

SPACES



BOSTON ARTS ACADEMY
2023 ANNUAL REPORT



INSIDE THE SPACE OF THIS REPORT



The Boston Arts Academy Foundation, an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization established in 1999, raises essential funds for Boston Arts Academy. Each year, Boston Arts Academy Foundation must bridge the gap between the school's allocation from Boston Public Schools and the true cost of a high-quality education that is both arts-intensive and college preparatory. Support from foundations, corporations, and individual donors is crucial to the school's ability to offer a comprehensive arts and academic education.



Boston Arts Academy, a pilot school within Boston Public Schools, prepares a diverse community of aspiring artists-scholars-global citizens to be successful in their college or professional careers and to be engaged members of a democratic society. As the city's only public high school for the visual and performing arts, BAA's competitive arts and college preparatory education creates opportunities that would not otherwise be available. Founded in 1998, Boston Arts Academy has been recognized as a leader in arts education by the President's Council on the Arts and Humanities, the GRAMMY Foundation, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and the National Education Policy Center.

This Annual Report is produced by Boston Arts Academy Foundation and is dedicated to the Class of 2023.

Denella J. Clark, Editor-in-Chief
Tyrone Sutton, Editor-in-Chief
Grace Baljon, Senior Editor
Annie Hayes, Writer
Survival By Design, Graphic Design

Photos: **Aram Boghosian** (inside cover); **Craig Bailey** (p. 1, 15); **Annielly Carmago** (p. 6, 12-13); **Bill Brett** (p. 6, 7); **Michael Blanchard** (p. 25)



An interactive space: *Memory/Diffusion* is an art installation installed at BAA that was created by MASARY Studios and commissioned by the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

DEAR FRIENDS,

On September 7, 2022, Boston Arts Academy kicked off its second year in the new school building and continued the celebration of 25 years of educating Boston's next generation of creatives. Boston Arts Academy Foundation exists to ensure that students have the resources and opportunities that they need to follow their dreams.

This year's Annual Report theme is **SPACES** which encapsulates the informative journey our students embarked upon over the past year. It was a year of exploration, growth, and empowerment—during which our students were given the opportunity to truly make their mark within our educational and cultural community, both from inside and outside the walls of our new building.

This year's Annual Report theme of SPACES reflects the significance of BAA's physical and metaphorical spaces.

Boston Arts Academy *creates space*—an environment that fosters innovation, creativity, and growth. We are committed to carving out spaces where students can explore their potential. We have tailored high tech environments that inspire them to think, dream, and achieve.

At Boston Arts Academy, we *hold space*—we cultivate a supportive and inclusive space that welcomes diversity, fosters a sense of belonging, and ensures that every voice is heard and valued.

Our students are encouraged to *claim space*—to boldly step into their roles as scholars, artists, and global citizens and share their narratives, celebrate their achievements, and stand tall amidst challenges that arise in the world in which they live.

Your support as donors and community members helps foster all of this dynamic growth in Boston's only fully inclusive public high school for the visual and performing arts.

Thank you for supporting Boston Arts Academy, Boston Arts Academy Foundation, and all the SPACES in which our students will explore, grow, and celebrate. We invite you to join us by investing in and helping to secure the future of Boston Arts Academy's diverse, hardworking, and talented students.

We are *offering you a space*—to make your mark.

With gratitude,



Tyrone Sutton

Interim Head of School
Boston Arts Academy



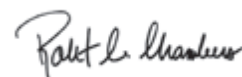
Denella J. Clark

President and CEO
Boston Arts Academy Foundation



Jeff Rosica

Chairman, Board of Directors
Boston Arts Academy Foundation



Robert Chambers

Chairman, Board of Trustees
Boston Arts Academy



(left to right)

Jeff Rosica, Chairman of BAAF Board of Directors,
Ruth E. Carter, BAAF Board Member and MC at HONORS 2023,
Denella J. Clark, BAAF President and CEO,
Robert Chambers, Chairman of BAA Board of Trustees,
and **Tyrone Sutton**, BAA Interim Head of School

2022-23 STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

TALENT IS EVENLY DISTRIBUTED, BUT OPPORTUNITY IS NOT.

64.4% of BAA students come from economically disadvantaged families.

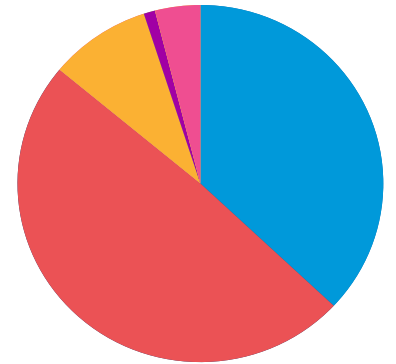
37.9% speak languages other than English at home.

35% of students entered 9th grade reading below grade level.

19.2% have documented learning challenges that require instructional accommodations.

