Health and Wellness programs are expanded, offering free mental health services.

Designated Boston's 1st full-inclusion public high school, serving the needs of students with diverse abilities.

First students inducted into the National Honor Society following BAA's application for National Honor Society School status.

Recognized by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for success graduating more than 90% low-income, minority students, with 90% or more going on to college.

Several teachers receive Surdna Arts Teachers Fellowships from the创意 Scholars Program for their substantial contributions to the arts.

Music students sing for Vice President and Mrs. Al Gore during his visit to Boston.

Senior Grant Project, BAA's capstone experience and graduation requirement for students.

Doors open to 158 freshman and sophomores with Linda Nathan as Opening Year Headmaster.

Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino and Boston Public Schools give the green light for the establishment of the Boston Arts Academy.

Following the passage of the Massachusetts Education Reform Act (MERA, 1993), Presidents of the member colleges of the ProArts Consortium met to discuss the potential for a new arts high school.

The ProArts Consortium played a critical role in the founding of Boston Arts Academy, a metropolitan magnet school for students with a strong commitment to the arts and academics.

Our first all school picture, 1998.
1993
Following the passage of the Massachusetts Education Reform Act (MERA, St. 1993, c. 71), Presidents of the member colleges of the ProArts Consortium propose the creation of a high school for the visual and performing arts in Boston

1995
Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino and Boston Public Schools give the green light to the development of Boston Arts Academy

Opening Year 1998-1999
• Doors open to 158 freshman and sophomores with Linda Nathan as Headmaster and Kay Sloan, President of Massachusetts College of Art, as Governing Board Chair
• Senior Grant Project, BAA's capstone experience and graduation requirement, is initiated, enabling students to present a concept and potentially receive funding to implement a community service project using their arts training to address a community need
• Music students sing for Vice President and Mrs. Al Gore

1999-2000
• BAA Foundation is established to ensure financial support of the school’s mission with Sandy Gordon as Chair
• Alvin Ailey Dance Company offers first master class for Dance majors

2000-2001
• Ted Landsmark, President of Boston Architectural Center, becomes Chair of the BAA Governing Board
• First graduating class of 52 students with 88% going on to college
• Sandra & Philip Gordon Gallery opens, exhibiting student work alongside artists from around the Globe
• Several teachers receive Surdna Arts Teachers Fellowships, a national distinction that is ultimately given to more than a dozen BAA arts teachers

2001-2002
• Receives Exemplary Art School Award from the Network of Visual and Performing Art Schools
• Recognized by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for success graduating more than 90% low-income, minority students, with 90% or more going on to college
• First students inducted into the National Honor Society following BAA receiving National Honor Society School status

2002-2003
• Richard Ortner, President of Boston Conservatory, becomes Chair of the BAA Governing Board, which merges with the BAA Foundation
• Designated Boston’s 1st full-inclusion public high school, serving the needs of students of all abilities
• Health and Wellness programs are expanded, offering free mental health services and supports to students

What is the ProArts Consortium?
The ProArts Consortium played a critical role in the founding of Boston Arts Academy. The six-member arts colleges under the Consortium umbrella—Berklee College of Music, Boston Architectural Center (now College), The Boston Conservatory, Emerson College, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts—designed the school’s curriculum, found a building for the school, admitted our first class of students, and oversaw the hiring of school leadership. The Consortium, which now includes New England Conservatory, has benefited BAA students by inviting them to enroll in courses, gain college credit, further their arts training, receive mentorship from college students, and develop institutional relationships that may lead to college entry and scholarships.
**Student Enrollment**

1998-99: **158**  
2016-17: **447**

**Applicants**

1998-99: **158**  
2016-17: **772**

**INCREASING ENROLLMENTS OVER TIME**

Since our founding year, our student population has nearly tripled in size. By 2020, BAA will enroll its full complement of 500 students. Our future growth, determined by the school district, comes as a result of BAA’s successes and accomplishments, including our students’ high school graduation rates and college and career plans.

Our applicant pool has increased almost five-fold since our inaugural year.

