

*"Our tour was hands down one of the best things we did while visiting Boston ..."*



# BOSTON BY FOOT<sup>SM</sup>

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## ANNUAL REPORT

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# 2014

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](http://bostonbyfoot.org)**



*"Our tour was the right pace, the right depth, stunningly well-informed, passionate, balanced, at the same time, gently amusing ... in fact, flawless. Thank you."*

Year	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988
Tourees	316	1743	2588	3411	4215	3555	4315	4116	4422	4625	4748	5773

# BOSTON BY FOOT! ANNUAL REPORT

## 2014 HIGHLIGHTS

As Boston By Foot approaches the end of its fourth decade in operation, we certainly have a lot to celebrate. 2014 saw an expansion in programming, new and renewed community partnerships, and increases in attendance in every tour category over previous years. We enhanced and improved our docent training program and expanded tour schedule in the pre- and post-season, enabling BBF to serve hundreds more people.

Boston By Foot is proud to work with a wide variety of partners in our community to provide programming to diverse audiences. Most notable is a unique new collaboration with Urban Hound, a local business that serves dog owners. Together we presented a series of dog-friendly walking tours to give dog owners and their four-legged friends an opportunity to explore and enjoy their city together. We've continued our steadfast partnership with Boston Society of Architects and the Charles Riverboat Company to present our signature Architecture Cruise. In 2014 the three partners shared Boston's architecture with record breaking numbers.

In addition to Boston By Foot's programming successes, there were also many organizational advancements in 2014. Not the least of which was a move to Beacon Hill; Boston By Foot was given the incredible opportunity to share space with the Colonial Society of Massachusetts in their headquarters in 87 Mount Vernon Street. The 1805 mansion was designed by Charles Bulfinch and houses

Boston By Foot's administrative office and offers beautiful rooms for meetings and programs, including BBF's annual Spring Series Docent Training Program.

Boston By Foot was excited to launch a new, user-friendly website in early 2014 to clearly announce our tour calendar and make information about our organization and programming easily accessible.

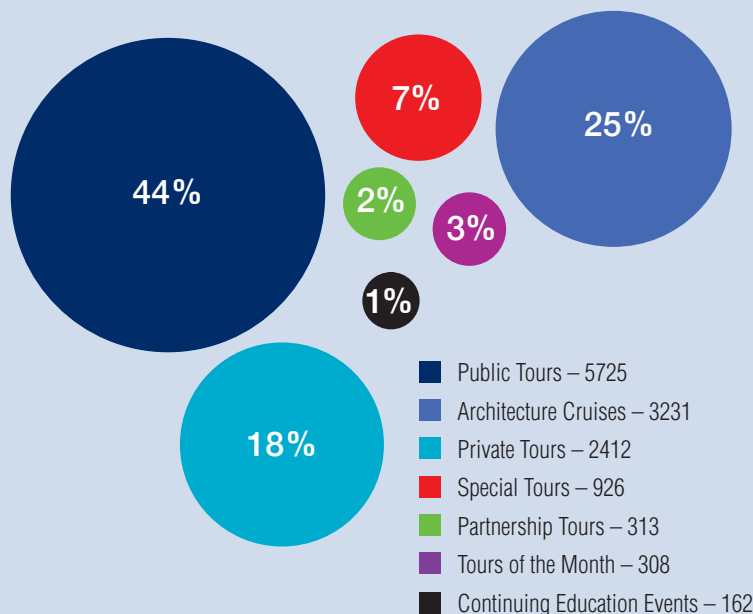
The value of Boston By Foot's mission and our efforts to bring Boston's historical and architectural stories to life were recognized in 2014 by several important funders and community collaborators. Boston By Foot was awarded significant grants by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Boston Cultural Council and the Boston Foundation for Architecture. Our organization was also honored by invitations to join and contribute programming to Boston's new Literary Cultural District and Revolution 250, a collaboration of cultural organizations who will celebrate the upcoming 250th anniversaries of events related to the American Revolution.

As we turn our sights to 2015, Boston By Foot is excited to continue and build upon our partnerships, expand and enhance our programming, support our incredible volunteer body, and of course, inspire thousands of people who take our tours and participate in our programs.

