

A HARBOR FOR ALL

FY25 ANNUAL REPORT

FEATURING

STRATEGIC PLAN
OVERVIEW / *Page 2*

IMPACT NUMBERS / *Page 2-3*

**SPECTACLE ON
SPECTACLE 2024** / *Page 4*

ONBOARD AWARDS
2024 / *Page 4*

HARBORWALK / *Page 5*
MOAKLEY PARK / *Page 5*
EASTIE WEEK / *Page 5*

**BOSTON
HARBOR
NOW**





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“SINCE 2016, BOSTON HARBOR NOW HAS ESTABLISHED ITSELF AS A LEADER IN SHAPING THE FUTURE OF BOSTON HARBOR. I AM INSPIRED BY THE ENTHUSIASM, COMMITMENT, AND TALENTS OF OUR STAFF, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AND BOARD OF ADVISORS AS WE TAKE ON THE CHALLENGES AND EMBRACE THE OPPORTUNITIES AHEAD.”

— Kishore Varanasi,
Incoming Board of Trustees Chair

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT & CEO

A VIBRANT, RESILIENT, AND WELCOMING BOSTON HARBOR ISN'T A DREAM; IT'S THE FUTURE WE'RE MAKING *now*.

In 2024, Boston Harbor Now took bold steps to shape a future where Boston Harbor truly benefits everyone. From city blocks to island shores, our work connected more people to the Harbor, promoted resilience, educated people about flood protection, and ensured that Boston's blue and green spaces continue to contribute to the health of our region.

Millions of people found connection and belonging across the Boston Harbor Islands and along the now 40-year-old Boston Harborwalk through our free programs and community celebrations that reflect the diversity of our region. *The Waterfront Visitation and Equity Study* deepened our understanding of how people experience these public treasures and pointed the way toward addressing the barriers that still stand in the way of full access for all.

As rising seas test our city's resilience, Boston Harbor Now remains a steady voice for preparedness and innovation. This year, as a lead partner in the Stone Living Lab, we launched North America's first Living Seawalls, an innovation that restores marine life and reimagines how cities can adapt to a changing climate and enhance biodiversity.

None of this would be possible without our dedicated staff, board, partners, and supporters who share a belief that Boston Harbor must be a resilient and inclusive driver of our public and economic health. As we near our 10th anniversary, I am filled with gratitude, optimism, and energy to realize the possibilities.

Thank you for helping us protect, activate, and share this extraordinary place we all call home.



Kathy Abbott,
President and CEO

THE NEXT DECADE OF TRANSFORMATION

Boston Harbor Now engaged in a year-long strategic planning process to chart the future of our work, defining the actions we will take to protect Boston's waterfront communities, expand equitable access to the Harbor, and strengthen our capacity to deliver lasting change. Over the next five years, our efforts will focus on three core pillars that advance resilience, public health, and organizational sustainability. Together, these priorities position us to ensure that Boston Harbor continues to serve as a place where people, nature, and community thrive.

Safer shores, stronger communities.

Protecting neighborhoods today while preparing our shoreline for tomorrow.

Boston Harbor Now will advance coastal resilience approaches to protect people and places surrounding the Harbor while also ensuring that they enhance the public's connection to our blue and green spaces.

Access for all, health for all.

Expanding access to nature to improve health, joy, and shared prosperity.

Boston Harbor Now will increase visitation to Boston Harbor, its waterfront, and islands with a focus on ensuring equitable opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy and benefit from our region's largest blue and green public open space mentally, physically, and emotionally.

Built to last, built to serve.

Strengthening our foundation so we can amplify community impact.

Boston Harbor Now will invest in its people, processes, and systems to create an equitable and sustainable organization.

"I love Free Ferry Day! It's truly a family affair for us. I meet new people and the kids play and explore. Visiting Spectacle Island gives us a piece of nature we can't experience every day in the city. It's like going to another world."