REPRESENTATION

- **LATINX (49%)**
- **BLACK (37%)**
- **CAUCASIAN (9%)**
- **MULTI-RACIAL (4%)**
- **ASIAN (1%)**

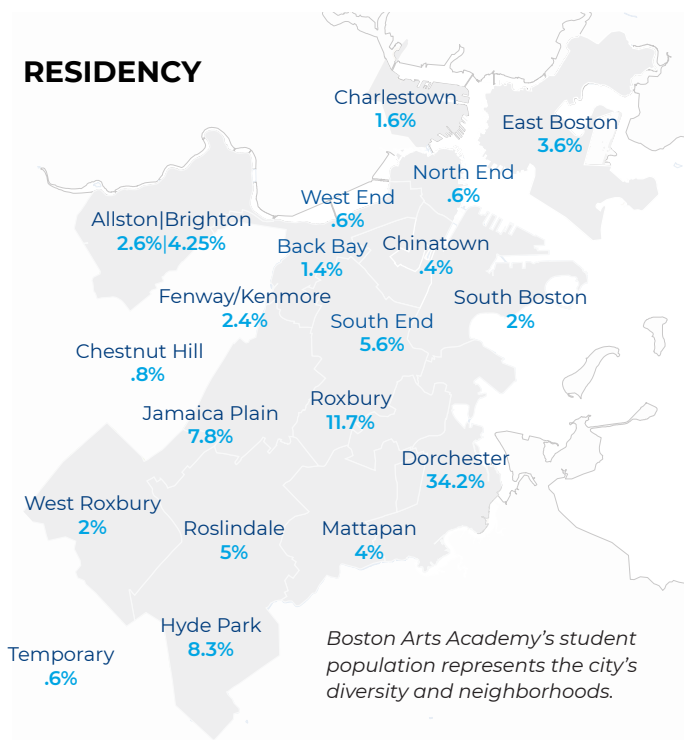


IN 2022-23, BOSTON ARTS ACADEMY PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY TO

494
STUDENTS

98
GRADUATES

RESIDENCY



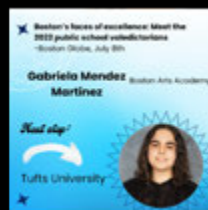
FULL INCLUSION

Founded in 1998, Boston Arts Academy is a full inclusion school where students with learning differences are educated alongside their peers. Boston Arts Academy's admissions process is also academic-blind. The school only reviews students' prior grades and learning or behavioral challenges after they have been accepted.

Our school model—to help students succeed by leading with their strengths—is proven and praised.

The late Sir Ken Robinson, a renowned leader in education, observed that Boston Arts Academy taps into students' creative energy and passions, which engages them in other parts of the school's curriculum. Boston Arts Academy's model helps to ensure that student achievement increases in the arts as well as academics, explaining how, for **nine straight years, 97% of BAA's graduating students have been accepted to college.**

**BAA'S YEAR
IN REVIEW**



JULY 8, 2022

Senior Gabriela Mendez Martinez is included in the *Boston Globe's* "Boston's faces of excellence: Meet the 2022 public school valedictorians" article

HIGHER ED SPACE

For the ninth year in a row, at least 97% of the graduating class was accepted to college. Nearly 2,000 students are supported by the BAA Alumni Board and Association.

BAA CLASS OF 2023 SENIORS WERE ACCEPTED TO **80+ INSTITUTIONS**

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| Anna Maria College | Fitchburg University | Morgan State University | Suffolk University |
| Arcadia College | Florida Memorial University | Montclair State University | Temple University |
| Arizona University | Framingham State University | North Carolina Central University | The New School |
| Berklee College of Music | Franklin Cummings Tech | Nichols College | UMass Amherst |
| Boston Architectural College | Georgia State University | Norfolk State University | UMass Boston |
| Boston Conservatory | Hampton University | Northeastern University | UMass Dartmouth |
| Boston University | Hood College | North Shore Community College | UMass Lowell |
| Bridgewater State University | Howard University | Otis College of Art and Design | University of Alabama |
| Bunker Hill Community College | Ithaca College | Pace University | University of Hartford |
| Central Washington University | Landmark College | Penn State University | University of Maine |
| Clark Atlanta University | Lasell University | Regis College | University of Rhode Island |
| Clarkson University | Lesley University | Roxbury Community College | University of San Francisco |
| College of Mount Saint Vincent | Louisiana State University | Rutgers University | University of Southern New Hampshire |
| Columbia College Chicago | Maine College of Art and Design | Salem State University | University of the Arts |
| Curry College | Manhattan College | Savannah College of Art and Design | Wentworth Institute of Technology |
| Dean College | Massachusetts College of Art and Design | Skidmore College | Westfield State University |
| DeSales University | Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences-Boston | School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University | Wheaton College |
| Drexel University | MassBay Community College | Spelman College | Winston Salem State University |
| Eastern Kentucky University | Merrimack College | Stonehill College | Worcester State University |
| Emerson College | Montserrat College of Art | Stony Brook College | Xavier University |



Boston Arts Academy Foundation raised **\$230,000** in college scholarship funding for the Class of 2023 through individual and institutional support. **Forty-seven** of BAA's **98 graduating seniors** received scholarships and every graduate received a **\$250 Target gift card** to help kick-start their next chapter.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING BOSTON ARTS ACADEMY'S 2023 GRADUATES!

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|---|
| Anonymous (2) | Carole Charnow | Elizabeth and Robert Pozen |
| Laura Alpert, in honor of Valerie Becker-Nogueira (BAA '03) | Denella J. Clark | Survival By Design |
| Grace Baljon | Fenway Music Company | Suzanne and Peter Read |
| Barricklo Family, in honor of Jonah B. Barricklo (BAA '19) | Betty Francisco | Kristen Standish |
| Valerie Becker-Nogueira | James and Kathleen Heffernen | Maura Tierney, in memory of Nan Tierney |
| Ralph Bradley Prizes | Albert Holland | Helen Waters |
| Cambridge Trust Company | Christine M. McGroddy | Jerry Wheelock and Elizabeth Wood |
| | Frances Sykes Moyer | Katherine B. Winter |
| | NBT II Foundation | |



JULY 27, 2022
Dorian Parker is highlighted on the Tanglewood Institute's "BU Voices"



JULY 29, 2022
Students tour their new school for the first time

BIDDING A FOND FAREWELL



Dr. Anne Rogers Clark with Boston Arts Academy students and parents at Parents' Night, 1999

DR. ANNE ROGERS CLARK DEDICATED AN INCREDIBLE 25+ YEARS TO BOSTON ARTS ACADEMY AND RECENTLY BID FAREWELL TO HER ROLE AS HEAD OF SCHOOL, MARKING THE TRANSITION OF AN IMPACTFUL ERA

During her tenure, Dr. Anne Rogers Clark has been an inspirational leader, shaping Boston Arts Academy into the exceptional educational institution it is today. Under her leadership as Head of School, Boston Arts Academy has grown by more than 100 students; expanded its curriculum to include three Chapter 74-approved vocational-technical programs; increased dual enrollment college course offerings and innovative artistic opportunities; and, from planning to fruition, led the school-based process for Boston Arts Academy's new building.

