that the content can be shared with older adults who are homebound or those who do not have the capacity to leave their homes. They also provide an opportunity for this information to be shared via links at a later time if people are simply not able to attend the live program. This was especially helpful when we were sharing information on Property Tax Relief Programs this past year, an important and very relevant topic for older adults who choose to age in place. ACMi also provided coverage for our LGBTQ+ Pride Party, our Sage Table event, and they have come to interview older adults on their perspectives related to current events and town issues.

ACMi also offers wonderful and engaging opportunities for Older Adults in Arlington to volunteer in the community. They provide training to teach people the skills they need in order to work the equipment, providing a positive and connecting experience for people who have great skills to offer, but just need a little education to get started.

ACMi is an important fixture in the community and is a way that many of our older adults connect to important information. Please feel welcome to contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Kristine Shah
Executive Director
Council on Aging



July 24, 2026

Dear Mssrs. McLeod and Milan,

I am writing in support of Arlington Community Media Inc./ ACMI. As a founder and president of the Cyrus Dallin Art Museum, I have spent many years working with the staff at ACMI: videotaping events, lectures, walking tours, unveiling new acquisitions, creating short films of a dozen Dallin landscape bronzes in and around Boston, and most recently being interviewed with my colleague Heather Leavell by James Milan. The subject was Dallin's wife Vittoria Colonna Dallin. Michael Armanious with his interest "in the power of women within a community" is the catalyst for the program.

Both Heather and I have been very pleased with the quality of our productions and the professionalism of the ACMI staff.

I have aspirations of continuing these projects to introduce this internationally known sculptor to Arlington's residents. The Cyrus Dallin Art Museum always has areas of interest. Whether art, history, community events or kids' programming, we offer a variety of topics for filming to share with our neighbors. I encourage everyone to support ACMI for their very good work for the benefit of our town, and especially for future programs about art and history

Sincerely,

Geri Tremblay
President
C.E. Dallin Art Museum 781-305-3438



THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY OF ARLINGTON, INC.

Arlington Philharmonic Orchestra (APO)

Arlington-Belmont Chorale (ABC)

Arlington-Belmont Chamber Chorus (ABCC)

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Chorus Conductor

Orchestra

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Maria Ivanova

Accompanists

Erin Tellier, Chorale
Brandon Santini, Chamber
Chorus

P.O. Box 191
Arlington, MA 02476

July 16, 2026

On behalf of the Philharmonic Society of Arlington (PSA), I am offering this letter of support for the Arlington Community Media, Inc. (ACMi). There are several connections between these two community organizations which I would like to highlight here.

Three years ago, the PSA was contacted by an intern at ACMi and asked if he could do a profile of the Arlington Philharmonic Orchestra. He came over to one of the rehearsals, and interviewed our conductor, Orlando Cela, as well as myself as community liaison and one other member of the orchestra. The interviews were very professionally conducted and a lovely short video profile of the orchestra was produced and aired on ACMi.

Last year, for the Arlington250 celebrations, the PSA featured a special Pops Concert program in June. In March 2025, at the Arlington250 "kickoff" event at the Capitol Theatre, Jeff Munro of ACMi was situated at the table next to the PSA table. After hearing about the PSA upcoming Pops Concert featuring a special Arlington250 themed performance, Jeff agreed to live-stream that June concert and post the recording afterwards, so any community member who could not attend the live performance at Town Hall could still enjoy the concert. And, the connection made at the kickoff event led to an invitation for myself and a member of the PSA Chorale to be interviewed ahead of the concert, on ACMi's "Talk of the Town" program. It was a rewarding experience for us to be able to talk about the Philharmonic Society of Arlington; James Milan, the host of the program, is an excellent interviewer who made us feel relaxed and able to talk easily about the PSA and community music in general. Many people in Arlington don't realize that there's an orchestra and chorus in town, and this aired interview truly helped us spread the word.

In February of this year, the orchestra performed a concert entitled "Armenia", at the Arlington High School. We were thrilled to have ACMi there to record the concert, with multiple close-up camera angles that highlighted all different sections of the orchestra- a very impressive outcome.

Most recently, Josh Guicherit of ACMi was at this year's annual June "Strawberry Festival" and Pops Concert, interviewing attendees and taking film footage of the event, for the ACMi news program.

In all the collaborations of the PSA with ACMi, I have found them to be a wonderful and important community organization. Each member of ACMi I've dealt with has been responsive in back and forth communications, very professional, and talented in their work. Arlington is lucky to have ACMi in our community, and I strongly support the continuation of operational and capital funding to help ACMi continue to grow and reach even more people in Arlington.

Julie Goldberg

PSA Board Vice-President
Community Liaison

ACMI is an incredible resource that I have been very grateful for, as I lead Housing Corporation of Arlington. You have, multiple times over the last several years, provided us with opportunities to educate the public about our work to support low income families and provide affordable housing, and to introduce members of our staff to the public. When the MBTA Communities legislation was being debated in Arlington a few years ago, I was grateful to have the opportunity to join the Town's Director of Planning to do a show in your studio where she talked about that legislation and I gave context about the housing market and the situation facing Arlington residents.

As a local nonprofit leader who must remain aware of what is happening in Town Hall and throughout our community, I frequently watch various shows that you put out with Town Hall leaders or others, to help keep me informed. Those shows are invaluable for getting the most up to date information on a wide range of issues that are deeply relevant for HCA.

I know that some of our members have watched public hearings filmed by ACMi when HCA's affordable housing projects were before the Arlington Redevelopment Board in order to follow that story, even though they were unable to attend in person. This is especially helpful for people with disabilities, which many of our tenants live with.

You have invited us to connect our tenants with opportunities you provide for local residents to become trained on the equipment and participate in making content. We have been limited in our ability to take full advantage of that due to our own staffing capacities. But I have just hired a new staff person to help boost our social services and community organizing work, so I see that part of the relationship growing in the future.

I have done this kind of housing development/family support/advocacy work in many Greater Boston communities. A benefit of doing this work in Arlington specifically is that we have such a thoughtful and caring wider community that supports HCA's mission in a variety of ways. I am certain that residents' wide and deep knowledge of what happens in the town contributes to making Arlington the thoughtful, welcoming place that it is. ACMi plays a crucial role in providing that information to the average local resident -- and in contributing to this caring local culture.

Erica

Erica Schwarz
Executive Director
Housing Corporation of Arlington
252 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02474
781-859-5294 ext. 1 www.HousingCorpArlington.org

2026 is HCA's 40th Anniversary Year!
Learn more at www.housingcorporarlington.org/40thanniversary



July 23, 2026

To Whom it May Concern:

I was welcomed to Arlington Community Media Inc. as a Production Intern in 2016 where I quickly became accustomed to the nonstop flurry of people and productions. Local news stories needed covering, musicians needed microphones in the studio, and videos needed editing. One of the first big projects I worked on was supporting the ACMi Awards, an evening celebrating and honoring ACMi members. The volunteer members at ACMi are the heart and soul of the organization. ACMi provides a community for these Arlington residents to get involved, be creative, and learn. In return, what the volunteers give back to the community is invaluable.

You are probably aware of the content and services that ACMi provides the town – They support democracy with coverage of government meetings. They provide live coverage of school events such as graduation, sports games, and concerts. In an era where local journalism is vanishing, ACMi News provides hyperlocal news coverage. They support and uplift local organizations such as the Robbins Library, the Council on Aging, and the Arlington Commission for the Arts and Culture, as well as local businesses. But what has always amazed me about ACMi is that they are dedicated to positively impacting every single person that walks through their door. Whether you are an experienced filmmaker looking to borrow equipment, someone who lost their job hoping to learn a new skill, a youth in need of volunteer hours, or if you are lonely and trying to find your community, ACMi will greet you with the same enthusiasm. They are unwavering in their support of every single Arlington resident.

