



ANNUAL
REPORT
2019



Boston By FootSM 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

Welcoming Newcomers

New Volunteers

BBF held its 43rd annual graduation ceremony at Old North Church on May 5th to honor the 28 new guides who completed the Boston By Foot training program. Carter Lowe served as speaker for the Class of 2019 and Rev. Stephen T. Ayres, the vicar of the Old North Church delivered the Graduation Address. Rev. Ayres had recently announced his retirement, effective at the end of 2019, so BBF Director Samantha Nelson presented him with a token of appreciation to thank him for his long friendship and support of Boston By Foot.

New Trustees

Boston By Foot was delighted welcome Lorena Silva to our Board of Trustees in July 2019. Lorena hails from Brazil, but loves Boston and its remarkable story. She is the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Board of Nursing and has had an extensive career in the field of Public Health and Health Care.

New Partnerships

Rowes Wharf

The Boston Harbor Hotel contacted Boston By Foot and invited us to lead a monthly tour in and around their property for the benefit of their residents, guests and the general public. This area is rich in history and interesting architecture, so our guides were delighted to create and present this unique tour.



Tasting and Tales

Early in 2019 Boston By Foot launched Tastings and Tales, a new program series that takes our tours indoors to local breweries and distilleries where our guides share “tales” of Boston history, and our partners offer tastings of their products. This proved to be a popular event that attracted a local audience. We hope to grow and expand this new program series in the future.

A Sail Through Time

In October of 2019 Boston By Foot tested our sea legs in a whole new way. We worked with the Liberty Fleet of Tall Ships to offer our first *A Sail Through Time* — a tour of the history of Boston during the age of sail aboard a replica 19th century schooner. The pilot program was a huge success and we hope to offer *A Sail Through Time* regularly in the future.



Programming

Our Volunteer Committees do incredibly important work training our guides and selecting and scheduling our programming. In the summer of 2019, a programming task force made up of a dozen long-term, active guides, convened to discuss the role of BBF committees in selecting and scheduling our programming and moving our organization forward. The task force recommended that we re-focus the work and purpose of our committees, and focus on four important goals: 1) Our Events and Activities Committee will plan a series of interesting non-tour programs; 2) Our New Tours Committee will provide support for guides who wish to write new tours; 3) Our Tour of the Month Committee and Themed Tour Series Committee will offer ways to present a series of tours from our library; and 4) Our Academic Affairs Committee will continue its essential task of training our incoming guides.

Legacy Circle



To offer new ways for members of our community to have a lasting impact on BBF, our Board of Trustees has created a Legacy Circle. The Legacy Circle welcomes generous individuals who choose to contribute to Boston By Foot through a bequest, by naming BBF as a beneficiary of a retirement fund or life insurance, or other type of planned future gift. In 2019 five individuals announced their intention of including a bequest to Boston By Foot in their estate plans. We look forward to celebrating their commitment and welcoming more friends to the Legacy Circle in 2020.

Bidding Fond Farewells

Program Manager, Cortnee Bollard

The end of 2019 marked the end of Cortnee Bollard's time on the staff at Boston By Foot. Cortnee joined Boston By Foot in September of 2015, after completing her M.A. in Public History. She quickly developed close relationships with many of Boston By Foot's volunteers and helped BBF perform our programs more effectively. She will be greatly missed at Boston By Foot, but we wish her all the best in her new position.

Long Time Trustees, John Currier and Libby Dilling

Two long-time board members ended their tenure at the end of 2019. John Currier and Libby Dilling each devoted many years to BBF board service and in Libby's case, many years as a BBF docent before returning to our organization as a trustee. Though they will no longer be Trustees, they will forever be friends and champions of Boston By Foot. Libby and John are both inaugural members of Boston By Foot's Legacy Circle. We thank them for this incredible gift and for their long-term service to our organization.

The guide was eager to discuss things I brought up and answered many questions.

Volunteers

Boston By Foot would not exist without the time and talent of our 200+ dedicated volunteer guides. They contribute 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 guides are well trained. We thank and acknowledge our 2019 committees and committee chairs.

Academic Affairs: Jeff Doucette and Mike Bauer
Continuing Education: Dennis McCarthy and Martha Vicinus
Special Tours: Shawn McGuinness and Joni Youngwirth
Tours of the Month: Liam Sullivan and Laura Whitcomb
Volunteer Events: Karen Burke and Anna-Marie Bracco

Distinguished Service

All of our volunteers give so much to BBF, but each year we honor volunteers who truly go above and beyond.