Her unwavering commitment to academic and creative excellence, inclusivity, and community engagement has left an indelible mark on our BAA school community. While she will be missed, Dr. Clark's accomplishments and the profound impact she has had on our students, faculty, staff, and community will continue on. We are determined to uphold the standards of excellence she set.

Says **Mary Skipper**, Superintendent of **Boston Public Schools**, "I want to thank Anne for her extraordinary service to the Boston Arts Academy community and all of her efforts to improve outcomes, opportunities and facilities at the school. Boston Arts Academy is in a stronger position today because of her leadership and I am grateful."

"In my 26 years at Boston Arts Academy, eleven as Head of School, I have witnessed our community evolve and thrive. Our community's resilience, dedication, and commitment to our students' success has been, and will continue to be, an inspiration to me. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to have been a part of this incredible journey."

— Dr. Anne Rogers Clark

BAA'S YEAR IN REVIEW



SEPTEMBER 8, 2022

Students are welcomed back with the annual BAA Pep Rally



SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

Students learn to light the stage for the first time in the new building

NAMING A SPACE

The Boston Arts Academy building has been named for Dr. Elma I. Lewis, American arts educator and founder of the National Center of Afro-American Artists and The Elma Lewis School of Fine Arts.

AN HISTORIC VOTE

In the fall of 2022, the Boston School Committee voted unanimously to name the new Boston Arts Academy school building in honor of Dr. Elma I. Lewis, who devoted her life to bringing culture into the lives of Boston's African American community. She founded the **Elma Lewis School of Fine Arts**—offering a robust program to Boston's African American community in art, drama, music, dance, and costume design—and is the founder of the **National Center of Afro-American Artists (NCAAA)**. She is a graduate of **Emerson College** and **Boston University**. Dr. Lewis is one of the first recipients of the **MacArthur Foundation Fellowship** for her dedicated work in the arts and also received the **Presidential Medal for the Arts** from President Ronald Regan. Her legacy will continue to inspire our BAA students for years to come.



Mayor **Michelle Wu**, BPS Superintendent **Mary Skipper**, BAA student **Shaumba-Subira Dibinga-Robinson**, **Kafi Meadows** (niece of Elma Lewis), **Edmund Barry Gaither** (Director of NCAAA Museum), **Darnley Corbin, Jr.**, BAAF President & CEO **Denella J. Clark**, **Jeri Robinson** (BPS School Committee Chair), **Dr. Anne R. Clark**, and **Antoine Melay, Jr.** (BAAF Board of Directors member and Audit Committee Chair) at the school's building renaming ceremony in May 2023

BAA'S TYRONE SUTTON STEPS UP AS INTERIM HEAD OF SCHOOL

Since 2008, **Tyrone Sutton** has held various teaching and leadership roles at Boston Arts Academy including Dean of Arts. He also served as Chair of the Humanities Department and Co-Chair of the Music Department.

Sutton is the founder of Boston Arts Academy's award-winning Spirituals Ensemble which has performed state-wide and with leading artists. Prior to his work at Boston Arts Academy, Sutton worked in arts education and policy at the **Arts Education Partnership** in Washington D.C. and served as Assistant for the Coordinator for Visual and Performing Arts for **Cambridge Public Schools** in Cambridge, MA.

Sutton received his bachelor's degree in Music Education from **Texas State University-San Marcos**, his master's degree in education with a concentration in arts education from **Harvard University Graduate School of Education**, and a graduate certificate from **Boston University's Creative Educational Leadership Institute**. He was also the recipient of a fellowship from the **Rockefeller Brothers Fund**.

In addition to his work at Boston Arts Academy, Sutton serves as the principal organist at the **Historic Charles Street A.M.E. Church** in Boston. He has also served as a Teaching Fellow with **Boston Children's Chorus** and as Vocal Ensemble Director for **Berklee City Music**.

Sutton is Interim Head of School for the 2023–2024 school year as BAA's Governing Board leads a process to fill the position permanently.



Tyrone Sutton, Interim Head of School for the 2023–2024 school year



SEPTEMBER 16, 2022
Ruth E. Carter gives a Masterclass focused on inspiration, creation, and a life of applying culture to art and fashion



OCTOBER 6, 2022
The Spirituals Ensemble performs for Mayor Michelle Wu and Boston Public Schools officials at the new school's ribbon cutting ceremony

CREATING SPACE



SHREK! THE MUSICAL

The first all-student-major production in BAA's new 500-seat state-of-the-art theatre was *Shrek! The Musical*. The show, which ran from March 16 to March 19, 2023, was the school's first in-person production since before the COVID-19 pandemic. Directed by BAA's Artistic Director **Maura Tighe**, *Shrek! The Musical* was chosen because it enabled students to demonstrate a range of acting abilities, vocal skills, and technical understanding by using all of the new equipment in the school's thoughtfully designed facility. The show, which celebrates the power of being one's true self, was also chosen because of the themes of inclusiveness and the welcoming of the diverse and underrepresented.

"The work being done by Boston Arts Academy Foundation is critical towards the advancement of arts and academic education in our city. Champion Reception is a great example of how our community leaders can come together to support the highly talented and creative students at Boston Arts Academy."

— Former Boston Mayor Kim Janey

Check out the *Shrek! The Musical* program book to learn about the production's student artists and creative team.



To learn more about BAAF's 2024 Champion Reception, please visit www.baafdn.org or email giving@baafdn.org.



