

“The guide was outstanding!”



BOSTON BY FOOTSM

ANNUAL REPORT

2015

Boston By Foot is dedicated to promoting public awareness and appreciation of Boston's rich history and architectural heritage by offering a wide range of guided tours and programs conducted by a dedicated corps of highly-trained and enthusiastic volunteer tour guides.

bostonbyfoot.org



“Our guide was absolutely amazing! He made the revolution, and the people who fought in it, come alive. We learned so much.”

Year	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
Tourees	316	1,743	2,588	3,411	4,215	3,555	4,315	4,116	4,422	4,625	4,748	5,773

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2015 HIGHLIGHTS

New faces, community partnerships and record-setting attendance. By all accounts, 2015 was an exciting year for Boston By Foot. The Class of 2015, made up of educators, architects, engineers and others, joined our volunteer community and took their first steps as BBF guides as the season began in May. We also welcomed five new Trustees to our Board in 2015 bringing expertise in communications, finance, project management, fundraising and law to the table, along with fresh insights and passion for our organization’s educational mission.

In April, we bid a fond farewell of long-time Program Manager Veronika McDonald King who stepped down to care for her newborn twins. While her hands are full, she continues to help us as a member of our volunteer community. After an interim period managed by former intern and docent Katie Schinabeck, we welcomed Cortnee Bollard to BBF as our new Program Coordinator. Cortnee joined us from the MFA and Old North Church with a strong background in museum education and public history.

2015 brought new opportunities for developing partnerships to deliver programming to further extend our reach. We were invited to participate in the Boston Book Festival and take part in their new children’s festival, Hubbub. BBF lent support to Revolution 250’s Liberty Tree Ceremony by leading local community groups in an artistic procession replicating the historic ceremony. Additionally, we offered tours in partnership with Old South Meeting House, Discover Roxbury, Cambridge Center for Adult Education and Brookline Adult and Community Education.

We also enjoyed a stronger response to our private tours drawing upon our expansive repertoire of tour content. With attendance up 35% in 2015, these tours were booked by corporations, alumni associations, school groups, visiting families and many others, including the Naval Academy Prep School. We led more than 250 Cadets on a comprehensive tour of the Freedom Trail. Other notable examples include tours for the Special Library Association of New England, Girl Scouts, Road Scholar, UPenn (no surprise here, they enjoyed our Ben Franklin tour), Easter Seals and the Department of Conservation and Recreation Forest Fire Control, plus dozens of schools, university and community-based groups. Continuing a proud tradition, we were delighted to lead several tours for members and docents of the Chicago Architecture Foundation, a sister organization that offers volunteer-led tours in Chicago.

2015 was a year for the record books—not only did we break attendance on many of our individual tours, we also shattered Boston By Foot’s overall attendance total by serving more than 15,000 people on our tours! This was a fitting accomplishment for 2015 and the eve of our 40th anniversary. Another record was blown away by Bob Perkins, a docent from our Class of 2013, who led 156 tours in 2015! The previous record was held by Tom Coppeto who led 125 tours in 2010. Boston By Foot is incredibly fortunate to have such a dedicated community of volunteer guides who generously bring Boston’s history and architectural gems to life for audiences of all ages.



All this and Toto too as we were pleased to present dog-friendly tours with our friends at Urban Hound. Our ongoing partnership with the Boston Society of Architects and the Charles Riverboat Company remained a vital part of our ongoing efforts to bring Boston’s architectural gems to life as part of our successful Architecture Cruise series which continues to attract increasing numbers each year.

As we reflect on the successes of 2015, we are looking ahead to the potential 2016 holds for us. 2016 marks Boston By Foot’s 40th anniversary so we have much to celebrate as we continue a unique educational mission that connects people through guided tours to the historic neighborhoods, public spaces and distinct skyline that define Boston.

“The guide’s ability to communicate with children ... is beyond belief. We have done quite a bit of travel/tours with our kids and he is definitely the greatest guide we have seen.”

1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
6,179	6,275	6,022	6,151	6,084	5,803	5,641	5,823	6,855	8,543	9,788	10,516	10,163

VOLUNTEERS

Boston By Foot would not exist without the time and talent of our 200+ dedicated volunteer guides. They spend countless hours preparing content, presenting tours and supporting each other in their efforts to engage audiences in ways that are meaningful and memorable.