— A mother of 8 attending Free Ferry Day

THE IMPACT OF YOUR GIFT

Your support helps create inclusive programming and funds important climate resiliency research as well as essential planning and advocacy work to keep our harbor and parks thriving while preparing for the impacts of climate change.

11M+
ANNUAL VISITS

The Boston Harbor Islands and Boston Harborwalk now stand among the region's premiere destinations.

A 15% INCREASE
OVER LAST YEAR!

42,269
BENEFITED

Transportation to the waterfront and islands for people from dozens of neighborhoods fostered a stronger sense of ownership and community.

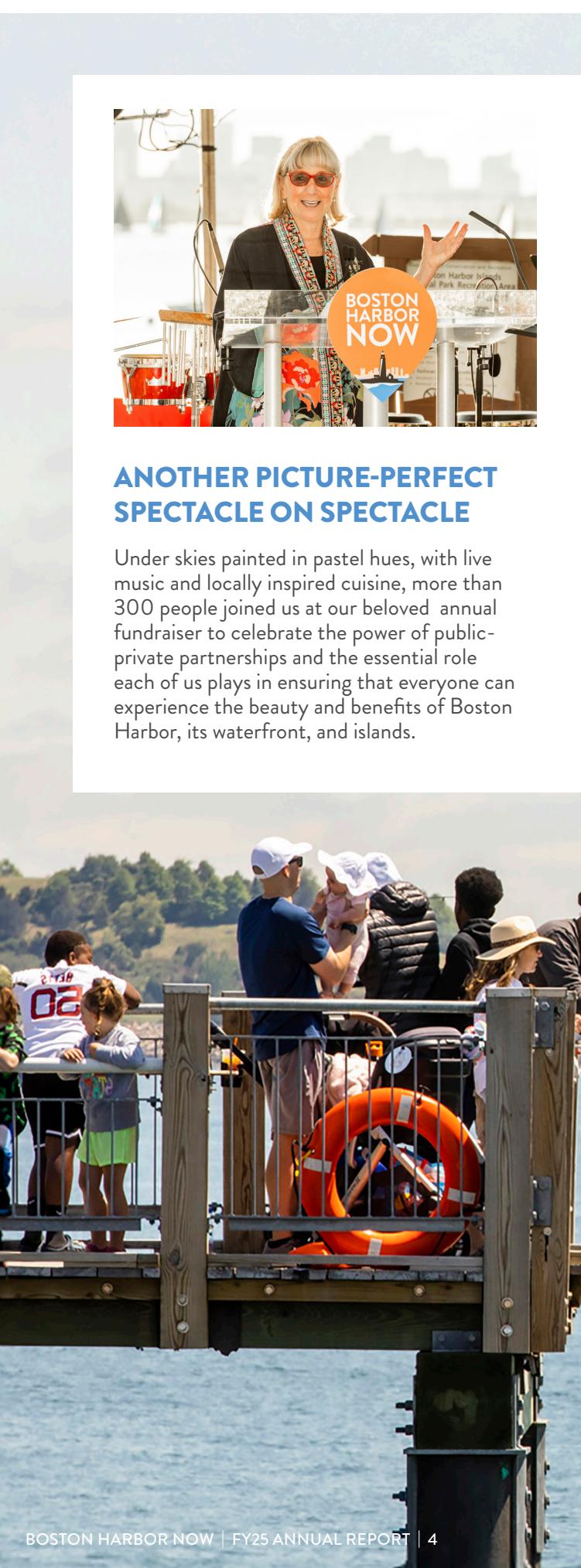
\$10.4M+
RAISED IN FY25

A growing coalition of individual donors, corporate partners, and public and private supporters donated to strengthen, protect, and expand access to Boston Harbor's natural and cultural resources.

20.5 TONS
OF TRASH REMOVED

991 dedicated volunteers took part in cleanups that cleared marine debris, litter, and invasive plants from the Harbor's beaches, islands, and waterfront parks—including a record-setting outer islands cleanup that removed over 20 tons of trash!