Victoria (BAAF Advisory Council Chair) and **John** (BAAF Board Member) **Dozier** served as 2023 Champion Reception Event Co-Chairs

BAA'S YEAR IN REVIEW



OCTOBER 8, 2022

Boston Arts Academy Foundation's signature event and largest fundraiser of the year raises \$2.3M to fund BAA arts programming



NOVEMBER 18, 2022

Sophomore dancers experienced a unique dance lesson from Celebrity Series' Donovan Reed

At BAA, students are immersed in an environment that **fosters innovation, creativity, and growth**. Our commitment to **carving out spaces where students can explore their potential** is a testament to our **dedication to their holistic development**. From redesigned classrooms, a new theatre to collaborative workspaces, **we've tailored environments that inspire students to think, dream, and achieve beyond boundaries.**

CHAMPION RECEPTION

On Thursday, March 16, 2023, Boston Arts Academy Foundation and event Co-Chairs **John and Victoria Dozier** hosted the **Champion Reception** at **House of Blues** where **City of Boston Mayor Michelle Wu** and **former Mayor Kim Janey** were celebrated as Champions. The Champion Award recognizes individuals who embody the school's commitment to the arts, scholarship, and citizenship. We were thrilled to celebrate Mayor Wu and former Mayor Janey—our city's first two female mayors—during Women's History Month.

"Both women are trailblazers in their own right, and both believe so deeply and passionately in the arts...they also believe strongly in urban education," said **Denella J. Clark**, Boston Arts Academy Foundation's President and CEO. "Many of the students at Boston Arts Academy look like and represent both Mayor Wu and Mayor Janey."

Following the Champion Reception, guests including Mayor Wu and Mayor Janey walked to BAA's new theatre to attend the opening night production of *Shrek! The Musical*.

Save the date for next year's Champion Reception to be held on March 21, 2024 honoring **Hector Piña** and **Dr. Aisha Miller** and chaired by **Dylan Leavitt**. Visit baafdn.org (and page 25 of this report) for more information and sponsorship opportunities.



Former Boston Mayor **Kim Janey**, current Boston Mayor **Michelle Wu**, and Boston Arts Academy Foundation President & CEO **Denella J. Clark** at the 2023 Champion Reception



DECEMBER 2022

Students show off their talents at the annual BAA Winterfest showcasing instrumental, dance, and choral concerts



DECEMBER 21, 2022

The Spirituals Ensemble performs on *NBC Hub Today*

HOLDING SPACE

"Professor Melo makes Spanish class fun, she's so patient. I can come to her if I'm ever going through something and I just need someone to talk to."



"Ms. Polito is so cool, she taught me how to stand up for myself."



"Mr. Blank is great at being supportive emotionally, he always puts the students' needs first."

Students share what makes their Boston Arts Academy teachers so special during Teacher Appreciation Week

HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAM

Boston Arts Academy's **Health and Wellness Program** supports the medical, mental health, and social-emotional needs of all students. Staffed by **Dr. Kwame Dance**, a clinical psychologist, a school nurse, health educators, and clinical and nursing interns, the program strives to provide early identification and treatment of psychological and social-emotional concerns.

The Health and Wellness Program at Boston Arts Academy offers a range of clinical services to students and their families, including crisis intervention, in-person and telehealth counseling support, group counseling, mentoring, and case management support. **Services are provided at no cost to students or their families.**

HEALTH CLASS

Boston Arts Academy partners with the **Boston Public Health Commission** to embed health curriculum in our Physical Education program. Students are required to take one semester per year. Classes cover topics such as coping with anxiety and depression, healthy relationships, substance abuse education, decision-making, and sexual health.

ADVISORY

All students are assigned to an Advisory with approximately 12 other students within the same arts major, but in mixed grade levels. This supportive group meets two times per week. Students have the same Faculty Advisor throughout their time at BAA, which ensures that each student is known well by at least one adult in the building.

CIRCLE PRACTICE

Circle Practice is an integral part of Boston Arts Academy's school culture. It is used to build community, establish norms, and to proactively restore justice when challenges arise. In a safe and supportive space, students are encouraged to speak and listen to each other from the heart. Studies have found that behaviors change when students are held accountable for their actions by peers and Boston Arts Academy offers training for students to become Circle Leaders. Following their training, Circle Leaders can lead any level of intervention.

70% of the school population is receiving school support services.

BAA'S YEAR IN REVIEW



DECEMBER 21, 2023

Fashion Technology students open a winter pop up shop with clothing and goods designed from eco-friendly, upcycled materials



JANUARY 19, 2023

Junior Design + Visual Communication and Studio Art students present a gallery show entitled *Enhanced Worlds*

At BAA, we've cultivated a supportive and inclusive atmosphere that **embraces diversity, fosters a sense of belonging, and ensures that every student's voice is valued.** In addition to physical space, **BAA offers emotional space.** Here, students can **express themselves freely, challenge their ideas, and feel supported on their journey of self-discovery.**

STUDENT GROUPS

Student groups offer opportunities for students to further their skill sets and interests with like-minded peers.

- **Girls Group** supports young women as they find their voice, define their goals and dreams, and develop their pride and self-confidence.
- **Men on the Rise** provides BAA's young men with mentoring and personal and professional development.
- **Student Alliance for Equality (S.A.F.E.)** provides space for students to discuss their feelings and fears regarding identity, orientation, and gender identity to help fight prejudice and discrimination.
- **Social Justice Group** provides an opportunity for students to build effective advocacy and communication skills while learning methods to develop multi-systemic interventions to support school-wide anti-racist initiatives.
- **Quiet Lunch** serves students who exhibit challenges in social interaction with sensory integration. In a small group, students engage in social skill building, develop coping strategies, and practice mindfulness activities.
- **Executive Functioning Group** provides students tools for time management, self initiation, organization, self regulation, and distress tolerance through group activities.
- **Peer Mediation** introduces 20 students to an evidence-based peer mediation model consisting of 20 hours of training. Upon completion, students are able to mediate minor conflicts between their peers.