## PROGRAMMING

204 Docents • 1164 Tours • 13077 Tourees • 360 Members

### 2014 Tour Attendance Breakdown



### Special Programming & Events

#### Tours of the Month

Commonwealth Avenue: Boston's Grand Boulevard  
 Art Deco in Boston's Financial District  
 Cambridge Common  
 Boston and the Law  
 South Boston's Seaport  
 Carruth's Hill, Dorchester

#### Continuing Education Events

Thomas Hutchinson's Boston  
 Royall House and Slave Quarters, Medford  
 Evolving Back Bay Skyline  
 Hooper-Lee-Nichols House, Cambridge  
 Death and Life of a Great American City  
 Substance of Style and Architectural Darwinism

#### Selection of Special Tours

True Lies and False Facts: A Questionable Tour  
 Brahmins of the Back Bay: Notable & Notorious  
 Footloose on the Freedom Trail  
 Champions of Freedom  
 Grave Undertakings: Boston's Burying Grounds  
 Beacon Hill with a BOO!  
 Flat of Beacon Hill

1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
6179	6275	6022	6151	6084	5803	5641	5823	6855	8543	9788	10516	10163

## VOLUNTEERS

Boston By Foot would not exist without its dedicated corps of volunteers. As we reflect on 2014, we salute our many volunteer docnets who spend hours preparing and presenting their tours, support one another, and enrich the lives of our tourees.

### Volunteer Committees

Boston By Foot's Volunteer Committees do an incredible amount of work to ensure that Boston By Foot's programing is expansive, robust and well promoted, and that our volunteers are well-trained and have many opportunities to interact and learn from one another. We thank and acknowledge the co-chairs who led our 2014 committees.

- Academic Affairs: Sharon Fogarty & Martha Vicinus
- Continuing Education: Fran Folsom & Katie Kelly
- Docent Events: Babz Clough & Harvey Cohen
- Public Relations: Michele Steinberg & Carl Kaplan
- Special Tours: Gretchen Grozier & Heather Pence
- Tours of the Month: Sheila Frazier & Terri Evans

### Foots Pins

Boston By Foot acknowledges the following docents for their years of dedicated service. They were presented with Foot Pins at the 2014 Awards Reception.

#### Twenty Years

Robert Anderson  
Hannah Diozzi  
Ronda Grodberg  
Anne Marie McDonald  
Rita Pelosi

#### Fifteen Years

Liam Sullivan  
Nancy White

#### Ten Years

Meredith Anderson  
Tom Coppeto  
Marylee Gilchrist  
Bill McDonald  
Charles Millstein  
Gene Moulton  
Cathy Samson

#### Five Years

JoAnn Buckland  
Julia Cai  
Joe Conley  
Bob Dermody  
Barry DeVincke  
Neil Dugas  
Charlie Eisenmann  
Lisa Horton  
Jean Hunt  
Kate Neave  
Lynn Smiledge  
Frank Vincent

### Footly Fortitude

Boston By Foot recognises the following guides whom conducted an impressive 20 tours or more in 2014.

97: Bob Perkins

80-89: Margaret Bratschi

70-79: Tom Coppeto

60-69: Gretchen Grozier

50-59: Laurel Perkins

40-49: Beth Charney  
Lee Fernandez  
Tom Revay

30-39: Dayl Cohen  
Barry DeVincke  
Jan Engelman  
Steven Loher  
Dick Jacobson  
Steve Kluskens  
Sigourney Street

20-29: Andrea Bonanno  
Jim Boyd  
Rebecca Brooks  
Harvey Cohen  
Jeff Doucette  
Sally Ebeling  
Mike Fitzgerald  
Sharon Fogarty  
Sheila Frazier  
Aline Kaplan  
Katie Kelly  
Fran Lanouette  
Gene Moulton  
Michele Steinberg

### Guide of the Year



Bob Perkins came to Boston By Foot in 2013 and immediately jumped right in to giving tours and committee work. His regular tours include Heart of the Freedom Trail, Beacon Hill, Boston By Little Feet, Dark Side, Road to Revolution, and North End.

He is very active with the Academic Affairs Committee and served as a Group Leader during the Spring Series Docent Training program. In 2014 he gave a whopping 97 tours, earning him the title of 2014 Guide of the Year! It's a remarkable achievement for any guide, but especially for one who is still in his second year with BBF.

