

# POWER *of* PLACE

LEARNING COMMUNITIES



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The Peabody Essex Museum's expansive atrium was brimming with energy and laughter last week as K-12 educators shared what they learned over the past school year through their participation in the Essex County Learning Community, the flagship of Power of Place.

The annual Spring Showcase of Learning has been on hiatus since 2019 due to the global pandemic, so it was invigorating to come back together in celebration in such an inspirational space. More than 100 members of our community joined us to share stories and explore educator exhibits, and to hear from speakers including Massachusetts Secretary of Education Patrick Tutwiler and Salem Mayor Dominick Pangallo.

We were particularly excited to hear from our educators. Rockport Principal Amy Rose, Lynn Teacher Mike Haddad, Gloucester Teacher Heidi Wakeman, and Lynn Teacher Heather Lang all offered their own reflections on their professional journeys. And while visitors explored

more than a dozen teacher-led exhibits, guests also enjoyed music from Swampscott educator Peter Franklin and Tower School educator Fred Shepard, and the Motown-inspired music of Coco Brown and the Invitation led by Salem State University Professor Nicole Harris.



We had a blast, and we hope you did too! What a privilege it is to bring together educators for rigorous learning in a relational and appreciative space. Every educator deserves a chance to grow -- and when educators grow, so do their students.

Thanks to photographer **Tracey Westgate** we've assembled an **album of pictures** capturing some of the highlights of the evening. Feel free to download and share your favorites, and send us any of your own. We'd love to see them, and can't wait to do this again - even bigger - next year.

With warmth and appreciation,

Jane

## Save the Date

**ECLC Summer Institute**  
*Rekindling the Fire for Learning & Leading*

**Thursday, August 8**  
**The Wylie Inn & Conference Center**  
**Beverly, MA**

**ECLC 2024 Fall Gathering**  
**Election Day, Tuesday, November 5**  
**Essex North Shore Agricultural and**  
**Technical School | Hathorne, MA**



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