Whether enjoying the roof deck or singing lunchtime karaoke on the Gathering Stair, every space in the school provides an opportunity for connection and creativity



JANUARY 21, 2023
Theatre majors stage a performance of *The Crucible*



FEBRUARY 7, 2023
Grammy Award-winning rapper and record producer Lupe Fiasco teaches students about the music business



FEBRUARY 10, 2023
Tai Jimenez, School Director of The Dance Theatre of Harlem, gives students a class on "the dancer's gaze"

CLAIMING SPACE



BOSTON FASHION WEEK

Four students majoring in Fashion Technology participated in **Boston Fashion Week 2022** through the **Peers + Pros Project**, a creative learning initiative that pairs students with a team of professionals from the **Koch Institute**, the **Heide Maker Hub** at the **MIT Museum**, **Boston Public Library's Teen Central**, and **School of Fashion Design, Boston**. The collaboration resulted in *Science Surfaces*, a capsule collection of body coverings and accessories that served as canvases for digital prints of ideas inspired by award-winning biomedical images produced by life science research labs at **MIT**.

After visiting the **Koch Institute Public Galleries** to tour the **2022 Image Awards** exhibition and learn about the science behind the images, the teams formulated and refined their design concepts through research and development meetings about zero-waste design strategies. They further expanded their skill set by creating accessories to accompany the textile design in a series of hands-on 3D printing workshops.

The experience culminated in a runway presentation as part of the **Cambridge Science Festival's Fashion Day** and opening day of Boston Fashion Week. The students, their collaborators, and the scientists whose images inspired their work provided the audience with reflections afterwards. The designs and images remained on display until early spring.

BAA's Fashion Tech program students **Fiona Shine Duncan**, **Emerald Garcia**, **Alison Benavides Lopez** and **Jaileen Mercado** were invited to be part of a **Boston Fashion Week** team that included professionals at **Koch Institute Public Galleries**, **MIT Museum's Maker Lab**, **Boston Public Library's Teen Central**, and **School of Fashion Design, Boston**

"Once we learned that this project was focused on sustainability and creating zero-waste garments, it pushed us all to think outside of the box."

— *BAA Fashion Tech Student Fiona Shine Duncan*



BAA'S YEAR IN REVIEW



MARCH 16, 2023
Shrek! The Musical, takes over the main stage theatre



MARCH 16, 2023
Boston Arts Academy Foundation holds 2023 Champion Reception and honors Mayor Michelle Wu and former Mayor Kim Janey's commitment to the arts, scholarship, and citizenship

At BAA, students are empowered to **claim their narratives and celebrate their achievements**. Here, students **develop confidence**, are encouraged to **seize opportunities**, and **feel inspired to make a meaningful impact** as scholars, artists, and global citizens.

GOVERNOR HEALEY'S INAUGURATION

To celebrate the historic inauguration of the nation's first all-women executive team of **Governor Maura Healey** and **Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll**, Boston Arts Academy's Spirituals Ensemble was invited to perform the National Anthem at the *Moving the Ball Forward* celebration at TD Garden on January 5, 2023. This group performed alongside headliner **Brandi Carlile** and **Todd Angilly**, a classically trained opera singer who is the national anthem singer for the **Boston Bruins**. Additional performers included **Boston Gay Men's Chorus**, **DJ Frenchy**, **Abilities Dance Company**, **Witch Pitch**, **OOMPA**, and **Sci Tech**. The performance was broadcast on **WBZ-TV** and also streamed on the Statehouse website.

CALL OF COURAGE

Boston Arts Academy students performed in *Call of Courage* at **Roxbury Community College** alongside **Urbanity's Professional Company** and **Brighter Boston**. Featuring choreography set to powerful stories of perseverance from Boston's youth, the performance projected an image of courage to honor personal truths of growing up in today's society.

PORTRAITS OF PRIDE

At Boston Arts Academy Foundation, we celebrate our BAA students and their right to express their individuality, both professionally and personally, all year round. We were honored to have our own Interim Head of School, **Tyrone Sutton**, recognized as a luminary of Massachusetts' LGBTQ+ community, and featured in the *Portraits of Pride* art installation, along with his husband **Reverend Brandon Thomas Crowley**. Portraits of Pride was an LGBTQ+ photography installation by **John Huet** on display at **Boston City Hall Plaza** through June 30, 2023. We are proud to create safe spaces for our BAA LGBTQ+ students and allies.



BAA's Spirituals Ensemble performed at the *Moving the Ball Forward* inaugural celebration for Governor **Maura Healey** and Lieutenant Governor **Kim Driscoll** in January 2023



MARCH 18, 2023

Karla Duque accepts the Gold Key for her illustration and design of Langston Hughes' poem, *The Weary Blues*, at the 100th Scholastic Awards ceremony



APRIL 28, 2023

Grade 9 Studio Art exhibit shows students' new works

CELEBRATING COMMENCEMENT



Boston Arts Academy Foundation
President & CEO **Denella J. Clark** presented
\$250 **Target** gift cards to each graduate

Interim Head of School **Tyrone Sutton**, **Eugene Roundtree**, Secondary School Superintendent,
Dr. Anne Rogers Clark, and BAA Commencement Speaker **Charlese Antoinette Jones**

CONGRATULATIONS TO BOSTON ARTS ACADEMY'S CLASS OF 2023!

On Monday, June 12, Boston Arts Academy's Class of 2023 celebrated Commencement at the **MGM Music Hall** in Boston's Fenway neighborhood.

"When I asked you what you [the graduates] will miss the most about BAA, and what you are most proud of accomplishing at BAA, the majority of you gave the exact same answer for both questions—the *community you created through your art*," said former BAA Head of School, **Dr. Anne Rogers Clark**.

