



2019 Langstroth Bee Fest features Community, Arts, Environment and Parade!

On Saturday, June 1st, from 9am-12:30pm rain or shine, this free, interactive honey and native bee festival will welcome environmental and arts enthusiasts of all ages. Named for Rev. Lorenzo Langstroth, the father of modern beekeeping, Bee Fest offers education, entertainment, art installations, a bee-themed gift table, informational displays, honey samples, a variety of activities for children, refreshments, and a parade through the Farmers' Market and around the Common. The event is based at Second Congregational Church, which Langstroth pastored during the mid-1800s, and includes several other downtown venues.

Living History & Present Day Practices

Rev. Lorenzo Langstroth, played by Washington, DC actor Marc Hoffman, will take the stage inside Second Church for a time traveling interview. Langstroth will share his 19th century views on beekeeping and the environment, comparing and contrasting these with today's realities with Dan Conlon, Warm Colors Apiary.

Following Langstroth's interview, Dr. Lynn Adler, UMass bee researcher, will share her recent research on bee health, which has had an impact on pesticide use in Europe. And the annual Franklin County Beekeepers' Association (FCBA), Bee Space Garden Awards—recognizing environmentally friendly gardening practices—will be presented by State Representative, Natalie Blais. FCBA will also have a live observation hive at the event, where attendees can look for the Queen Bee and watch real-time bee hive activity.

Children's Activities

Bee games and prizes, bee crafts, a bee piñata, and face-painting will be among the sweet activities provided for children on the front lawn of Second Church. Children are encouraged to come dressed as bees, butterflies or flowers, and to join the Pollinator Parade, led by the Expandable Brass Band of the Pioneer Valley.



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The Honey Bee Tea Party, from 9:00-11:00 am, will be hosted by none other than Mary Poppins in the person of beloved Greenfield Children’s librarian, Kay Lyons. **The Mass Bee Association’s Honey Bee Ambassador, Ryan Duggan, will be working along with Miss Poppins.**

Unveiling the Sidewalk Bee Sculpture

Artist Rachael Katz, owner of The Greenfield Gallery will introduce a public art project that will be completed over the course of the next year. To mark the continuing impact and relevance of Langstroth’s modern beekeeping practices, several large, professionally painted fiberglass bee sculptures will be installed throughout downtown Greenfield. Katz, who designed the sculpture, will explain the process she used, and will unveil the original to a bagpipe and drum roll at 12noon in front of Second Church. The Mass Bee Association Bee Sculpture was made possible by the donations from Barnstable, Bristol, Essex, Norfolk, Worcester, Hampden and Franklin Counties Bee Clubs.

Bee Ware

Artists and companies from across the United States have contributed a wide variety of bee-themed items to Bee Fest. Visitors will have the opportunity to bid on some of these during the silent auction, to take their chance on the gift basket raffles, and to browse the gift table for bee cards, totes, glass ornaments, and more. A portion of the proceeds will help feed people locally by supporting the Food Bank of Western Mass.

Why Bee Fest?

Though Rev. Lorenzo Langstroth served five years as the sixth pastor of Second Congregational Church, from 1843-48, the modern moveable frame beehive he invented is still used by 90% of all beekeepers worldwide. While living in Greenfield, Langstroth wrote *The Hive and the Honeybee*, now in its 40th printing, and he is known around the globe as the father of modern beekeeping. Bee Fest visitors are invited to view the permanent Langstroth exhibit in the narthex of the church— which includes archival photographs, paintings, and a copy of the classic beekeeper’s manual. On the side lawn of the



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church, a permanent granite monument to Langstroth was installed in 1947; and across the street, on Bank Row, a steel sculpture of his hive is among the treasures to be found in the pocket park leading to the parking garage.

For more information, go to: <https://www.facebook.com/beefest>.