The 2019 Distinguished Service Awards were presented to two remarkable volunteers who have the perfect flair, wit and savvy to boost BBF's presence in the ever-changing world of social media. **Michele Steinberg** and **Peter Micheli** support our staff and serve as our main representatives on Facebook and Twitter by preparing and posting timely tweets and posts to engage and inform thousands of our followers. This work takes constant attention, requires knowledge of the latest trends, and of course it has become more and more important as a promotional tool for Boston By Foot. Thank you, Michele and Peter!

In Memoriam

Joann Buckland, *Class of 2010*

Joann was a stalwart Boston By Little Feet and Heart of the Freedom Trail guide. For several years she served as a demonstration guide to help train new guides.

Bill Connors, *Class of 2012*

Bill, a wonderfully jovial figure, was everyone's grandpa on his Boston By Little Feet tours. He loved leading tours and connecting to children of all ages. Bill's family generously and very touchingly made a contribution to Boston By Foot in Bill's memory.

It was a great tour and I would highly recommend this to anyone with children.

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 2019, two fellowships were awarded:

Elisabeth Diccico – UK and Ireland
Martha Vicinus – Paris, France

Foot Pins

BBF acknowledged 27 volunteers for their years of dedicated service in 2019:

25 Years

Robert Anderson • Christine Shirey

20 Years

Liam Sullivan • Nancy White

15 Years

Meredith Anderson • Tom Coppeto
Gene Moulton

10 Years

Bob Dermody • Neil Dugas
Charlie Eisenmann • Jean Hunt
Kate Neave • Lynn Smiledge
Frank Vincent

5 Years

Jeffery Berman • Dana Bos
Rebecca Camerato • David Coviello
Debra Dellanina-Alvarez • Abhi Gupte
Alison Harvey • Anna King
Billy Lewand • Shawn McGuinness
Elisabeth Piquet • Tracy Vrablik
Joni Youngwirth

Footly Fortitude

BBF recognized 29 guides who conducted 20 or more tours in 2019:

Guide of the Year

Bob Perkins, 225 tours

50–90 Tours

Elisabeth DiCicco (89) • Margaret Bratschi (69)
Gretchen Grozier (62) • Tom McNamara (60)
Steve Kluskens (58) • Laurel Perkins (54)
Tom Revay (50)

30–39 Tours

Tom Coppeto • Sharon Fogarty
Sherry Krause-Mazza • Linda Poznauskis
Michele Steinberg • Ronnie Tate

20–29 Tours

Andrea Bonanno • Rebecca Brooks
Willia Brown • Dave Coviello
Sally Ebeling • Terri Evans
Sheila Frazier • Beth Greenwood
Edythe Harkins • Bob Malsberger
Dennis McCarthy • Michelle Saracusa
Sinjin Smith • Martha Vicinus
Joni Youngwirth

Docent Emeriti

The following volunteers became Docent Emeriti in 2019:

Justina Chu, Class of 1994 • **Marylee Gilchrist**, Class of 2005
Diana Larsen, Class of 2001

Note from the Executive Director

In anticipation of the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage, Boston By Foot declared 2019 *The Year of the Woman*. We expanded our partnership with the Boston Women's Heritage Trail and offered tours on women in several neighborhoods including a new tour, the *Remarkable Women of Jamaica Plain*. Our *Louisa May Alcott's Boston* tour was featured in celebration of the release of the new Little Women film, and the role of Boston women in the labor movement was recognized in *Boston Women Finding Their Voice*. Guides were encouraged to feature stories of women on all of their tours, from Anne Hutchinson of the 1630s to Boston's contemporary leaders. The celebration of the role of women in Boston history continues into 2020 as the anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment nears. This effort has inspired BBF and our volunteers to seek out more stories of the unrecognized and unsung. As we head into a new decade, we look forward to a new era of tours, programs and activities that will bring attention to the many layers of Boston's complex history. We thank our volunteers for their creativity, curiosity and the incredible hard work they put into creating and presenting their tours. These next few pages highlight just some of their impressive work.