Students, families, faculty, and friends enjoyed student highlights from each major, including a performance by the award-winning Spirituals Ensemble.

This year's Commencement Speaker, award-winning costume designer **Charlese Antoinette Jones**, encouraged the seniors: "I feel it's my responsibility to lift as I climb, and I hope that as you go on your journey you do the same." After the graduates received their diplomas, the entire venue sang along (and lit up their phones!) with the Class of 2023 in their rendition of *Come Dream With Us*.

Jerome Smith, Head of Community Affairs, New England Region at **Amazon**, **Pamela D.A. Reeve**, Chairwoman of the Board for the **Women's Edge**, **Ann Sousa**, Executive Director of **Brighter Boston**, and visual artist **Rob 'ProBlak' Gibbs** were each honored with a Boston Arts Academy Foundation **SuperSTAR Award** in recognition of their leadership, generous philanthropic support, tireless commitment to Boston Arts Academy's students, and advancing the mission of Boston Arts Academy.

SUPPORT THE CLASS OF 2024

Boston Arts Academy Foundation invites you to support current students in the following ways:

- Support general student needs with a gift of any size
- Create a named scholarship with a donation of \$1,000 or more
- Establish an ongoing, multi-year named scholarship fund with your donation of \$2,500 or more

Donate today to ensure that Boston Arts Academy's talented, hard-working, and creative leaders continue to thrive in college and beyond.



Please visit **page 3** for recognition of Class of 2023 scholarship supporters.

BAA'S YEAR IN REVIEW



MAY 3, 2023

BAA Spirituals Ensemble gives a performance LIVE on WGBH's *Boston Public Radio After Hours: A Conversation With Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley*



Boston Arts Academy seniors perform *Come Dream With Us* at graduation



Jerome Smith received a BAAF SuperSTAR Award

SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI

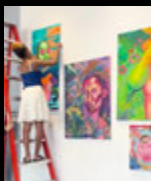
BAA ALUM VALERIE BECKER-NOGUEIRA ('03) HAS JOINED BAAF AS DIRECTOR OF EVENTS AND CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

BAAF was thrilled to welcome **Valerie Becker-Nogueira ('03)**, a member of BAA's third graduating class, into her new role of managing the Foundation's events and major fundraisers and cultivating corporate partnerships in our community. As the founding chair of the **Boston Arts Academy's Alumni Board and Association**, she has been pivotal in establishing a robust organization of nearly 2,000 BAA alumni spanning 26 states and beyond. Her leadership has been instrumental in creating a solid foundation that continues to connect talented individuals from the Boston Arts Academy community.

Expressing enthusiasm for her new role, Valerie emphasizes her dedication to supporting students, recognizing the pivotal role that Boston Arts Academy played in her own life. She expressed gratitude for the opportunity to study dance and attend **Emerson College**, experiences that shaped her into the person she is today.



Valerie Becker-Nogueira ('03) at the BAA Alumni Board and Association Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at BAA



MAY 18, 2023

Seniors display new works in the Visual Arts + Design show, *Steal Our Art*



MAY 19, 2023

During the BAA Film Festival, aspiring filmmakers screen ten short films from drama to romance, heartbreak, and documentaries



MAY 20, 2023

25th Anniversary Dance Springfest

SUPPORT BAA'S FUTURE TODAY

JOIN OUR *BUILDING OUR FUTURE* CAMPAIGN

Launched in 2018, the *Building Our Future* Campaign was strategically designed in response to the announcement of a new building for Boston Arts Academy. While our new, state-of-the-art school building—long a dream—opened in September 2022, Boston Arts Academy continues to rely on philanthropy, now more than ever before.

Boston Arts Academy was founded by Boston's ProArts Consortium as a public-private partnership, a model dependent on philanthropy. Boston Arts Academy relies on Boston Arts Academy Foundation to raise critical funds to support the school's annual budget, to innovate, to respond to urgent needs, to provide specialized equipment and technology, and to ensure the school's future. The *Building Our Future* Campaign raises funds for annual arts programming, equipment and technology, flexible cash reserves and endowment, and Campaign operations.

To date, BAA Foundation has raised more than \$25 million towards the \$35 million goal of the seven-year campaign.

The *Building Our Future* Campaign will close on June 30, 2025 with a goal of \$35 million. This funding ensures that both today and the future are bright for a growing student body of Boston's most talented young people. In turn, they serve the city of Boston and beyond as artists-scholars-global citizens.

However beautiful, the new school building is only the beginning. It's the people and programs that matter most and need support.

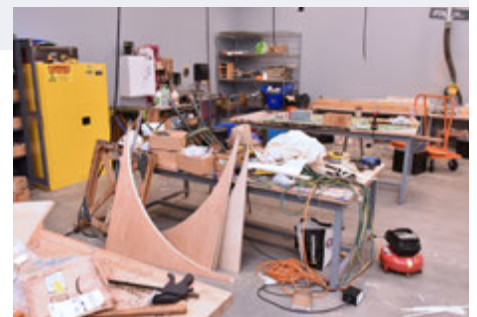


Dr. Anne Rogers Clark with *Building Our Future* Campaign donors and BAA parents (P'20) Elizabeth Wood and Jerry Wheelock (former BAAF board member), with Denella J. Clark outside the newly named Scene Shop

"The Building Our Future Campaign fuels the ongoing mission to develop our young people into the thoughtful, imaginative citizens, leaders, and artists our city needs. It is an honor to collaborate with Boston Arts Academy, Boston Arts Academy Foundation, and Boston Public Schools on this all-important work."