Volunteer Committees

Thanks to the collective efforts of our volunteer committees, our programming is creative, extensive and thoughtfully promoted, guides are well trained and provided with multiple opportunities to collaborate and further their learnings. We thank and acknowledge our 2015 committees and committee chairs.

Academic Affairs: Martha Vicinus & Doug Upton
 Continuing Education: Katie Kelly & Justina Chu
 Public Relations: Carl Kaplan
 Special Tours: Margaret Bratschi & Nancy Heywood
 Tours of the Month: Terri Evans & Andrea Bonanno

Distinguished Service



All of our volunteers give so much to BBF, but each year we honor a volunteer who truly goes above and beyond. The 2015 Distinguished Service Award was presented to Jan Engleman. Having played an active role on nearly all of our committees, Jan led over 80 tours in 2016 including 29 Architecture Cruises and nearly 20 private tours. She also

served as Volunteer Liaison to our Board of Trustees and was key in restructuring and expanding this role for improved impact and transparency. Among her many contributions, she advocated for the creation of this publically-available Annual Report.

Flansburgh Travelers

Since 2009, longtime friends and BBF supporters Bill and Lia Poorvu have funded the Flansburgh Traveling Fellowship to honor Earl and Polly Flansburgh. Each year Boston By Foot volunteers are invited to apply for this fellowship for the purpose of travel, research, and personal growth in a city best experienced in our favorite way: by foot! In 2015, two fellowships were awarded.

Bob Dermody - Vancouver, Canada
 Barry DeVincke - Florence, Italy

Foots Pins

Boston By Foot acknowledged a total of 33 volunteers for their years of service at our 2015 Awards Ceremony.

Thirty Five Years
 Harry Friedman

Twenty Five Years
 Mary Roever

Fifteen Years
 Andrea Bonanno
 Sue Cnudde
 Margo Connor
 Lee Fernandez
 Mike Fitzgerald
 Mary Klatt
 Diana Larsen
 Linda Perlman
 Larry Sands
 Doug Upton

Ten Years
 Beth Charney
 Babz Clough
 Dennis Coleman
 Barry Culkin
 Bill Lauch
 Pat Mattheisen
 Liz Morgan
 Pam Pacelli

Five Years
 Candace Ankerman
 Mike Bauer
 Arwyn Carroll
 Murray Corliss
 Joan Dolan
 Katie Kelly
 Bob Lauricella
 Judith Liben
 Mary Murphy
 Gisela Nilsson
 Donna Olmstead
 Tom Revay
 Will Rostron
 Sigourney Street

Footly Fortitude

At the same ceremony, Boston By Foot recognized the following guides who conducted 20 tours or more in 2015.

156 Tours

Guide of the Year
 Bob Perkins

80–89 Tours
 Jan Engelman
 Laurel Perkins

70–79 Tours
 Gretchen Grozier

50–59 Tours
 Tom Revay
 Sigourney Street

40–49 Tours
 Margaret Bratschi
 Dayl Cohen
 Tom Coppeto

30–39 Tours
 Beth Charney
 Jeff Doucette
 Aline Kaplan
 Steve Kluskens
 Steve Loher

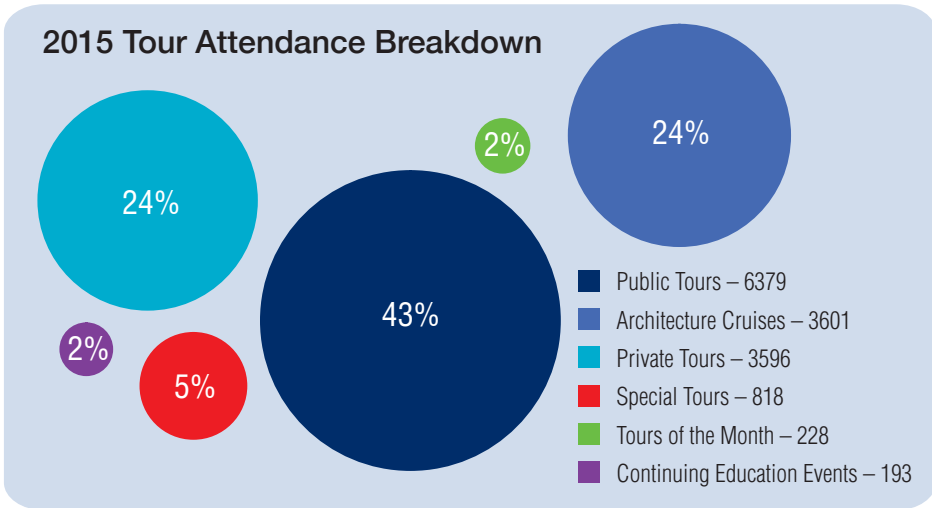
20–29 Tours
 Andrea Bonanno
 Jim Boyd
 Rebecca Brooks
 David Coviello
 Harvey Cohen
 Barry DeVincke
 Sally Ebeling
 Mike Fitzgerald
 Sharon Fogarty
 Kate May
 Kurt Morris
 Gene Moulton
 Michele Steinberg
 Liam Sullivan
 Martha Vicinus
 Joni Youngwirth