**Teachers in Arts and Academics**

1998-99: **4** Arts  
2016-17: **30** Arts  
8 Academic  
25 Academic

**GROWING ARTS AND ACADEMIC FACULTY**

Our teaching staff has nearly quadrupled since we opened our doors, growing alongside our student population. While our academic faculty has tripled, our arts faculty has grown five-fold in an effort to meet the expanding needs and interests of our students.

**Graduates Admitted to College or Career Training Programs**

1998-99: **90%**  
2016-17: **97%**

**FUTURE PLANS OF BAA GRADUATES**

At BAA, we have a long history of high achievements among our students, most especially the focus of our graduates on pursuing next steps in their education, arts and career training. Each year on average 96% of BAA students head to college (two- and four-year) and/or career training. These rates have increased from 90% for our first graduating class to 97% for the class of 2016–17. Along the way, students have earned nearly $30 million in scholarships, many of which have been associated with member colleges of the ProArts Consortium.

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**Possible Arts Majors with Concentrations**

1998-99: **4**  
2016-17: **14**

**EXPANDING OPTIONS FOR ARTS INSTRUCTION**

The BAA students of today have more choice in which art forms to pursue and to what degree of concentration. We now have six rather than four arts majors, with music now split between Instrumental and Vocal and the recent addition of Fashion Technology, and nine possible concentrations, such as Technical Theatre, Film, Music Technology, and more.

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**Student Supports**

1998-99: **7**  
2016-17: **12**

**INCREASING STUDENTS’ SUPPORTS**

While we have always been committed to providing a range of supports to our students and families, in recent years our capacity to support these needs has grown. Among the supports we have always offered but have been able to expand are college and career guidance, family outreach, an on-site school nurse, a Dean of Students and Dean of Health and Wellness, and a number of trained support staff—all of whom help our students achieve at their highest levels.

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**Dual Enrollment Students**

1998-99: **12**  
2016-17: **29**

**Dual Enrollment Participating Colleges**

1998-99: **6**  
2016-17: **10**

**DUAL ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES DEVELOP KNOWLEDGE AND READY STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREER**

BAA juniors and seniors with strong grade point averages may enroll for college credit at a number of nearby colleges. Students’ options have grown as three community colleges have joined the ProArts colleges in providing an array of educational options for students. Last year, 29 students took 36 courses ranging from Intro to Music Business at Berklee College of Music to Ballet at Boston Conservatory to French at Bunker Hill Community College. These opportunities give our students a competitive edge as they graduate from BAA and pursue next steps in their education or career training.
2003-2004
- The BAA Governing Board shifts to become the BAA Board of Trustees with Richard Ortner, President of Boston Conservatory, as Chair
- Named 1 of 12 Breakthrough High Schools by the National Association of Secondary Principals
- Kirven Douthit-Boyd is the first BAA graduate to join Alvin Ailey Dance Company as a professional dancer
- Center for Arts in Education is created as the dissemination, outreach, and advocacy arm of the school, hosting its first Summer Institute with 58 educators from around the world
- Named 1 of 15 schools nationwide to serve as a Mentor School as part of the Coalition of Essential Schools’ Small Schools Project
- First and only high school in Massachusetts to be recognized with National School Library Media Program of the Year Award
- Music major Diane Guerrero graduates from BAA and later becomes a three-time Screen Actors Guild (SAG)-award winner for her role in Orange is the New Black

2004-2005
- Richard Grubman, Managing Director of Highfields Capital Management, becomes Chair of the BAA Board of Trustees
- Academy Strings Program is launched, offering violin instruction to 1,200 students in 5 Boston public elementary schools over a decade of programming
- Music department releases its first CD of original music, Come Dream With Us
- Hosts first Playwright-in-Residence Kirsten Greenidge, who works with students to develop an original play

2005-2006
- Theatre department stages its first professional production at the Boston Center for the Arts, A More Perfect Union, in collaboration with Company One
- Founding Artistic Dean Fernadina Chan is awarded Teacher of the Year by the International Network of Schools for the Advancement of Arts Education