— Mayor Michelle Wu

To learn more about the *Building Our Future* Campaign or make a gift, please visit:



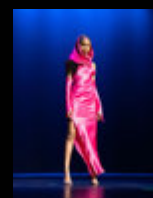
Inside the Jerry Wheelock and Elizabeth Wood (P '20) Scene Shop

BAA'S YEAR IN REVIEW



MAY 23, 2023

Audience members enjoy the performances of our talented Music majors performing at Springfest



JUNE 2, 2023

Reign fashion show representing the idea of individuality and self-expression is the first Fashion Technology show in the new school building

BAA STEAM DREAM



THE FUTURE OF STEAM AT BOSTON ARTS ACADEMY

To further elevate and fully incorporate STEAM programming at BAA, it is crucial that we implement these key initiatives:

- **HIRE A STEAM DIRECTOR** who will be responsible for all operations of the STEAM Lab and support the development of innovative STEAM programming.
- **DEVELOP AN INNOVATING AND ENGAGING STEAM CURRICULUM** that incorporates interdisciplinary experiences and involves real-world problems that require students to think critically and participate in hands-on learning.
- **OUTFIT THE STEAM LAB WITH MATERIALS AND TOOLS**, such as a 3-D printer and laser cutter, for the students to design and implement their own projects and experiments.
- **PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES** for BAA teachers to support the integration of the STEAM curriculum and to use the STEAM Lab's cutting-edge resources.
- **MODEL EMERGING STEAM CURRICULUM** by engaging the educational community—locally, regionally, and nationally—in workshops and round tables.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE STEAM PROGRAM AT BAA

STEAM is the study of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics with the goal of engaging students more deeply, improving their science and math knowledge, and giving them the tools to communicate more effectively. BAA's STEAM program helps bolster Boston Arts Academy's education model as a full-inclusion school, where students are accepted based on commitment to and passion for their art—demonstrated through an arts audition or art portfolio submission—rather than their academic, behavioral, or learning history.

By utilizing STEAM, BAA students can apply their interests and passions to their full academic curriculum, thus helping them to thrive and prepare for professional practice.

Boston Arts Academy is re-committed to creating a space and curriculum for students to explore the territory where science, technology, engineering, art, and math intersect. The new school building, which opened in time for the 2022–2023 school year, has a dedicated STEAM Lab where students have access to the tools needed to explore and apply STEAM ideas and practices.

Help Boston Arts Academy Foundation fund our STEAM DREAM by donating today. Your support immediately impacts the students of BAA and their arts education, which will affect greater change in our community as our artists, scholars, and global citizens pursue their dreams.

To learn more about our STEAM DREAM or make a gift, please visit:



JUNE 12, 2023
BAA celebrates commencement ceremony at MGM Music Hall graduating 98 seniors



JUNE 29, 2023
Theatre sophomore Brenny O'Brien performs an original monologue during Boston's Pride Month Celebration

JUST A FEW WAYS TO GIVE

MAKE A 100% TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TODAY TO SUPPORT BAA'S STUDENTS AS THEY BECOME THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS.



GIFTS BY MAIL

We accept cash, credit card, and check payments via mail. Include your contact information and instructions on how your gift should be directed. Checks may be made payable to Boston Arts Academy Foundation. Gifts can be sent to:

Boston Arts Academy Foundation
126 Brookline Avenue, 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02215

DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

A donor-advised fund is a simple, tax-smart investment. You can choose your grant amount, the frequency, and send direct payments to the Boston Arts Academy Foundation.

Do you have a donor-advised fund with Fidelity Charitable, Schwab Charitable or BNY Mellon? If so, you can visit DAF Direct and recommend a gift to the Boston Arts Academy Foundation.

If you have established a Donor-Advised Fund with another institution, please ask that checks be made payable to the Boston Arts Academy Foundation and mailed to:

Boston Arts Academy Foundation
126 Brookline Avenue, 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02215

STOCK GIFTS

Giving the gift of publicly traded stock can provide better tax benefits than giving cash, and often, your deduction may be equal to the fair market value of the stock.

If you would like to donate stock to the Boston Arts Academy Foundation, please note the following:

Rockland Trust Participant DTC: #2663
For credit to client account: #18012001
(Boston Arts Academy Foundation Custody Account)

Contact our office at giving@baafdn.org or **617-763-1151** to let us know the type of stock you will be transferring and when you will be transferring it.

MATCHING GIFTS

Many employers sponsor matching gift programs and will match any charitable contributions made by their employees. They even sometimes match spouse and retiree giving! By completing a matching gift form through your company, you may be able to double, or even triple, the impact of your gift.

FACEBOOK FUNDRAISER

Social media fundraisers are simple to start, and people can donate to your fundraiser in just a few clicks, without ever leaving Facebook. Even better? Facebook does not charge any fees, so 100% of the funds you raise go directly to Boston Arts Academy Foundation (@foundationbaa).

Please note: when launching your Facebook fundraiser, please clearly state to your followers where you'd like donations to go towards, for example, "to support Boston Arts Academy Foundation to fund arts programming and more at Boston Arts Academy."

CAUSE MARKETING

Partner with BAA Foundation and show your customers and clients you care about Boston's youth and public arts education. There are many ways to partner including Donate At Checkout programs, hosting B(AA) Days in-store, and Charity Classes/Experiences.

To learn more about Ways To Give or make a gift, please visit:



STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES



2022–2023 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Audits of Boston Arts Academy Foundation's FY 2023 and FY 2022 revenue and expenses were performed by Burke & Associates CPAs, Inc.