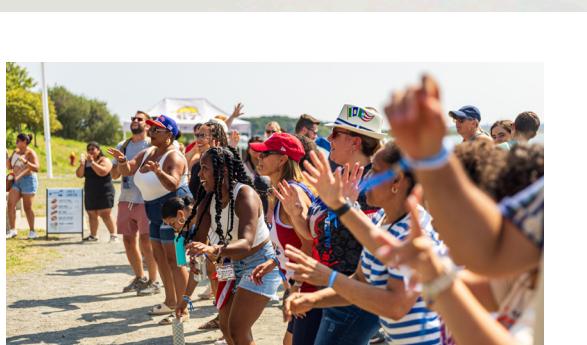
ANOTHER PICTURE-PERFECT SPECTACLE ON SPECTACLE

Under skies painted in pastel hues, with live music and locally inspired cuisine, more than 300 people joined us at our beloved annual fundraiser to celebrate the power of public-private partnerships and the essential role each of us plays in ensuring that everyone can experience the beauty and benefits of Boston Harbor, its waterfront, and islands.



OUR ONBOARD AWARDS BREAKFAST RETURNED IN 2024!

We brought back our annual Onboard Awards breakfast and honored Vivien Li for her leadership on Boston's waterfront as well as Ann and Chuck Lagasse of Ocean Havens for their transformation of the Charlestown Marina and inspiring work across the region's waterfront. The 2024 Onboard Awards ceremony also celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Boston Harborwalk with an official proclamation from Boston Mayor Michelle Wu!



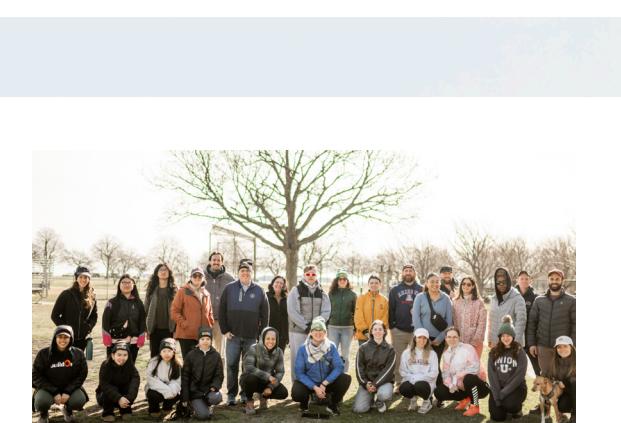
FREE + REDUCED-ACCESS PROGRAMS SERVE OVER 40,000

Boston Harbor Now fosters belonging by unlocking the benefits of the harbor to all through our free community cruises, Innovation Islands mini grants, and Harborwalk programming. Our free and affordable transportation initiatives have pulled down barriers for tens of thousands to experience the restorative effects of the waterfront and islands.



THE BOSTON HARBORWALK TURNS 40

Boston Harbor Now marked the 40th anniversary of the Boston Harborwalk, reflecting on this accessible, vibrant, and connected public resource with special events and milestones. Looking forward, we launched Harborwalk 2.0—a bold vision that aims to prepare waterfront communities for climate change impacts while ensuring underrepresented communities are meaningfully included in the design, construction, and programming of waterfront



REIMAGINING MOAKLEY PARK

Boston Harbor Now brought Moakley Park to life with free public programs that united neighbors, volunteer cleanups that empowered hundreds to care for a shared treasure, and the launch of MoakleyPark.org—a website for connection, resources, and updates. Through a strong public-private partnership with the City of Boston's Parks and Recreation department, these efforts are helping reimagine the City's largest waterfront park as a resilient, welcoming space for all.