In particular, I'd like to highlight that youth productions (sports, theater, music concerts, graduation) are filmed by the youth. With the help of ACMi staff, afterschool groups learn how to work together as a professional team, planning, producing, and filming live events for their school. These are invaluable skills that you can't learn in the classroom. These youth are motivated by their interests and each other, they learn teamwork and leadership, build confidence, and figure out how to handle stressful situations (live broadcasting doesn't allow for second takes). Many of these students have gone on to make careers out of what they have learned thanks to ACMi.

When I joined ACMi as an intern a decade ago I was at a crossroads professionally, and I wasn't sure what career I wanted to pursue. Today I am a Senior Media Technician for Harvard University. I wouldn't be here without the skills and hands-on experience that I acquired working with the amazing people at ACMi. My experience is not unique, I am one of many people for whom ACMi made a real tangible impact. ACMi is part of the fabric that makes Arlington a special place. I hope they continue to receive the support they need to continue to impact lives for a long time to come.

Sincerely,
Katie Chang

I am pleased to offer this sincere letter of support to ACMi from myself and the entire Regent Theatre team.

I have enjoyed working with everyone there from the youngest volunteers and interns to the most seasoned veterans.

During my 25 years here, ACMi has been a constant, enthusiastic partner for us, whether capturing events such as the annual Arlington High School Battle of the Bands and sponsoring and organizing the A-Town Teen Video Contest and Awards, or interviewing me and our performers (including iconic actor, Ed Asner, for his 90th birthday celebration a few years back!) on a consistent basis--one memorable story capturing our 100th Anniversary Celebration in 2016. Now, ten years later, I can say that ACMi has "always been there," and we hope you continue your excellent work for years to come.

Lastly, as an Arlington resident for 45 years, I have seen the impact ACMi has throughout the community. Furthermore, the education you have provided to new generations of technicians, videographers, journalists, and others has been admirable. Bravo!

Sincerely with gratitude,

Leland

Leland Stein
Director of Programming and Community Relations
Regent Theatre
7 Medford Street
Arlington, MA 02474 lstein@regenttheatre.com



www.regenttheatre.com
Facebook | Twitter | Instagram

Dear James:

I’m very pleased to support Arlington Community Media, Inc.

I’ve served on the Arlington School Committee for 24 years and on Town Meeting since 2001. ACMI plays a critical role in ensuring the Arlington community can watch public meetings of the Select Board, School Committee, Finance Committee, and other bodies. ACMI’s broadcast of the annual Town meeting is watched by thousands of people each year, and ACMI televises high school sporting events and other pogroming.

I’m particularly grateful to ACMI for the coverage ACMI gave to the high school building project. As chair of the committee, it was helpful to have ACMI regularly broadcast updates to the community.

Over the years, our family has enjoyed seeing our children’s school performance on ACMI, and we’ve enjoyed news and other programming. Finally, ACMI does a wonderful job of training local residents interested in starting shows and programs as I did many years ago with “The Public Square,” a program that featured discussions with Arlington leaders.

I’m proud to support ACMI and grateful that is part of our community.

Sincerely,
Jeff Thielman
Member, Arlington School Committee and Arlington Town Meeting
Chair, Arlington High School Building Committee

Jeffrey D. Thielman
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Dear to whom it may concern,

I am big fan of ACMI News, I have volunteered few years ago for 3 or 4 years, during the Thursdays news casts, pressed record buttons, ACMI has given me learning experience about how news casts work, and I even took a class offered by them - how to film musical performances, practiced using the cameras, and zooming in and out.
ACMI Is a great non profit that deserves more funding from Town of Arlington to not only buy more digital equipment to make more weekly news casts but also to pay more staff and interns, ACMI covers many community related events, not only town hall meetings. But high school sports games. Events, Town Day, Holiday fairs at Town Hall, Arlington Farmers Market, ACMI is very important part of Town of Arlington, many skilled staff, interns and volunteers, give back to the community. Please Town of Arlington, please continue to support ACMI Financially so it can continue to be an asset in many ways to Arlington.

Jonathan Spiller

Dear ACMi,

I am writing to show my support for Arlington Community Media’s important work as the Window on Arlington (MA).

I’m the parent of students in the Arlington School District. One of them was in the school band and cross country team. Thanks to ACMi, those who can’t go to a concert or any APS sporting event could always watch on TV. This was great if we or the grandparents couldn’t be there in person.

Even Ottoson Middle School had TV coverage, as well as High school music and sports. They even covered many away games! Obviously, coverage of the High School graduation was important for other family members.

I’m also a fan of ACMi’s coverage non school events, like the town’s annual Battle of the Bands, Arlington Town Day, and general coverage of events big and small.

The work the ACMi staff (and also their volunteers) is impressive in making a small town like Arlington feel bigger. I hope they can continue to get the funding they need and deserve!

Jim Pogozeleski
Arlington MA resident since 2006

As a longtime Arlington resident, I appreciate all that ACMi has contributed to the Arlington community!

ACMi newscasts are informative, interesting, and high-quality, especially given the very small staff. Besides keeping Arlington residents current on what’s happening in Arlington, the news programs also highlight community businesses. This supports local businesses -- Arlington needs to increase its commercial tax base, and this kind of publicity is very helpful.

I find the candidate interviews very valuable as I evaluate the people running for local offices. James Milan does an excellent job with interviews. He recently did a wonderful interview with Dr.

Eddie Glaude, Jr., a national political commentator and Black History professor at Princeton, about his most recent book, “America, USA”, which Dr. Gluade spoke about at an event at the Regent Theater, sponsored by the Mystic Valley Area NAACP.

In addition to its news programs, ACMi has produced a number of shows that enrich the cultural scene in Arlington, such as covering Town Day and providing opportunities for local musicians to perform and get visibility.

When I retired, I was looking to learn about something new. ACMi provided the training, equipment, and support I needed to learn about what goes into producing a piece to be broadcast -- I learned enough new skills to be able to produce a couple of pieces about educational initiatives in Arlington. As a volunteer for news program broadcasts, I learned about the complexity of putting together a news program. My experience allowed me to look at state and national news programming with a new perspective.

ACMi does a fantastic job, because of its dedicated and talented staff and volunteers. Although they do so much with limited resources, their efforts depend on an adequate level of funding. They are an important part of what makes Arlington such a great place to live!

Thanks,
Greg Bartlett

My name is Grady Mangrum, and I am a rising freshman at Arlington High School. I first came across ACMi two years ago when they were looking for middle schoolers to help livestream concerts, specifically middle school orchestra, band, and chorus concerts. After learning how to operate all the equipment, I started regularly helping with the concerts, and also occasionally visited the ACMi studio for various reasons, such as when I needed to borrow a microphone or edit a video for school. I am planning to record sports games next year with ACMi equipment and get community service hours for doing so. ACMi has been extremely helpful to me and will likely play a part in my High School career by furthering my knowledge related to livestreaming, video, audio, and executive functioning. ACMi is one of Arlington's valuable resources, and I hope it continues to be in the future.

Dear ACMi,

I write in support of the value of ACMi as a community outreach partner for municipal employees. When the Town has a message to get out to the public, ACMi is an unparalleled resource of technical expertise and professional coaching.

Over my 14 years as the recycling coordinator for Arlington Public Works, I partnered with ACMi to produce over a dozen educational videos, which continue to be featured on the Town's website. I gained life-long production and video editing skills with their guidance, while creating content that has retained its value for a decade.

I've been interviewed for regular programs, such as Talk of the Town, and our DPW events have been featured as news segments. ACMi staff make interviews, whether in their amazing TV studio or in the field, very comfortable and rewarding. The final programs, circulated on their stations and linked on the Town's web pages, help the Town reach new audiences.