FISCAL YEAR 2023

July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

Support and Other Revenue

Contributions and Grants	\$ 4,738,998
Other Program Revenue	\$ -
In-kind Contributions	\$ 259,950
Interest Income	\$ 47,738
Net Investment Gain	\$ 388,320
Revenue Total	\$ 5,435,006

Expenses

BAA Program Support	\$ 3,350,731
Management and General	\$ 702,486
Fundraising	\$ 1,103,532
Expenses Total	\$ 5,156,749

Increase in Net Assets \$ 278,257

Net Assets, beginning of year \$ 10,681,985

Net Assets, end of year \$ 10,960,242

FISCAL YEAR 2022

July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

Support and Other Revenue

Contributions and Grants	\$ 3,144,681
Other Program Revenue	\$ 116,037
In-kind Contributions	\$ 218,916
Interest Income	\$ 4,126
Net Investment Gain	\$ (400,795)
Revenue Total	\$ 3,082,965

Expenses

BAA Program Support	\$ 1,862,187
Management and General	\$ 525,617
Fundraising	\$ 670,420
Expenses Total	\$ 3,058,224

Increase in Net Assets \$ 24,741

Net Assets, beginning of year \$ 10,657,244

Net Assets, end of year \$ 10,681,985

WITH GRATITUDE TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

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On behalf of the **students, faculty, and staff of Boston Arts Academy, BAA Foundation gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and organizations that donated to support Boston Arts Academy and its students between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023. Please contact us at giving@baafdn.org with any questions.**

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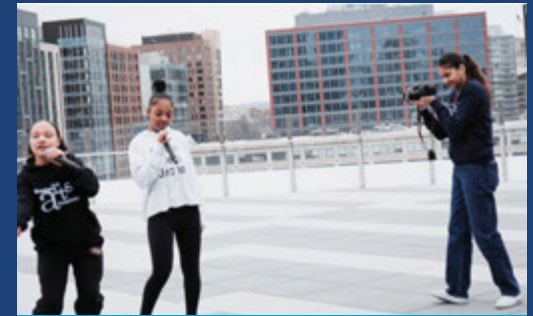
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A NEW CTE SPACE

MULTIMEDIA AND ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION (MEP)

CAREER TRAINING AND EDUCATION (CTE) PROGRAM



Shooting, editing, and recording an all-girl rock band is one of the many projects the MEP students tackle

With the generous support of the **Linde Family Foundation**, Boston Arts Academy has successfully launched its newest **Career Training and Education (CTE) program: Multimedia and Entertainment Production (MEP)**. Through this program, which provides career pathways for students in the design and technical fields of visual and performing arts, students participate in a four-year multi-disciplinary curriculum integrating lighting, film, video production, set design, virtual platforms, marketing and branding, and stage management.

BAA students have access to state-of-the-art facilities for all aspects of this program including a sound stage for filming, a recording studio, and a purpose-built theatre. BAA's location in Boston's Fenway neighborhood provides opportunities for collaborative partnerships, including job shadows and internships, with **Fenway Park/LiveNation, House of Blues, and MGM Music Hall**.

The **Multimedia and Entertainment Production CTE program was recently approved as a Chapter 74 program**, a state designation that requires programs to meet rigorous curricular and outcome-based qualifications, provide students with real-world, hands-on experience with in-demand industries, and graduate students who are ready for a career in the media industry.

We are grateful to the Linde Family Foundation for making it possible to provide these opportunities for our students.

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ENJOYING SPACE FOR CELEBRATION



BAAF + BAA Leadership, Event Co-Chairs, and Honorees at HONORS 2023

BAA HONORS 2023

OCTOBER 14-15, 2023

Boston Arts Academy Foundation's signature, black-tie event and largest fundraiser of the year was a full expression of support for Boston Arts Academy. HONORS were presented to **Keenan Cooks** (Dance), **Vertex Pharmaceuticals** (Civic Responsibility), **Sinesia Karol** (Fashion), **Treasurer Deborah Goldberg** (Lifetime Achievement), **Panos A. Panay** (Music), **Bill Brett** (Visual Arts), and **Kasi Lemmons** (TV + Film). The festive weekend was emceed by Foundation Board member **Ruth E. Carter** and hosted by **Katherine Chapman Stenberg** and **William "Bill" Schnoor**. For more information and to see photo galleries from the festive weekend, please visit baahonors.org. We hope you will join us next fall for HONORS 2024.

SAVE THE DATE

CHAMPION RECEPTION

HONORING OUR
2024 CHAMPIONS
DR. AISHA MILLER
& HECTOR PINA

CHAMPION COMMITTEE
CHAIR DYLAN LEAVITT

SAVE THE
DATE

MARCH
21, 2024



Followed by an All-Star performance by
Boston Arts Academy Students!
Celebrating the life and legacy of Tina Turner!

SAVE THE DATE
VISIT: BAAFDN.ORG

CHAMPION RECEPTION 2024

SAVE THE DATE: MARCH 21, 2024

Champion Reception is one of Boston Arts Academy Foundation's annual events to raise critical funds for arts programming, faculty, resources and more, to provide life-changing opportunities at BAA for our city's youth. Each year, BAA Foundation recognizes individuals who embody the school's commitment to the arts, scholarship, and global citizenship with the prestigious Champion Award.

Former Champions include past honorees **Mayor Michelle Wu** and **Mayor Kim Janey**, **Governor Charlie Baker** and **Maristela Rapo** of **Giving the Glam** (2022), **Former First Lady of MA Diane Patrick** (2020), **Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley** (2019), **Attorney General Maura Healey** (2018), and **U.S. Secretary of Labor Martin J. Walsh** (2017).

On Thursday, March 21, 2024, we will host our next Champion Reception at the House of Blues Boston, honoring **Hector Piña** and **Dr. Aisha Miller**. This event, led by Champion Committee Chair **Dylan Leavitt**, will be followed by the opening night of *Simply The Best! The Life and Legacy of Tina Turner*, an all-student-led production at Boston Arts Academy, featuring work and appearances from all five core arts majors. Previous productions have included *Shrek! The Musical* and *BAA Rocks*. For more information, please visit www.baafd.org.

Join us next year for **HONORS** on October 17, 2024 at MGM Music Hall!





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