With Gratitude,
Samantha Nelson Executive Director

Boston By Foot Volunteers

Ellen Aamodt	Alice Brown	Cloudy Doerre
Richard Abrahams	Karen Burke	Joan Dolan
Ronald Aldridge	Diane Burkhardt	Farrell Dolan
Rob Anderson	Nancy Cahn	Jeffrey Doucette
Meredith Anderson	Rebecca Camerato	Jim Dougherty
Florri Aversa	Angela Carbone	Neil Dugas
Dan Bach	Arwyn Carroll	Sally Ebeling
Linzey Bailey	Elizabeth Charney	Thomas Ebling
DeAnna Ballard	Selene Chew	Charlie Eisenmann
Margaret Barrett	Kara Chisholm	Jan Engelman
Michael Bauer	Barbara Clough	Stephen Engler
Kathy Beitler	Sue Cnudde	Louise Enoch
Jeffrey Berman	Regina Cockerill	Terri Evans
Alexandra Bernson	Harvey Cohen	Roseann Evans
Maggie Bomze	Dayl Cohen	Lauri Fazikas
Andrea Bonanno	Pamela Connolly	Martha Felch
Dana Bos	Margo Connor	Michael Fitzgerald
Anne Bosman	Thomas Coppeto	Sharon Fogarty
Betsy Bowman	Harriet Costa	Kate Fontanella
James Boyd	Patricia Courtney	Timothy Frank
Anna Marie Bracco	David Coviello	Sheila Frazier
Margaret Bratschi	Michael Cox	Arlene Freed
Kathryn Briggs	Jonathan Crisol	Sara Freedman
Kathleen Briscoe Habeeb	Debra Dellanina-Alvarez	Harry Friedman
Dianna Bronchuk	Robert Dermody	Steve Gilman
Rebecca Brooks	Elisabeth DiCicco	Judy Glock
Willa Brown	Caitlin Dickinson	Lucinda Gorry

Our guide was very knowledgeable, easy to understand and taught me so much.

Boston By Foot Volunteers

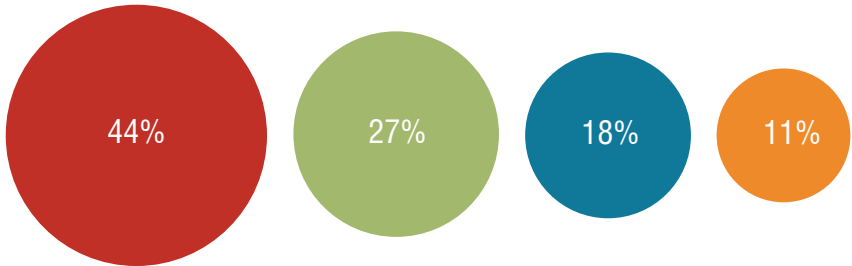
Elizabeth Greenwood	Jeanette Maria	Eric C. Smith
Mary Margaret Griffin	Pat Mattheisen	Laurena Smith
Gretchen Grozier	Charles Maurer	Michele Steinberg
Abhi Gupte	Kate May	Lauren Sterling
Susan Halpert	Bill McAvinney	Nancy Stutzman
Mitch Halpert	Dennis McCarthy	Liam Sullivan
Edythe Harkins	Veronika McDonald King	Rose-Jane Sulman
Joanne Harrington	Shawn Mcguinness	Joyce Tanner
Katrin Hawkins	Timothy McLaughlin	Ronnie Tate
Susan Herman	Lynda McNally	Mel Thomas
Sydney Hermanson	Tom McNamara	Nina Thompson
Kent Hewitt	Peter Micheli	Caroline Trezza
Nancy Heywood	Ellen Mooradian	Carol Trust
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Brooke Hoger	Gene Moulton	Dina Vargo
Michelle Homer	Mary Murphy	Diana Vaughn
Sarah Hoskins	Katherine Neave	Kelsey Vaughn
Emily Huang	Carl Nelson	Martha Vicinus
Jean Hunt	Gisela Nilsson	Francis Vincent
Rona Jiang	David Oconnell	Tracy Vrablik
Annika Johnson	Pamela Pacelli	Timothy Wallace
Natalie Kaftan	Lydia PaziENZA	Dianyuan Wang
Carl Kaplan	Heather Pence	Steven Ward
Aline Kaplan	Adriana Perilla Glen	Douglas Webber
Alfred Kaplan	Robert Perkins	Lillian Weigert
Mary Beth Karr	Laurel Perkins	Laura Whitcomb
Joseph Kelly	David Phillips	Nancy White
Katie Kelly	Elisabeth Anne Piquet	Sanjay Yengul
Elizabeth Kimball	Rosemary Powers	Joni Youngwirth
Anna King	Linda Poznauskis	Dee Zammit
Steve Kluskens	Christina Randolph	DOCENT EMERITI
Sherry Krause-Mazza	Elizabeth Ranelli	Justina Chu
Mark Krumm	Marc Roos	Hannah Diozzi
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William Lewand	Michelle Saracusa	Diana Larsen
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Carter Lowe	Laura Sitterley	Frederick Paulsen
Mary Lynn	Anne Smagorinsky	Linda Perlman
Maureen Maas	Peter Smiledge	Eleanor Rosellini
Julia Magliozzi	Barry Smith	Lawrence Sands
Bob Malsberger	Sinjin Smith	Patricia Sullivan