When I lead summer campers through ACMi's door, the staff are incredibly patient and enthusiastic. The youth get to create their own media content, with professional equipment and under the direction of seasoned producers. ACMi is able to help us see through our mission of building youth leadership and voice in local environmental issues.

Thank you to ACMi for enriching my role in outreach and education with our town residents. I look forward to continuing as a volunteer producer for years to come.

Sincerely,
Charlotte Milan

To whom it may concern,
It is my honor to write in support of Arlington Community Media, Inc. My name is Michael Armanious. I came to this country from Egypt, where the ancient language of hieroglyphics first taught me that images can carry meaning more powerfully than words. That early lesson shaped my life's work: for many years, I have taught intelligence techniques through visualization. Having called Arlington home for over 30 years, I have come to see ACMi as something truly rare and precious—a Virtual Public Square where residents give shape and voice to their ideas. What ACMi offers our community goes far beyond broadcasting or borrowing equipment. Its dedicated staff has helped me produce thoughtful conversations with Harvard professors, scholars connected to the Library of Alexandria, and respected authors—gifts of insight that few towns our size are fortunate enough to receive. My own experience as a member has been deeply meaningful, and I believe every family in Arlington would benefit from joining, or at least encouraging their children to participate. What ACMi gives is immeasurable. I urge you to continue your strong support for this remarkable institution. Arlington is a better place because of it.

With gratitude and respect,
Michael Armanious
Arlington, MA

Arlington Community Media Inc. (ACMI) and its predecessor ACA have served Arlington community in many ways since 1980. Covering annual town meetings, Select Board, School Committee and more provide information on the administration of the town to be available to our residents and interested parties. Interviews with Town Manager and Dept Heads among others further disseminate details on areas of public interest. Annual events like Arlington Town Day and LWV Candidates Night are appreciated even more by many watching live and rebroadcasts. Attending various events around town on planning, culture and more I am always pleased to see coverage by ACMI to share all the many happenings in Arlington with the community and beyond. The educational opportunities for students and adults to learn about the many aspects of ACMI productions is also very noteworthy. ACMI also helps to host Arlington Heights Holiday and seasonal events due to its prominent location on Park Ave at former Victoria Dallin Branch Library. Arlington has been well served by many employees, board members and especially volunteers who have donated so much via ACMI to make Arlington a better community. This letter is for inclusion in Ascertainment Study of ACMI. Well, ACMI allows me and all Arlington cable consumers to ascertain (find out and discover) all about Arlington its history, culture, arts and the people of Arlington. The funds provided by cable companies for use by ACMI are wisely spent and greatly

needed to continue the great programming, news and entertainment that ACMI provides. I highly recommend the continued support of ACMI.

Robert Tosi Jr
Town Meeting Member and community volunteer
14 Inverness Rd Arlington, MA 02476
857-998-0446
bobtosi@verzon.net

ACMi is a wonderful resource for the town of Arlington. The news information and town programming keeps me totally informed about what's going on. Some times when I cannot make it to a town event or cannot find parking for a town event, it is a wonderful option to be able to see what is going on in detail. There is a wide choice of programming including the coverage of Arlington town meetings and other critical events. The coverage of Arlington sports activities is critical to the students and parents who follow the games. Not only is it a great resource for following the games but I have heard the recordings of those games are really important to students for applications for sports grants or even college applications. In addition, classes that provide media training for all ages is an offering that I believe is a unique offering for Arlington residents especially in this age where this knowledge is of growing importance. Finally, the availability of the programming on YouTube means that the content is available whether or not viewers have cable access.

I truly hope that Arlington continues the funding for ACMi especially as the need grows even more critical as people are “cutting the chord” from cable.

Jeanne Friedman
22 Hartford Road, Arlington, MA
ljeannef@comcast.net
617-838-8638

To whom it may concern

In recent years I have been the Program Director for the Friends of the Robbins Library. In this role I organized monthly programs supported by the Friends for the benefit of the community. I also organized Sunday afternoon Reading Room concerts during the winter months. Many of the performers were residents of Arlington or surrounding communities.

The majority of these concerts were recorded by a volunteer using equipment borrowed from ACMi. For the price of a modest membership fee, equipment is made available whenever needed. The recordings of the concerts could be accessed by community members who might have missed the concert or for repeat viewing, and to performers for their own use.

These recordings would not have been possible without our having ready access to ACMi's equipment, staff and volunteers. The availability of ACMi's services is a great asset to the community.

Sally J. Naish—781.859.9993 (c) sallynaishphotography.com

This letter is to express my deep gratitude to ACMi for their dedication, enthusiasm and benevolence in their unwavering support of Arlington neighbors and community.

ACMi does an incredible job of covering local events across wide variety of topics, from political (town committee meetings and elections) to arts, history, education and local events (such as school strings concerts) and even cooking. It's hard to overestimate ACMi's impact on Arlington's community. This is such a vital source of independent local journalism that is indispensable and getting increasingly endangered.

My first encounter with ACMi happened when I watched recordings of the Arlington School Committee meetings, which ACMi is always recording and publishing on YouTube.

My direct interaction with ACMi happened when I was running for a candidacy at the Arlington School Committee. Here ACMi proved as an essential vehicle for supporting fair and unbiased elections. As a candidate without any institutional sponsors, I didn't have funds for any advertisements, and without ACMi my candidacy would have been barely noticeable. The coverage of all candidates which ACMi did helped me to showcase my candidacy on par with other candidates. ACMi recorded the Candidates Town Hall event, hosted candidates' debates (James Milan being the debates host). In addition, ACMi provided dedicated time for recording and producing candidates' video profiles, which all candidates promptly displayed on their websites. Thanks to ACMi, all candidates were given ample time and opportunity to highlight their agendas. This is an enormous contribution that ACMi provided towards supporting fair elections, unaffected by candidates' financial resources.

I cannot stress enough how important it is to have such an amazing media production here in Arlington. I am extremely grateful to ACMi's team, their passion and drive, their enthusiasm and care. Their service to Arlington is invaluable.

With gratitude,
Dmitry Vasilyev

To whom it may concern,

ACMi is an important resource that many of us rely on to stay connected to the town community and engage with civic and government issues. As a working mother of young children, I rarely have time to attend town events; ACMi's coverage allows me to watch important events like the Meet the Candidates night, and also tune into lectures and events of interest, such as Richard Duffy's local history presentations, that I wouldn't otherwise have access to. I know many others in our community depend on ACMi's event coverage to stay informed about what's happening in our town. It's important that our town continue to have ACMi now and for many years to come!

Sincerely,
Liz Epstein, Arlington resident

Dear Norm, James, and ACMi.tv staff:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the critical role Arlington Community Media, Inc. (ACMi) serves in our community. Having been an active member since I produced Hola Arlington! in 2004 and having had the privilege of serving on the Board of Directors for several years, I have seen firsthand the profound and positive impact this organization has on our community. My other productions include Face The Book TV and Ready, Row! USA; I've also served on the crew for countless studio and field productions.

ACMi is far more than just a media center—it is a vital civic hub. It empowers local voices and organizations, fosters creative expression, and provides essential, transparent coverage of our town’s government and public events. Over the past two decades, I’ve watched ACMi continuously evolve to meet changing media landscapes while staying fiercely dedicated to its core mission of open access, education, and community connection.

The dedicated staff and passionate volunteers make ACMi an invaluable community asset. I strongly endorse their ongoing mission and encourage full community support for their continued work.

Sincerely,
Charlotte Pierce

To the Cable Advisory Commitee,

I have been a resident of Arlington for 35 years, so I am well aware of how absolutley essential ACMi is to our community. Quite simply, it provides news, services, and communitu building that no other entity can provide.