2006-2007
- David Eppstein, Vice President for Operations at MASCO, becomes Chair of BAA's Board of Trustees
- Carmen Torres, founding Assistant Headmaster, becomes Co-Headmaster
- Welcomes first composer-in-residence, Lisa Bielawa, who spends three years at the school
- Student Jaleel Browder's Self Portrait is exhibited in the U.S. Congress Building
- Profiled in national research study conducted by Harvard Project Zero, Studio Thinking: The Real Benefits of Visual Arts Education

2007-2008
- Anne R. Clark, founding faculty member, curriculum coordinator, and future Headmaster, receives the Milken National Educator Award
- Celebrates 10th Anniversary with a visit from Archbishop Desmond Tutu from South Africa who reminded the BAA community about the importance of fighting against injustice and promoting equity
- Becomes 1 of 12 schools in the Commonwealth, and the only public high school, to receive designation as an Extended Learning Time school by the state Department of Education, providing students with an extra 2.5 hours of daily instruction

2008-2009
- Hosts Pilot School Youth Leadership Conference during which BAA Student Government engages 250 students from 21 schools in Art is Action
- Music students, alongside professional musicians, perform the North American Premiere of Portuguese Conductor Jorge Matta's Vilancicos Negros
- Alumnus David Davidson, with his band Revocation puts out his first album and is later named by Spin Magazine as one of the ten artists to watch in 2010
- Founding faculty member and future Artistic Dean Kathleen Marsh is awarded the 2009 Distinguished Art Educator Award from the Massachusetts College of Art and Design
2009-2010
- Kay Sloan, President of Massachusetts College of Art, takes on her second leadership role with BAA, becoming Chair of the Board of Trustees
- 1 of 5 schools to receive John F. Kennedy Center for the Arts’ 2010 National Schools of Distinction in the Arts Award
- Hosts printmaker Kim Berman, Artist Proof Studio, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 1 of 2 schools nationwide to launch an Arabic language and culture program with Qatar Foundation International, which continues today
- Linda Nathan publishes, *The Hardest Questions Aren’t on the Test: Lessons from an Innovative Urban School*, highlighting BAA’s achievements and challenges
- Alumnus Russell Ferguson wins the 6th season of the nationally syndicated show *So You Think You Can Dance*

2010-2011
- Graduates 3rd Gates Millennium Scholarship recipient and 4 Posse scholars, among the largest cohort of any Boston public school
- Receives GRAMMY Foundation’s 2011 GRAMMY® Signature Enterprise Award, given to 36 schools across the country
- Begins fundraising as an official Boston Marathon charity, which ultimately raises nearly $400,000 over four years
- Belen Pereyra-Alem becomes BAA’s second graduate to join Alvin Ailey Dance Company

2011-2012
- Licensed Psychologist Charmain Jackman is named Director of Health and Wellness, and works to ensure that students social-emotional needs are met by her team through courses for students, counseling, family therapy, and case management provided by licensed clinicians and staff and institutional partners
- Students participate in Design Comes Alive, a three-year interdisciplinary art and science program produced in partnership with TERC and the National Science Foundation, laying the groundwork for BAA’s STEAM department
- Alumni Creative Corps is launched, which over five years trains 75 BAA alumni as artist-teachers, and increases arts education access for more than 2,700 students in 42 Boston public schools
- Humanities Teacher Raul Garcia honored as a Champion of Change by The White House and the President’s Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanics
- Alumna Deysi Melgar becomes co-host for WGBH’s Design Squad Global, which empowers and connects students globally to solve real-world problems with the use of engineering

2012-2013
- Tony James, Senior Vice President at Massachusetts General Hospital, becomes Chair of BAA’s Board of Trustees
- Receives 2012-13 Outstanding Arts School Award from the Arts Schools Network
- Student career and technical training education opportunities increase as BAA establishes a design and visual communication curriculum, and expands and pilots pathways in technical theatre and fashion technology, respectively
- Inclusion strategies are highlighted in Effective Inclusive Schools: Designing Successful Schoolwide Programs, by Thomas Hehn, former U.S. Office of Special Education (OSEP) Director