### Distinguished Service



All of our guides give so much to BBF, but each year we honor a docent who truly goes above and beyond. The 2014 Distinguished Service Award went to Sharon Fogarty, who generously agreed to extend her Academic Co-Chairship for

another year to help the committee through a transition. Sharon has been a core member of the Academic Affairs Committee since she joined BBF in 1998 and has played many important roles on the committee and throughout the organization. We are grateful not just for her leadership skills, but especially for her infectious energy and enthusiasm!

### In Memoriam



BBF has sadly lost a remarkable member of our community. Denny Donaldson was an active Docent from 1984 to 2009. She was a vivacious woman with a zest for life that touched everyone she met. Denny was an avid choir director, singer and soloist,

and she also volunteered with The Samaritans and the Boston Athenaeum. Though she was active with many organizations, she found great joy and fulfillment as a Boston By Foot tour guide. Her passion for learning, for Boston, and for connecting with people infused her every action. Her presence will be deeply missed at BBF but stories of her will forever remain in our hearts.



2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
9026	8740	9351	9449	8533	8293	12888	12963	12853	13184	13954	12039	13077

### 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 by foot. The three 2013 fellowship recipients shared engaging and insightful presentations on their travels to their fellow BBF volunteers.



Andrea Bonanno  
Venice, Italy



Michele Steinberg  
New Orleans, Louisiana



Sharon Fogarty  
Frankfurt, Germany

Boston By Foot wholeheartedly thanks its docents, members and many supporters for their commitment in sharing and celebrating Boston's history and architecture.

### Partners

In 2014 Boston By Foot proudly presented programs in partnership with the following organizations:

- Arlington Community Education
- Boston Book Festival
- Boston Society of Architects
- Brookline Adult and Community Education
- Cambridge Center for Adult Education
- Charles Riverboat Company
- Ellis Antiques Show Boston
- Discover Roxbury
- Old South Meeting House
- South End Historical Society
- Urban Hound

### Corporate Members

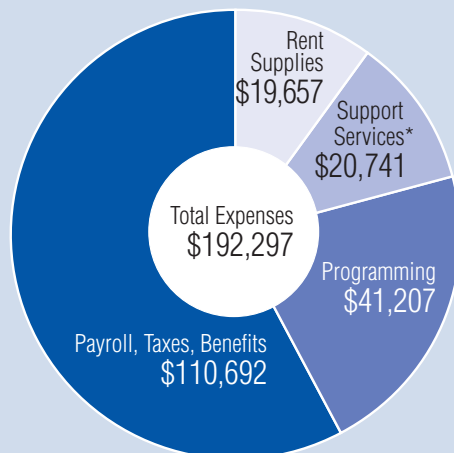
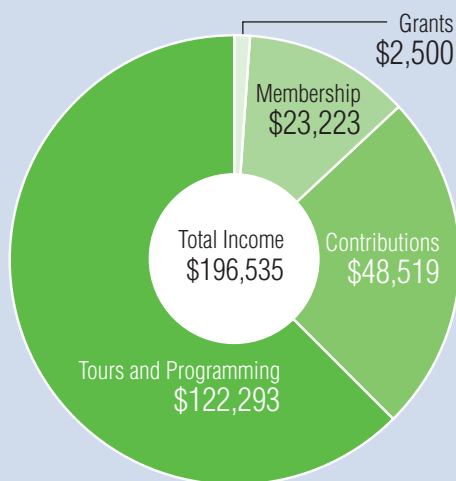
- The Boston Beer Company
- Boston Society of Architects
- Cambridge Trust Company
- Dimeo Construction Company
- Flansburgh Architects
- Goodwin Procter
- Leers Weinzapfel Associates
- Shepley Bulfinch

**There are so many ways** to share in Boston By Foot's mission and love of Boston's history and architecture.

- Take a tour
- Make a contribution
- Become a member
- Become a volunteer docent
- Become a corporate member
- Become a programming partner

Visit our website [www.bostonbyfoot.org](http://www.bostonbyfoot.org) to learn more.

### 2014 Income & Expenses



\*Accounting, Insurance, Banking, Taxes

### Staff

- Samantha Nelson, Executive Director
- Veronika McDonald King, Program Manager

### Board of Trustees

- Polly Carpenter, Secretary
- John Cinkala, Treasurer
- Anne Cowie
- John Currier
- Libby Dilling, Chair
- Jan Engelman, Docent Trustee
- Jane Weinzapfel