In this era of the decline and reduction of newspapers and other traditional news sources, exemplified by the end of our own Arlington Advocate, ACMi is really the only professional broadcast journalism providing coverage of Arlington Town government and community news. Such information is an absolutely necessary condition for preservation of our Town’s democracy. Its wonderful extensive coverage of Town Meeting, Select Board, etc. is incredibly important. With the public’s wide adoption of and acceptance of online meeting technology since the COVID-19 era, these simulcasts are more valuable and accessible than ever. And this allows many, who because of infirmity, disability, or time conflicts to have unprecedented accessibility.

This alone would be enough to justify continued maximum and increased support for this Town treasure. But ACMi does much more in its coverage of cultural and other events, regular news programming, documentation of many of out Town’s unique cultural institutions and groups. As a Board Member of the Friends of Robbins Farm Park for 23 years, I can speak directly of how helpful ACMi has been in covering and publicizing our group’s many free cultural, musical, educational, and family friendly events and projects.

Another extremely important part of ACMI is that it provides incredible opportunities to learn by doing in the studio and in the field. Young teenagers and older get the chance to work with professional video, audio and other equipment, do their own reporting and broadcasting and go to the field to do in-person reporting and documentary coverage. This is priceless education, a great

entree into journalism, that benefits them and our community and society as a whole.

In sum, I give my enthusiastic recommendation to the continued support of ACMi.

Respectfully,

Anthony Vogel
3 Eustis Street
Arlongton, MA 02476

I very much appreciate all the programming on ACMi. It keeps me informed about what is happening in this town

Michele
Sent from my iPhone

To Whom it may concern:
I am writing this letter to express my support for ACMi.TV and to request continuation of the fullest funding possible for this TV station.
I watch ACMi programming on a regular basis and find it very valuable and uplifting, both to me as an individual and to the town of Arlington.
During this past year, whenever I would be watching discourageing national news, I would regularly turn to Talk of the Town for relief, and get to see some outstanding local citizen describing the creative contribution they are making to our community. An example of this is the combined efforts of Ivan Basch and Julie Lucey to create and run NEAT- Neighbors Eating All Together, which brings people together for free meals to help overcome loneliness and for some, food insecurity.

Just as important are the interviews with our legislators, Cindy Friedman and Dave Rogers to help us really understand the challenges they are facing and the complications and victories they work through in their everyday jobs at the state house. Another very useful program dealt with the challenges facing Primary Care physicians in our state and beyond and how we can support legislation to make the system better for everyone.

It is also very valuable to be able to watch Select Board meetings and Town Meetings to see the individual contributions both the selectmen, Town Manager, and every day Arlington citizens are making. It makes me proud toy see how knowledgeable and well informed so many of our citizens are and how polite and respectful the selectmen are to those who come before them with a request.

Last year, Jeff Barnd did a wonderful video of me reading my uncle’s letter about living near Cyrus Dallin as part of the Dallin Museum’s oral histories project. He actually videoed walking the route Cyrus took on his daily walk to the bus stop and included other amazing video detail to illustrate the contents of the letter.

I also love being able to watch the Arlington students play music at their different grade levels and perform musicals. It’s gratifying and inspiring to see how well they do, with the support of their excellent teachers. I also love being able to watch the guests on “In the Tradition” and hear them play traditional folk music. It’s great also to watch performances by the Arlington Philharmonic.

Watching Hugh Hanley sing with kindergarteners is also very sweet and inspiring.

These are just a few of the ways in which ACMi has enriched my life. I urge you to lend your full support to this fine organization.

Sincerely,
Marjorie Brown
Pleasant Street.

Good morning,

I'm writing to express my appreciation for ACMi, which is a valuable service to my family in multiple ways. First, it has allowed me, a busy single parent, to virtually “attend” events that I could not otherwise get to in person, like the 250th parade, sports games, and concerts. Second, my high school son is a volunteer for ACMi, which has helped him get community service hours, but much more importantly, has given him critical job skills that have already benefitted him in applying for an internship with a local university, and which he could not have gotten elsewhere. ACMi's place in the community is as a key voice for local/regional information, but goes beyond media production and streaming to also serve the community by building the next generation of media talent, while still operating extremely efficiently.

I hope that the organization continues to receive funding and support to continue its mission and importance to the community.

Kathy

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for Arlington Community Media, Inc. (ACMi) and the vital role it plays in our community. As a longtime Arlington resident, I have witnessed firsthand how ACMi serves as an indispensable electronic forum for information, connection, creativity, and civic engagement. Your work truly embodies “Media for Arlington, by Arlington,” and it deserves continued strong funding and support.

ACMi keeps our community informed, entertained, and united in ways no other local resource can match. Your hyper-local programming brings us together by highlighting what makes Arlington special, from government transparency to cultural celebrations, youth achievements, and everyday neighborly stories. In an era of fragmented national media, ACMi provides the authentic, community-driven content that strengthens our town’s fabric. I am particularly grateful for how accessible your channels are on Comcast, RCN, and Verizon, as well as on-demand via acmi.tv and YouTube.

Here are just a few specific recent broadcasts that have been useful and enriching for the community:

- ACMi News (weekly newscasts, including the July 17, 2026 episode): These timely, professional hyper-local reports keep us all up to date on town happenings, with excellent coverage of local events and issues.
- Aya’s Culture Kitchen (including extended episodes): This delightful cooking show celebrates diversity and brings cultural flavors right into our homes, fostering greater understanding and appreciation among neighbors.

- Beyond the Score (e.g., July 17 and July 10, 2026 episodes): Outstanding sports analysis and coverage that highlights Arlington High School athletes and teams, building community pride and supporting our youth.
- Town Hall Update and Talk of the Town (recent episodes including July 16, 2026): These provide essential insights into local government, public affairs, legislative updates, and community conversations – invaluable for engaged residents.
- Studio Sessions / Studio Knights: Live music performances and creative showcases that highlight local talent and bring vibrant arts programming to our screens.

These shows – along with sports coverage, youth programming, and coverage of town meetings and events – demonstrate ACMi's commitment to serving all segments of our community: families, seniors, students, artists, athletes, and civic leaders alike. Your facilities, training opportunities, and member-produced content empower residents to tell their own stories, which is the heart of true public access media.

ACMi is not just a TV station; it’s a community hub that promotes education, democracy, and connection. I strongly urge the cable providers and town officials to maintain and grow funding so that ACMi can continue expanding these wonderful services. Losing or diminishing this resource would be a significant loss for Arlington.

Thank you for all you do. Please feel free to include this letter in the Ascertainment Report. My family and I all believe wholeheartedly in ACMi's mission and future!

Best regards,

Marc Prud'hommeaux
4 Wollaston Ave, Arlington MA
marc@prux.org

I'm an Arlington resident, and have been very impressed every time I've seen ACMi at a local event in town. Notably, in May, the Arlington Boys and Girls club had an event to dedicate their recently redone court for basketball and soccer. They had a number of local sports celebrities along with Governor Healey in attendance. My family and I got to talking with one on your folks. She was so kind and passionate. She played giant jenga with my kids. She gave us a business card and mentioned the youth program, which definitely piqued their interest when they are a little older.

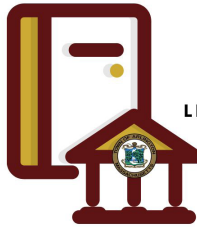
Looking forward to seeing more of you around town and checking out your programs.