“We had a very enjoyable tour with a knowledgeable and easy going guide. She knew lots of interesting information and inspired us to return on our own to explore the sites.”

2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
9,026	8,740	9,351	9,449	8,533	8,293	12,888	12,963	12,853	13,184	13,954	12,039	13,077	15,015

PROGRAMMING

205 Docents • 1208 Tours • 173 Private Tours • 15015 Tour Participants



Special Programming & Events

Tours of the Month

Fort Point Channel
Carruth's Hill, Dorchester
Boston and the Law
Roxbury Highlands
Cambridge Common
Chinatown

Continuing Education Events

Evolution of Quincy Market
Boston Common Archaeology Tour
Columbia Point and UMASS Boston
Boston's LGBT Past
Death and Life of a Great American City
Boston Reborn: After the Great Fire

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Partners

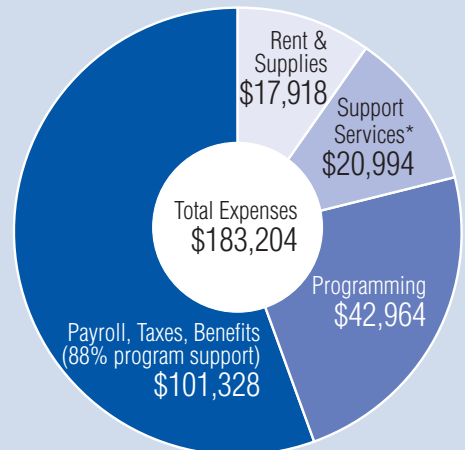
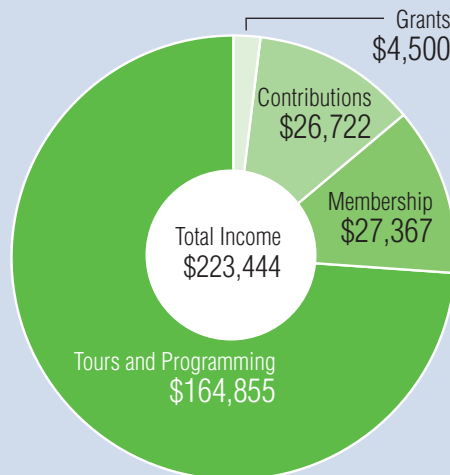
In 2015 Boston By Foot proudly presented programs in partnership with the following organizations:

Boston Book Festival
The Boston Harbor Association
Boston Harborfest
Boston Literary District
Boston Society of Architects
Brookline Adult and Community Education
Cambridge Center for Adult Education
Charles Riverboat Company
First Night
Discover Roxbury
Old South Meeting House
Revolution 250

Corporate Members

The Boston Beer Company
Boston Society of Architects
Cambridge Trust Company
Dimeo Construction Company
Flansburgh Architects
Leers Weinzapfel Associates

2015 Income & Expenses



*Accounting, Insurance, Banking, Taxes

Boston By Foot wholeheartedly thanks its volunteers, members and supporters for their tireless commitment to promoting awareness of Boston's history, architecture and distinctive neighborhoods.

Staff

Samantha Nelson, Executive Director • Veronika McDonald King, Program Manager, Cortnee Bollard, Program Coordinator
Katie Schinabeck, Interim Program Coordinator

Board of Trustees

Barbara Berenson • Polly Carpenter, Secretary • John Cinkala, Treasurer • Anne Cowie • John Currier • Libby Dilling, Chair
Jan Engelman, Volunteer Liaison • Lori Karas • Susan Pepin • Laureen Pfizenmaier • Betsy Thompson • Jane Weinzapfel