2013-2014
- Anne R. Clark, serves as Interim Headmaster, and is then named BAA’s 2nd Headmaster after a national search
- Intersession is initiated—a week in January when students are the drivers of their own learning, developing their own project-based courses in partnerships with their peers and teachers
- Internationally renowned classical pianist Lang Lang visits BAA and the Keys of Inspiration program is developed, creating a lasting partnership between BAA and Orchard Gardens K–8 Pilot School in which instrumental music training is offered to students in grades K–8
- Becomes a certified Career and Technical Education school in the district as our Design and Visual Communications program receives Chapter 74 recognition from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
- Jazz Quintet awarded 1st place in the Small Ensemble category at the Berklee College of Music’s High School Jazz Festival
- Two seniors sing for President Obama before a speech he gives at Faneuil Hall
- Celebrates Haitian art and culture with an exhibit in the Gordon Gallery of three renowned Haitian artists, who attend the opening reception alongside the Haitian Ambassador of the United States

2014-2015
- STEAM Lab opens as a maker space—the first of its kind within an urban public arts high school
- Boston City Council’s Aspiring Youth Award goes to Jhair James for his Senior Grant Project which raised funds for the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute and families of homicide victims
- Spirituals Ensemble receives 1st Place and Overall Winner on WGBH-TV’s Sing That Thing
- Success with high-needs students profiled by world-renowned educator, Sir Ken Robinson, in Creative Schools: The Grassroots Revolution That’s Transforming Education
- Alumnus Chris Russo, a member of the Director’s Guild of America, receives his first credit as 2nd Assistant Director on *Mighty Med*, a Disney XD TV show

2015-2016
- Lee Pelton, President of Emerson College, becomes Chair of BAA’s Board of Trustees
- Receives National Education Policy Center’s School of Opportunity Award, recognizing BAA’s success in creating supported learning opportunities for all students
- Expands footprint to entire building at 174 Ipswich Street to accommodate the needs of 437 students
- Given the Signature Enterprise Schools Award by the Grammy® Foundation, 1 of 8 schools nationally to receive the award
- Students’ performance on the MCAS exam gains the school the highest achieving Level 1 status from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for the first time
- 1 of 8 schools to receive InnoVation STEAM Award given by Oprah’s Ovation Foundation, President’s Committee on the Arts and Humanities, and Americans for the Arts
- Theatre and Music departments collaborate to present *In the Heights*—BAA’s first professional theatre production at the Strand Theater in Dorchester

2016-2017
- Summer Reading Program recognized as an exemplary project by the Goldin Foundation for Excellence in Education
- Fashion Technology major planned for fall 2017 launch
- Progress underway for a new state-of-the-art building at 174 Ipswich Street in partnership with City of Boston, Boston Public Schools, and Massachusetts School Building Authority
- 2001 Alumnus Gerald Sullivan’s innovative sneaker design for Nike is featured in GQ Magazine
Boston Arts Academy is deeply grateful to the countless supporters who have provided critical funding to the school since the establishment of the Boston Arts Academy Foundation in 1999.

In this, our twentieth academic year, we wanted to take the opportunity to honor those individuals and organizations who have continuously provided their generous support, some for 10 or more years, and a few each and every year of the school’s proud existence.

On behalf of the entire Boston Arts Academy community: Thank you!

Every Year

Linda and Michael Frieze
Sandra Gordon
Sue and Bernie Pucker
Richard Rudman and Karen Greenberg, M.D.

15 Years or more

Anonymous (3)
The Alchemy Foundation
Lee and Susan Berk
Red Sox Foundation
Katie and Paul Buttenwieser
Ronald G. Casty
The Martin Fund
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Susan Werbe and John Bates

10 Years or more

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Debi and Ashley Adams
David and Estelle Andelman
Betty and Arthur Bardige
Valerie Batts and John Capitman
Robert Beal
Lawrence Blum
Blanca Bonilla
The Boston Conservatory at Berklee
The Boston Foundation
Peter Brooke
Cabot Family Charitable Trust
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Ann Carter and Philip Jameson
Charles and Virginia Clark and
Anne R. Clark and Christopher Monks
Cogan Family Foundation
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