Keep up your great work!
Sarah Fanous

D. Community Bulletin Board Usage

Alliance for Community Media
Arlington Art Lounge
Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee
Arlington Board of Health
Arlington Boys' & Girls' Club
Arlington Center for the Arts
Arlington Chamber of Commerce
Arlington Children's Theatre
Arlington Commission for Arts and Culture
Arlington Consumer Surveys
Arlington Council on Aging
Arlington Department of Planning and
Community Development
Arlington Education Foundation
Arlington Fire Department
Arlington Food Pantry
Arlington Friends of the Drama
Arlington Garden Club
Arlington Historic District Commission
Arlington Historical Society
Arlington Human Rights Commission
Arlington Jazz Festival
Arlington Meetup
Arlington Public Art
Arlington Reads Together
Arlington School Committee
Arlington Select Board
Arlington Sons of Italy
Arlington Tree Committee
Arlington Youth Health & Safety Coalition
Autism House Pathways
Black History Month
Chillhop Records
Choral Arts New England
Covid-19 Relief Fund
Cyrus E. Dallin Art Museum
Department of Public Health
Department of Public Works
Double Take Arlington
Extinction Rebellion Boston
Family Folk Chorale
Fast and Furriest
Fidelity House
First Parish Unitarian Universalist
Free Meditation Boston
Friends of Magnolia Park
Friends of Spy Pond

Friends of the Robbins Library
Homeschooling Together
Housing Corporation of Arlington
James Houlares Early Learning Center
Jason Russell House
Knights of Columbus
Little Fox Shop
Mass Peace Action
Metropolitan Area Planning Council
Minuteman Bikeway
Music Worcester
Mystic Chorale
Mystic River Watershed Association
New England Community Film Series
Newton Family Singers
Old Schwamb Mill
Park Avenue Congregational Church
Philharmonic Society of Arlington
Prayer Festival for World Peace
Regent Theatre
Retired Men's Club
Robbins Library
Russian School of Math
Saint Athanasius the Great Greek Orthodox
Church
Saint Vartanantz Church
Society of St. Vincent de Paul
St. Agnes Church
St. Camillus Parish Community
Stone Zoo
True Story Theater



TOWN OF ARLINGTON

CIVIC ACADEMY

LEARN HOW ARLINGTON WORKS.

TINYURL.COM/ARLCIVICACADEMY



Immigrants and Migrants:
Safety in Arlington

Scan the QR Code for immigration law and other service resources, which can also be found by visiting <https://www.arlingtonhumanrights.org/resources/immigration>





The Town of Arlington Reaffirms Its Commitment to the Safety of All

The Town of Arlington is dedicated to keeping all who live, work, visit, and travel within the Town safe and treated fairly. The Town does not have the authority to enforce federal immigration laws. This means that the Town does not ask people about their immigration status if the only reason is to determine whether they are in the country legally. The Town also does not ask people about their immigration status to help ICE detain or deport someone based on their status.

Arlington values equity, diversity, and inclusion.
We are committed to building a community where everyone is heard, respected, and protected.

E. Capital Purchases

16000 • Capital Equipment-Park Avenue	Amount
16011 • Computers-Park Avenue	1,705.97
16012 • Prod/Port Production Equip-Park	204,325.12
16014 • Editing Suites Equipment-Park A	14,893.23
16015 • Studio & Control Rm Equip-Park	136,697.40
16016 • Office Equipment-Park Avenue	51,261.34
16018 • Master Control	137,938.16
16019 • Town Hall Control Room	31,312.04
16020 • Furniture & Fixtures-Park Ave	1,039.44
16021 • School Committee Room-Park Ave	916.09
16041 • Building Improvements-Park Ave	2,779.00
16500 • Capital Equipment-Mass Avenue	
16512 • Prod/Port Production Equip-Mass	21,112.46
16514 • Editing Suites-Mass Ave	8,421.87
16515 • Studio & Control Rm Equip-Mass	41,684.45
16520 • Furniture & Fixtures-Mass Ave	209.97
16600 • Capital Expend. AHS (Studio B)	21,911.51
16542 • Capital Expenditure Studio B	
16551 • Studio B Buildout	28,103.89
16548 • Office Equipment - Studio B	1,544.37
16547 • Studio & Control Rm Equip	10,544.37
16545 • Prod/Port Production Equip	36,168.45
16550 • Studio B Leasehold Improvement	14,090.00
Total	766,659.13

F. Operating and Capital Budgets

INCOME:

Total operating revenue received from cable providers	\$554,667
Total capital revenue received from cable providers	\$79,368
Misc. Income (including membership dues, workshops, interest, donations and a one time Town grant of \$100,000)	\$143,342
Total Income:	\$777,377

EXPENSES:

Salaries and Taxes	\$486,825
Expenses	\$211,184
Capital	\$79,368
Total Expenses:	\$777,377

G. Staff Biographies and Job Descriptions



Norm McLeod
Executive Director

In 2006, Norm was hired as the first Executive Director of Arlington Community Media Inc. The robust diversity of his experience in corporate, academic, and nonprofit environments continues to guide his leadership of ACMI. He received his Master’s degree in Television and Radio Production from Syracuse University, after which he was a News Director for the U.S. military. After his discharge, he became the Program Director for a community access station in Newburgh, NY.

Norm then moved to Lawrence, MA, where he was responsible for the design and operation of a local community origination station. He later became a

producer for the New York State Educational Television Network and then the Director of Radio and Television for Northeastern University in Boston. Norm then served as Media Director for Cazenovia College in Central New York before taking the role of Executive Director of CTSB, the Community Television of the Southern Berkshires, in Lee, MA. He also worked in professional television equipment sales as well as local audio-visual production houses in the Boston area.

Executive Director Job Description

General Statement of Duties:

The Executive Director is responsible for the overall administration, operations and planning, as well as outreach and community service for PEG Channels and will report to the Board of Directors. The Executive Director’s responsibilities are based upon a detailed knowledge of the principles, practices, and techniques of PEG access operations and knowledge of the Cable Television Act of 1984, as amended in 1992 and 1996, and an appreciation of the philosophies which underlie that Federal legislation.

In addition to the Public Access channel and its programming, the Executive Director will interact with the Arlington public school system to oversee program development for the Educational Access channel to include sports coverage, the School Committee Meetings and other appropriate programming. The Executive Director will also be responsible for Government Access channel and its coverage of governmental activities, such as the Arlington Selectmen, Town Meeting and other programming appropriate for Government Access programming.

The Executive Director will be responsible for building and training the volunteer base that will result in increased PEG Access programming and community involvement in the PEG Channels. The Executive Director will oversee the volunteer projects and their resulting programs. The Executive Director will establish procedures for project approval and for the definition and

maintenance of technical standards and overall program quality control. The Executive Director will oversee website development and the production of electronic and print newsletters.

Hours include some weekday evenings and occasional weekend special event coverage. The Executive Director is responsible for studio operations and cablecasting 24x7 and must respond to or make provision for emergency situations.

The Executive Director will be an ex officio member of the ACMI Board of Directors but will not have voting rights.

Responsibilities include:

Administrative

- Maintain control over funds provided for the operations. Monitor purchasing procedures and operating expenses to assure cost effective operations.
- Prepare and present monthly reports on operations for the ACMI Board of Directors which describes current projects, accomplishments and potential problem areas. Provide monthly reports of expenses and income for the ACMI Board of Directors.
- Prepare and present to the Finance Committee the annual operating and capital budgets with extended projections for three and five years for approval by the ACMI Board of Directors.
- Establish a ACMI Work Plan for the implementation of the goals and objectives as established by the Board of Directors by which the organization and the staff's performance can be measured.
- Interpret, implement and enforce policies and procedures that have been established by the ACMI Board of Directors.

Personnel

- Supervise, recruit, hire and provide leadership to the staff, interns and volunteers.
- Interpret, implement and enforce the ACMI Personnel Policies as determined by the Board of Directors.
- Establish and maintain procedures for conducting evaluation of the staff on a continuing basis.

