**NEWS RELEASE** 

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## The Game's Afoot at the 2023 Watch City Steampunk Festival

WALTHAM, MA – The Downtown Waltham Partnership's Watch City Steampunk Festival will return to Waltham Common on Saturday, May 13, 2023. This free outdoor community festival will run from 10:00am to 5:00pm, rain or shine.

Are you ready to witness a Sherlock Holmes style mystery? Someone has stolen Queen Mercy's crown! The crown is the second most important jewel of the Watch City - the first being its heart, which has been stolen by Steampunk, this concept of "Victorian Futurism," for some time now.

Since 2010, when the Festival was created by the Charles River Museum of Industry and Innovation, Steampunk enthusiasts have come from near and far to celebrate this phenomenon. Under the leadership of the Downtown Waltham Partnership, after it took over in 2015, the Festival has grown into the amazing event it is today. With multiple stages, a demonstration field, events at the Waltham Public Library, and a large pipe organ, attendees will be serenaded and entertained throughout the day. Looking for a special gift for Mom? Over sixty vendors specializing in Steampunk and unique creations await your patronage. For families, we have an entire section of the Waltham Common dedicated to Children's activities. Let's not forget all the great food that can be found on Carter Street and the Common.

As every year, the Festival is looking for volunteers to help make everything run smoothly. Local businesses are invited to sponsor the event. Information on all of these subjects can be found on the website www.watchcityfestival.com.

The Watch City Steampunk Festival is supported in part by a grant from the Waltham Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. Additional funding is provided by a grant from the Jones Partnership Fund, and grants from the Waltham Tourism Council.

Downtown Waltham Partnership's goal is a downtown that is friendly, diverse, safe, sustainable, and thriving. To accomplish this, DWP promotes the downtown as a vibrant cultural, retail, and entertainment destination reflecting the best of this diverse community.