Thank you for a great day!

Programming

221 Volunteers • 1,396 Tours
232 Private Tours

2019 Tour Attendance Breakdown



- Public Tours – 7,266
- Architecture Cruises – 4,496
- Private Tours – 2,925
- Special Tours, Tours of the Month, Continuing Education Events – 1,905

Special Programming & Events

Continuing Education Events

19th Century Boston Women Artists
In Washington's Footsteps
Lesley University: From Cottage to College
Phillis Wheatley: Freedom and Slavery in
Revolutionary Boston
Taverns to Teahouses

Tours of the Month

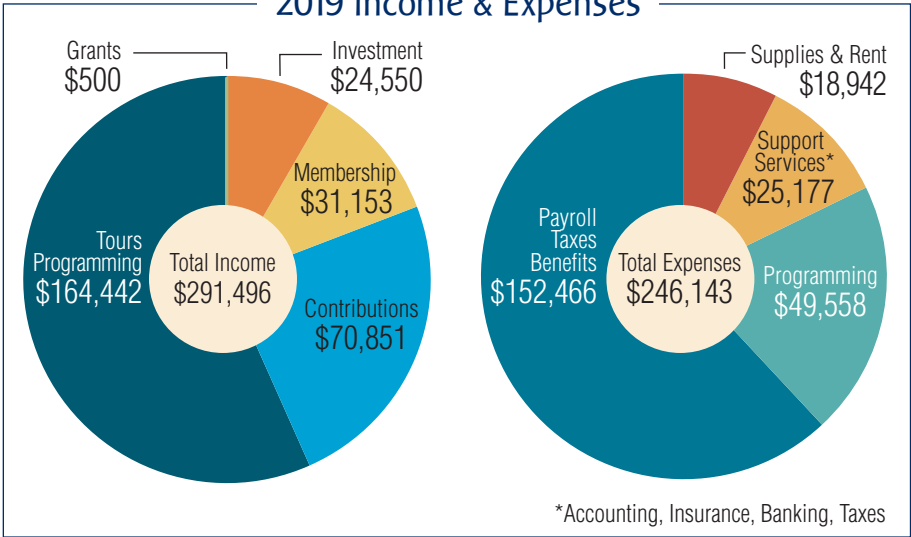
Customs House District
Ladder Blocks
Old West End
Remarkable Women of Jamaica Plain
Rethinking Boston Brutalism
Adventures at Sea: Bostonians in the
Age of Sail



The time flew by and it was such a fun tour.

Administrative Report

2019 Income & Expenses



Partners

Arlington Community Education
Boston Beer Company
Boston Book Festival
Boston Harborfest
Boston Literary District
Boston Preservation Alliance
Boston Society of Architects
Boston Women's Heritage Trail
Bully Boy Distillers
Brookline Adult & Community Education
Cambridge Center for Adult Education
Charles Riverboat Company
Needham Community Education
Old South Meeting House
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
Revolution 250
Vilna Shul

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Staff

Samantha Nelson, *Executive Director*
Cortnee Bollard, *Program Manager*
Alex Clermont, *Program Associate*
Ken Golner, *Communications Coordinator*

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Lorena Silva
Shannon Slaughter

Boston By Foot is a 501(c)3 educational nonprofit founded in 1976.

Boston By Foot is thankful for our members who participate in our programming and support our organization.

Boston By Foot Members

Members receive free admission to our regularly offered tours, discounts to special tours, Tours of the Month and Architecture Cruises, and access to free programs created just for members.

Boston By Foot Patrons

Boston By Foot thanks the following individuals for their Patron Level Membership in 2019.

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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.

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\$5000+

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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.