Operations and Planning

- Develop and implement the training curriculum for all staff, interns, production volunteers and members.
- Develop and implement ACMI Operating Rules and Procedures as approved by the Board of Directors for members' use of facilities, equipment and channel time.
- Supervise the facilities operations as well as the maintenance and repair of the television production and computer equipment.
- Provide as appropriate project management (overseeing design, construction, and maintenance) for the existing facility and a new ACMI facility at a future date.
- Participate in the development and the implementation of a long range planning as determined by the ACMI Board of Directors for existing and new community media services. Such a plan will include the facilities, staffing, training and equipment necessary to provide those services.

Outreach and Community Service

- Develop and implement an ongoing recruitment program for volunteers and a marketing plan designed to inform the community and its institutions about the availability, goals and uses of PEG access.
- Actively seek out alternative sources of funding in the community through grants, annual appeals and other development strategies.
- Maintain a high level of personal and ACMI visibility in the community and network with other nonprofit corporations to establish and maintain cooperative relationships with community agencies and institutions as well as with the public.
- Develop and maintain direct lines of communications with all the members of ACMI to provide support and assistance, and actively assist volunteers in finding funds for their programs.

Programming Development

- Evaluate the current PEG programming for quality including production and content quality, and develop procedures for continuous improvement.
- Motivate, guide and train producers in all aspects of quality programming
- Set objectives to improve production values and diversity in the source of programming



James Milan
Communications Manager

After almost 25 years as a high school teacher, James first joined ACMi as a member and volunteer in 2013. When the position of Outreach Coordinator came open in 2014, James threw his hat in the ring, and was eventually hired. It's been a whirlwind number of years since then, filled with experiences he never imagined, including: hosting hundreds of public affairs interviews; a deep involvement with ACMi News that has involved many turns behind the anchor desk, and even taking the helm (twice) when circumstances required; a dozen Annual Reports (and counting); and countless joyful experiences within the warm and wonderful, creative and kooky, endearing and enduring ACMi community.

Communications Manager
Job Description

General Statement of Duties:

The Communications Manager oversees external and internal communications, which includes responding to all manner of inquiries and drafting correspondence to promote, publicize, and disseminate ACMi's mission, content, and services to Arlington residents and organizations; and facilitating communication between ACMi staffers, whether full-time, part-time, or interns.

Primary Responsibilities:

- Maintain strong relationship with all local media and provide news releases and stories of local interest concerning ACMi.
- Provide response to inquiries from local producers, viewers, town government officials, and media organizations; contact local organizations and businesses about their interest in using the ACMi resources and about their interest in sponsoring or underwriting ACMi programming and events.
- Plan and publicize special events and activities for the benefit of membership or to enhance the image of ACMi in the community.
- Oversee all official communications from ACMi, including the Annual Report, press releases, publicity materials, and any other correspondence that falls under the ACMi banner.
- Oversee internship programs at ACMi, at both the college and high school levels, from promotion and recruitment through orientation and assignment, culminating in giving and getting feedback about the experience at the conclusion of intern's term.
- Ensure that the exchange of information within and among the ACMi staff is current and robust, with an emphasis on keeping staff informed about projects, events, and programs that may require their attention and/or participation.
- Be available for on-camera work as needed in ACMi original productions, including public affairs interviews, newscasts, and creative content; and to represent ACMi by hosting or participating in public events around town as requested.

Position Duties:

- Collaborate with Media/Programming Coordinator to create publishable schedules of programming and ACMi events; coordinate information for use in publishable articles or stories in the local newspapers, local organization newsletters, and on the ACMi website.
- Collaborate with E.D., Studio Manager, and Access Coordinators to produce publishable materials for publicity and member orientation.
- Maintain and update all email and mail databases using appropriate software and/or services.
- Assist E.D. in planning for and preparing the Annual Report as it pertains to ACMi activities.
- Create and distribute regular newsletter detailing accomplishments and activities of interest to ACMi membership and Arlington community.
- Provide weekly notes at staff meetings for use by Executive Director and staff.
- Assist in studio and remote ACMI productions as required.



Jeff Munro
Operations Manager

A past volunteer in countless productions for his hometown Malden Access TV, Malden, MA, Jeff brings his unique experience to Arlington Community Media Inc.'s stated mission of "...providing an electronic forum for the free exchange of information and ideas..." and "...providing access to, and training in, telecommunications technology..." With more than ten years' experience in the cable access industry, Jeff has also worked in this field beyond community access television-both as independent production contractor for local, regional, and national networks such as CN8 and ABC Sports, and as contractor for cable television companies such as HBO. His five years of program development at

the former Arlington Studio have served to establish strong and lasting relationships with the community. Jeff is thrilled now to be offering new digital equipment and training to ACMI volunteer producers, as well as fiber-optic cablecasting on all local cablesystems to Arlington residents.

Operations Manager
Job Description

General Statement of Duties:

The Operations Manager is responsible for overall performance and delivery of ACMi's media services. The Operations Manager is responsible for ensuring that the ACMi philosophy for access production resources and services are upheld across all facilities and within the community. This is a supervisory management position reporting directly to the Executive Director. All duties are to be performed by the Operations Manager with assistance from other staff, interns and volunteers, as needed.

Primary Responsibilities:

- Develop, implement, and manage strategic plans for operational activities across all facilities.
- Organize recruitment and placement of required staff, interns and project labor.
- Ensures a positive work environment for staff development.
- Facilitate coordination and communication between and among staff, interns, members and the community.
- Coordinate, manage, monitor and facilitate operations across production facilities. Design and maintain facility, research and purchase equipment to best satisfy organizational needs. Educate staff and members in system design, philosophy, and day-to-day workflow.
- Review technical activity, utilize available data to improve productivity. Manage maintenance of equipment and machinery. Provide technical support where necessary. Prepare and control equipment and facility needs to align with programing and develop budgets accordingly. Research technology for new technology, upgrades and

- replacement equipment.
- Improve processes and policies in support of organizational goals. Formulate and implement departmental and organizational policies and procedures with the goal to maximize member and user satisfaction. Monitor adherence to rules, regulations and procedures.
- Coordinate media engagement opportunities to increase participation in both viewership and membership.
- Enhance staff and membership productivity, and efficiency through regular training methods, best practices, and collaborative.

Position Duties

- Recommend and track purchases of production supplies and materials. Purchase major expenditures with prior authorization from Executive Director.
- Order and track purchases of video and audio media.
- Implement training programs and assist in all aspects of training of members, interns and Arlington Studio staff.
- Assist Executive Director with various tasks as necessary, and be available to community producers, members, visitors and vendors in his absence
- Implement training programs and assist in all aspects of training of members, interns and ACMi staff.
- Oversee and implement all aspects of building and facility maintenance.
- Supervises special events, productions and projects as needed.
- Perform all other duties that may be assigned.



Stuart Roelke
Production & Media Manager

Stuart is a multidisciplinary artist with six years of experience in community access—fixing cameras, tuning up mics, keeping the show running. He’s also spent over a decade wrangling high-end cinema gear for film and TV. His roots in graphic design and visual storytelling give him a great sense of what works (and what doesn’t) when it comes to audiovisual production. When off-camera, he can be found sewing clothes, fermenting mead, or poking around in the woods like some kind of folklore hermit.

Production & Media Manager
Job Description

General Statement of Duties:

The Production & Media Manager will facilitate video productions at ACMi and will produce electronic and print media to enhance the ACMi presence in the Town of Arlington. This will include the ACMi website, social media and community bulletin board. This position will report to the Operations Manager and the Executive Director.

Primary Responsibilities

- Assist community producers in all aspects of studio, field production and editing.
- Teach workshops for members and interns in production and editing techniques.
- Collaborate with the Production Coordinator on productions and events.
- Manage and maintain the ACMi presence on all social media sites.
- Produce graphic materials including still and motion photography.
- Manage and update the ACMi website on a daily basis.