NORTH AMERICA'S FIRST LIVING SEAWALLS

Through Boston Harbor Now's role as a co-lead of the Stone Living Lab, we were excited to celebrate the Lab's installation of North America's first Living Seawalls installation, which provides a habitat for marine life, filters and cleans water, and helps to green Boston Harbor's gray infrastructure. The Lab also brought climate science to life through its excellent 2025 conference, its annual Summer Teacher Institute that has now reached 5,000 students, and many other research and education projects—including several Wicked High Tide events, which provide hands-on education about rising seas and their impact on our waterfront communities.



CELEBRATING EAST BOSTON

Eastie Week 2024 was a tremendous success, bringing together more than 20 community organizations to celebrate the vibrant East Boston community for an eleventh year! Eastie Week featured more than 60 completely free programs this year—including yoga and cultural dance events, concerts and outdoor movies, and our annual East Boston Community Cruise.

\$1 - \$4,999 (cont'd)

Consigli Construction
Cynthia and Ernest Cook
Raul Corella
Patricia Correa and Martin Pollak
Paula V. Cortés
Anthony Cortese
Will Cosmas
Catherine and Harvey Cotton
Dan Crane and Deborah Allard
Michael Creasey
Timothy Creegan
Cynthia and Harvey Creem
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Danapel de Veer
Robert Delhome
Department of Fish and Game
John DeVillars and Gunnell Clarke
Russell Dexter
Marisa Di Pietro
Robin and Paul DiGiammarino
Brad and Kimberly Dimeo
Dimeo Construction Company
Melanie Donenfeld
Ellen Catlin Donnelly and Guyton Hampton Watkins
Fay Donohue
Pamela Dowell
Lorraine Downey "Mother of the HarborWalk"
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Mary Garippo
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Coryn and David Hall
Pete Hamill
Kyle Hanlon
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Dean Hara
Amanda Harless and Gabriel Belosevic
Darrel Harmer
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Cynthia Hernandez
Brian S. Hickey Associates
Andrea and Craig Hillier
Colleen Hitchcock
Ron Hoffeld
Walter and Irene Hope
Holiday and Philip Houck
James Hoyte and Norma Dinnall
Jessica Hughes
Christopher Ily
In memory of Joseph E. Wolf
In memory of Peter Henry Warny
Nick Iselin
Mike Jackson and Jane Ledger Jackson
Lovette Jacobs
Ryan Jacobson
Molly James and Bernard Finel
Jennifer and David Jaslowich
Janine Jay
Gary Jentzen
Bryan Jereb
Dionne Johnson
Keith Johnson
Faith Justice
Dennis Kavanagh
Barbara Kearney
Kearney, Donovan & McGee
Cynthia Kelly
Shelley Metzenbaum and Steven Kelman
Joan Kenney
Kenney Development & Fulton Properties
Daniel and Annabelle Keohane
Carolyn Kiley Moore
Sarah Kim
Jon Kirby
Christopher Klein
Susan Knack-Brown
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Nelson Koga
Karyn Krystock
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Andrea Li Holland and Caroline Li Holland
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Kaki Martin
Richard Martin
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Martha Ann Mazzone
Miriam McAvoy
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Etsko Meyers
MFS Investment Management
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Sherman and Anne-Lise Morss
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Jack Murray and Margaret Hall
Charlayne Murrell-Smith
Cynthia Nagrath
Alankrita Narang and Rahul Raj
Beatrice and Peter Nessen
Paul Neumann
Night Shift Brewing
Nimbus Therapeutics
Noble, Wickersham & Heart LLP
Noire Waters
David Norcott
Charles and Diane Norris
Northeast Clean Energy Council (NECEC)
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Lynch, DeSimone & Nylen, LLP

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The Mount Family
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Deni Sarno-Bucca
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Chris Schaffner
Paul Schlapobersky
Schneider Electric
Ted Schwartzberg
Seed Fund
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The Department of Conservation and Recreation
The City of Boston
Boston Harbor Now
The Boston Planning and Development Authority
Massport
The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority
Thompson Island Outward Bound Education Center
The Trustees of Reservations



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