Position Duties

- Train community members in on-location and studio production techniques.
- Help membership in pre-production planning, capturing content and editing.
- Create graphics for studio and remote productions.
- Collaborate with the Communications Manager on outreach materials.
- Produce newspaper and direct promotion material as needed.
- Create a monthly newsletter with the Communications Manager.
- Maintain a library of still and motion photography of ACMi people and events.
- Create and maintain training guides as required.
- Participate in shared equipment management procedures.

Desired Qualifications

- Experience in a media production environment, preferably community television.
- Teaching experience, primarily in small-group, hands-on technical training.
- Ability to engage individuals and diverse groups in a positive learning environment.
- Must be able to move 50 pounds on occasion.
- Evening and some weekend work is required.
- Other duties as assigned.



Jared Sweet
Editor

Jared came to ACMi as a volunteer in 2015. He was green as can be, and had never edited a video in his life. Never made a J-cut or an L-cut. Never used a trim tool or a even heard of a keyframe. But that all changed when he was assigned to edit an episode of Just Cook It. ACMi staff taught Jared the in-points and out-points of Adobe Premiere, and young Jared was off and running. Today he is ACMi’s most prolific post-production expert, and the force behind Arlington Public News. Jared’s responsibilities with APN include tech directing, editing the final show, graphics, and working with interns to finalize news packages. Jared also maintains all of ACMi’s editing suites and makes sure that they are up-

to-date. Anyone familiar with ACMi is accustomed to seeing Jared at one of the edit suites, making magic happen with Premiere or After Effects. Here are some fun facts about the man behind the editor... Favorite band: Eels Favorite Premiere keyboard shortcut: W key (ripple trim next edit to playhead) Hobbies: video games, walks around Arlington, building his own computers.

Video Editor P/T (30 hrs /week minimum)
Job Description

General Statement of Duties:

Reporting to the Executive Director, the Video Editor responds to the varying needs of the staff and membership of ACMi. This includes teaching members and interns editing techniques, and assisting in the production and editing of studio programs, including ACMi News.

Primary Responsibilities

- Responsible for reviewing audio and video footage and using computer software to organize clips into a finished project.
- Add appropriate sound or graphics and evaluate the finished product. Correct errors before submitting it for review.
- Choose and execute special effects as needed.

Position Duties

Export and post videos to YouTube; sort and organize files on edit server; direct weekly newscast and town updates; design graphics for news and various programs; maintain edit suite computers (e.g. updating software, clearing desktops, etc.); manage Google admin account (e.g. ACMi email accounts, user groups, etc.); manage Adobe admin account; manage passwords for various accounts (e.g. Constant Contact, PEGMedia, etc.); program weekly schedule for the Public Channel; research and download new video from other stations to air on the Public Channel; sort and organize files and edit metadata on Castus server; upload videos to Castus VOD and Roku channel; design graphics and organize playlists for VOD and Roku.

Desired Qualifications

- Relevant work experience or degree programs that include coursework in digital technology and editing software packages (e.g. Adobe, Premiere, After Effects and Final Cut).
- Must be able to teach editing and production skills to individual members and interns as well as in large groups.
- High organizational skills are necessary. Experience in Community Media is required.



Iasmina Birleanu

Youth Coordinator

Iasmina started her career as the Youth Outreach Coordinator at North Andover CAM, and is thrilled to be continuing to work in community media at ACMi. She holds degrees in Cinema Production and Theatre Studies from Ithaca College and always tries to incorporate that experience into her work as Youth Coordinator. Outside of ACMi, she enjoys reading, playing Magic The Gathering, board games, video games, and pretty much any other nerdy thing in that realm.

Youth Coordinator Job Description

General Statement of Duties:

The Youth Coordinator will work with schools, educational institutions, cultural organizations, and clubs in Arlington. This person will encourage individuals and organizations to use the ACMi facilities, generate programming for the community and promote a greater understanding of media.

Primary Responsibilities

- Outreach to all Arlington educational institutions and organizations to develop, produce and promote programming.
- Coordinate with Arlington Schools to develop media programs in cooperation with ACMi.
- Facilitate student, parent, and community volunteer productions of school events and provide Arlington viewers with information about school activities and events via print and electronic media.
- Act as liaison with school media professionals, certified teachers, and instructional technologies personnel.

Position Duties

- Facilitate the coverage of activities and events of K-12 schools including sports, performing arts and student produced programs.
- Provide training workshops for students and faculty in the use of video production and editing equipment at ACMi facilities or portable equipment workshops at the school or organization’s location.
- Develop media workshops and programs for students and community volunteers, enabling them to use diverse media for various school projects and events.
- Develop and maintain communication with youth members by utilizing social media.
- Provide oversight coverage of community volunteer and student staffed school events.
- Supervise and coordinate intern activities.

- Produce or assist in ACMi productions as needed.
- Evening and weekend work will be required as needed.

Desired Qualifications

- Degree in Media Arts/Television or four years of progressive responsible experience in a media production environment.
- Must enjoy working with youth and be highly pro-active.
- Strong technical knowledge of video production equipment in studio and field environments and editing systems such as Final Cut-Pro or Adobe.
- Production teaching experience, primarily in small-groups.
- Proficient in the use of all current social media.
- Familiar with community access television.
- Proven ability to motivate a variety of students, individuals and groups in a positive learning environment.
- Diplomatic and tactful communication skills. Friendly and adaptable.
- Functions well under time pressures.
- Excellent communications skills; verbal and written.
- Ability to work independently and also as part of a cooperative team.
- Valid driver’s license and vehicle to transport equipment.
- Can lift 30 pounds.
- Must pass CORI check.



Josh Guicherit
Administrative & News Producer

With a history in visual and performance art and a keen interest in fostering artistic communities, Josh discovered ACMi while seeking work in Massachusetts that could make use of his background in theatre, multimedia, marketing, and public relations. He had briefly joined public access media in southern California, and loved connecting with members from an organization empowering local arts and education. Since then, Josh has been a freelancer working on short films, photoshoots, promotional videos, and any other creative endeavors whenever he has had the chance. In his spare time, he enjoys supporting local artists and driving around to experience places he’s never been. Keep an

eye on the ACMi public channel for his own shows.

News Director
Job Description

General Statement of Duties:

Reporting to the Executive Director, the News Director leads and manages the planning, production and presentation of Arlington Public News, supervises the news team and works in cooperation with staff, interns and volunteers to support the ACMi mission. The responsibilities of the News Director include news planning, reporting, editing and production. The News Director helps define and maintain ethical, editorial, artistic and technical standards for news and news-related programs.

Primary Responsibilities

- Directs the activities of the Arlington Public News team to develop story ideas, track issues and events, select reporters for coverage, schedule stories for airing, and schedule time for interviewing, writing and editing.
- Serves as a primary editor to ensure news reports are produced in an effective, timely and responsible manner.
- Acts as a proactive liaison to various Arlington constituencies to promote ACMi’s news programming.

Position Duties

- Create and manage a weekly news program.
- Supervise interns, reporters and hosts on enterprising stories, and assist in improving their on-air performance.
- Work in collaboration with the Public Affairs Producer on special projects.
- Promote news content on social media platforms.
- Innovate new ways to tell stories utilizing new technology.

Desired Qualifications

- A four-year degree in journalism or equivalent.
- Three years full-time professional experience in news journalism.
- Must have a broad knowledge of local and regional issues.
- Experience in television production, web content, news writing and news editing.
- Must have effective communication and interpersonal skills.
- Excellent on-line research and multimedia production skills.
- Understanding of community access television.
- Must have excellent memory for details and be able to meet deadlines while effectively handling multiple competing tasks.



Marina Goldman
Social Media, Marketing, & Fundraising Manager

Marina is a die-hard Arlingtonian, Oscar Wilde fan, and Oxford comma user. A Phi Beta Kappa honors society member with a soft spot for word play, she uses her English and psychology education to create stories and marketing assets with flair. Working across the nonprofit, publishing, and environmental sectors, she is committed to using her marketing experience and passion for social impact to engage, educate, and empower audiences. When she’s not working, she’s writing short stories (especially satirical ones), learning to surf, and cheering her heart out at local drag shows. Quieter, more niche

hobbies include reading dictionaries (legal and medical dictionaries are her favorites), playing indie videogames, and watching old National Dog Show competitions to memorize dog breeds.

Social Media, Marketing, & Fundraising Manager (Part Time)
Job Description

General Statement of Duties:

We’re looking for a creative, organized, and community-minded person to help grow our visibility, audience, and financial support. This role combines marketing, social media, membership, and fundraising. You’ll tell our story, build relationships with members and donors, and help keep community media strong and sustainable.

Marketing & Outreach

- Promote station programs, classes, meetings, and local productions
- Create marketing materials (digital and print)
- Maintain consistent messaging and branding across platforms
- Help spread the word about ACMi and why it matters

Social Media & Digital Content

- Manage the station’s social media accounts
- Create and schedule posts, short videos, and event promotions
- Highlight local producers, volunteers, and community stories
- Track basic engagement metrics and adjust content as needed

Fundraising

- Coordinate fundraising efforts such as outreach to individuals, foundations, and local businesses, online campaigns, events
- Manage donor communications, and acknowledgments.
- Work with the Executive Director on annual fundraising goals

Membership

- Grow and manage the station’s membership program
- Work with the Communications Manager to handle member communications including welcomes, renewals, and updates
- Maintain accurate membership records and help members feel connected.

Community Engagement

- Represent the station at community events and meetings
- Build relationships with local nonprofits, schools, and municipal partners
- Collaborate with staff, volunteers, and producers

Desired Qualifications

- Experience in social media, marketing, communications, and fundraising.
- Strong writing and communication skills, interest in local story telling.
- Organized, self-motivated, and able to juggle multiple priorities.
- Experience with PEG access or community media
- Graphic design, video editing, or newsletter experience
- Familiarity with donor databases or email marketing platforms



Sean Keane

Government & Programming Coordinator

A lifelong Arlington resident, Sean Keane is ACMi's Government & Programming Coordinator. He first came to ACMi as a high school intern in 2009, taking on additional duties as Program Editor & Scheduling Assistant in 2011. Working concurrently at Cambridge Community Television as their part-time Operations Assistant, Sean has amassed over seven years of experience in public access television. As ACMi's Government Access Coordinator, he manages the coverage of Arlington's many local meetings, elections and the annual Town Meeting, and is always looking to generate new content for ACMi's Government channel.

Government & Programming Coordinator

Job Description

General Statement of Duties:

The Government & Programming Coordinator will work with all governmental and educational institutions in Arlington for event and meeting coverage, and be responsible for the management of equipment and facilities housed in Arlington Town Hall. This person will also have the responsibility of programming the weekly schedule, managing the Community Bulletin Board, and the maintenance of automated video playback systems.

Primary Responsibilities

- Manage weekly program scheduling on three access channels utilizing the Castus automated playback system
- Sharing the schedule digitally and coordinating online distribution
- Managing content submission and the playback schedule in coordination with the three individual access coordinators
- Maintain and update the Community Bulletin Board by designing and posting community information
- Coordinating with town officials and citizens in creation and sharing of Community Bulletin Boards
- Work closely with the Programming Assistant curating Public Channel video content
- Scheduling the Government channel directly, coordinating with the Youth Coordinator to schedule the Education channel
- Finding content online or from other community stations to air on the Government and Education channels when ACMi produced programming is light
- Finding and coordinating content such as PSAs and underwriting sponsors during playlists between programs
- Provide live coverage of regular and special meetings of the town's Selectboard, School Committee and Town Meeting broadcast
- Covering additional meetings such as Zoning Board of Appeals, Redevelopment Board, Finance Committee, Stormwater Awareness Meetings, Housing Authority meetings and

- others by request
- Archiving programs and curating the video on demand service, and coordinating supplying community requests for older content
 - Work closely with the ACMI News Director to provide news clips of meetings and events upon request
 - Reach out to candidates during elections to film and share their Candidate Profiles
 - Coordinate with ACMi News to schedule and film debates during elections
 - Stream and record town events via Zoom or direct filming via Castus Playback Server
 - Utilizing robocams and the Town Hall control room to assist with ACMi productions and providing training for member-volunteers
 - Provide oversight production coverage of volunteer staffed events
 - Provide training for member-volunteers in the use of portable and studio equipment and various locations in the Town of Arlington

H. Board of Directors Biographies



Frank Auer
Member

Frank brings expertise in storytelling, product development, and audience engagement to his role as Vice President of Marketing and Fundraising Strategy at CDP, where he leads mail and digital fundraising for more than 55 public media stations nationwide. His path to public media wound through film production and brand development – he’s driven the Ghostbusters’ Ectomobile, put out pyrotechnic fires and named products you likely use every day – experiences that shaped his belief in the power of story and connection. He applies those lessons from narrative craft and consumer psychology to help stations inspire stronger support for local storytelling. A 12-year Arlington resident, Frank holds a B.S. in Motion Pictures from the University of Miami and an MBA in Marketing from Boston College.



Kevin Cafferty
Member

Kevin is currently the Global Head of Corporate Brand and Creative for Biogen, a leading global biotechnology company that pioneers science and drives innovations for complex and devastating diseases. He has produced documentary films that have aired on PBS affiliates, is a four-time Emmy nominee, hosts podcasts about film and culture in his spare time, and has moderated and appeared on panels at several industry conventions. He holds a degree in Journalism and English from the University of Rhode Island and has lived in Arlington with his wife and three children for the past ten years.



John D. Leone, Esq.
President

John was born and raised in the Town of Arlington. He holds a J.D. degree from New England School of Law and an undergraduate B.B.A. degree from the School of Business Administration at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He is admitted to practice law before the US Supreme Court and in the states of Massachusetts and New York. He consults and advises clients who are starting new businesses or continuing the operation of existing ones. He has been a Town Meeting member since 1994, and is the current Town Meeting Moderator. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Touchdown Club.



Michael Jacoby Brown
Member

Michael provides organizational development guidance, coaching and training to a wide variety of community and professional associations. He brings expertise in developing holistic solutions to complex organizational problems that draw on his broad experience in community, academia, politics, social entrepreneurship, faith-based settings, government and education. He has worked as a high school teacher, a non-profit executive director, a community organizer, and he also founded and led for ten years a training and leadership development organization. Michael has a BA from Columbia University and an MPA from Harvard’s Kennedy School of Government, and is the author of the book Building Powerful Community Organizations.



Phillip J. Privitera, Esq.
Member

Phil grew up and resides in Arlington with his wife and 2 children. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from Belmont Hill School, holds both a Bachelors degree and a Masters Degree from Dartmouth College, as well as a J.D. from Boston College Law School. Phil is an Attorney, entrepreneur, investor, developer and serves on several community and charitable boards. He is a two-term Past President of the Middlesex County Bar Association; an elected Massachusetts Bar Association House of Delegate representative (Joint Bar Committee member); the National Co-Chair of Alumni and Reunions at Boston College Law School; a National Trustee for the Sons of Italy; and the Presiding Master of Free Masons in Arlington since 2013.



Michael Ruderman
Treasurer

A. Michael Ruderman is a government and communications professional with over 30 years of experience in real estate, nonprofits, and community affairs. He currently works in land acquisition for the Mass. Highway department of MassDOT and is a licensed real estate agent. Michael is a graduate of Harvard College with a degree in history and has pursued graduate study in Community Development at UMassLowell. He and his wife and daughter (along with a menagerie of cats and dogs) have lived in Arlington for over 25 years.

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