



ANNUAL REPORT 2015

NORTH
BENNET ST.
SCHOOL



President's Letter

It seems as if we have been here forever, but the truth is that we have completed just the second year of occupancy of our new building.

While the pace this past year has been a welcome relief after the intense period of activity that led to the move, it has not been a year of rest and relaxation. In 2015, the School turned its attention to what comes next, and how its mission and programs can best evolve, taking full advantage of a facility and location that can support program experimentation, program growth and new forms of engagement with the community.

Recognizing this opportunity, the Board of Directors convened a Strategic Planning Committee to develop a focused set of mission-driven, actionable priorities for FY 2016–2020. The resulting *Strategic Plan* provides a road map for carrying forward the School's history of excellence and for achieving two key outcomes: to fully realize the potential of the new North Street location and to secure the programs and finances of North Bennet Street School for the long-term.

While the plan was approved by the Board of Directors this June, near the end of the fiscal year, by year's end one of the plan's key recommendations had already been implemented.

The administrative staff was restructured with the addition of a new Executive Vice President role to oversee the core financial, enrollment, marketing and administrative functions of the School. The hiring of Rebecca W. King in this new position will allow me to focus on external relations and a fundraising effort that will support the goals of the plan as we move forward.

This year's *Annual Report* includes a summary of the *Strategic Plan* FY 2016–2020, as well as profiles of just a few of our distinguished graduates who have become leaders in their respective fields. As you can see from these profiles, the reach and reputation of North Bennet Street School has travelled far beyond the North End neighborhood that is our home.

As ever, we end this year with gratitude for the faculty, staff, students and supporters who have made North Bennet Street School such a success, and for whom we will realize the ambitious goals we have set for ourselves.

Thank you.

Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez, CF '99
President

The mission of North Bennet Street School (NBSS) is to train students for careers in traditional trades that use hand skills, in concert with evolving technology, to preserve and advance craft traditions and to promote greater appreciation of craftsmanship.

image (l-r): A piece from “Saturday Evening Girls Pottery,” on exhibit December 16, 2014–November 30, 2015; Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh and Cambridge Mayor David P. Maher celebrate the installation of rooftop solar panels at NBSS.



Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez, CF '99
President

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**term ended in 2014*



Preservation Carpentry student Heather Tauck shows her timberframe model.

\$22,490
AVERAGE TUITION
FOR FULL-TIME
PROGRAMS

Strategic Plan 2020

In 2014, a Strategic Planning Committee of faculty, staff, and members of the Board of Directors and Committee of Overseers was convened, recognizing the potential of School’s new building and an important opportunity to secure NBSS programmatically and financially for years to come.

Context

Two years ago, NBSS relocated to a newly renovated building on North Street in Boston. This once-in-a-generation event capped an intensive period of activity at the School. In just under 24 months, NBSS had secured the new property, completed the design and renovation project, and relocated all its programs to the new facility. The project would not have been possible without the School’s prior, well-articulated *Strategic Plan* and without the highly successful \$17.05 million “Under One Roof” fundraising campaign.

During the same period, NBSS continued to offer nine full-time programs and a broad slate of Continuing Education workshops. Interest in programs remains strong, with students coming from Massachusetts and the New England region (46%), other U.S. locations (50%), and outside the U.S. (4%).

The last several years have seen ongoing interest in vocational training and workforce development. Concurrently, a renewed focus on the arts and culture sector has led to increased recognition of institutions like NBSS, and their impact on people’s quality of life.

The School maintains active partnerships with the both City of Boston and educational and vocational organizations throughout the region. In addition, dialog among educators and craftspeople centers on how “firsthand” educational experiences can be of benefit in an increasingly mediated world.

All of these factors inform how the School’s mission and programs will evolve in the future, now greatly enhanced with a facility and location that can support program experimentation, program growth and new forms of engagement with the community.

ALUMNI PROFILE



Chela Metzger, Bookbinding, 1993

Head, Conservation Lab, UCLA Libraries, Los Angeles, CA

Chela Metzger, 54, was in the midst of pursuing a degree in library science at Simmons College in Boston when she became intrigued with the history of books and the materials with which they were made.

But rather than pursue a degree in book conservation, she decided that the Bookbinding program at North Bennet Street School would be the most logical next step for her. It is her NBSS training that she credits in part for her impressive career path through several

leading university-based book conservation programs to her current senior position with the UCLA library system.

“Learning the finer points of the bookbinding craft taught me how to use my head and my hands together, and gave me an excellent grounding in the field,” she says. “In my line of work, it’s important that your decision-making is based on your strong experience with observing materials and how they interact with each other.”

Chela had just returned from giving a talk at a conference in Armenia when we caught up with her. She was there to discuss the rebinding of an important 13th century Armenian manuscript which had been acquired by UCLA in 1968 and had been dis-bound in 1982 as a conservation measure.

“With such a significant historical artifact, you need to be sure that how you handle the rebinding is aesthetically and culturally appropriate,” explains Chela. “It was thrilling to share ideas with that country’s librarians, researchers and conservators about this particular book. But it also felt like the beginning of an international conversation about what it means to be the stewards of an ancient book in the 21st century.”

Mission and Purpose of NBSS

The mission of NBSS is to train students for careers in traditional trades that use hand skills in concert with evolving technology, to preserve and advance craft traditions and to promote greater appreciation of craftsmanship.

“Education for employment” is the defining purpose for the institution. This is particularly true for full-time programs (as related to accreditation standards and NBSS’s vocational mission), but is also reflected in Continuing Education workshops and other programs.

The values, experiences and educational practices that stem from the School’s vocational and hand skills roots create a “core program” that defines the purpose and focus of all of its educational activities. Nurturing this purpose and maintaining relevance as a craft and vocational school is

important for sustaining the School’s mission, its enrollment and financial model, and its relationship to the broader community.

“Education for employment” is the defining purpose for the institution.

The new building has strong potential to be a catalyst for expanding the public’s understanding of hand skills and craft while also serving as a beacon (figuratively and literally) for craft and craft education. Realizing this promise, however, requires deliberate engagement with local, regional and national audiences.

ALUMNI PROFILE



Robert Dunsmore, Carpentry, 2008
Tribal Veterans Service Officer, Eagle Butte, SD

When Robert Dunsmore was profiled for the 2007 NBSS Annual Report as a student in the Carpentry program, he never imagined that his career path would eventually put him on a first name basis with U.S. senators and congressmen.

Robert, 53, is a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux nation, living on the tribe’s Eagle Butte, South Dakota reservation and working there as a Tribal Veterans Service Officer. Of the many Veterans Administration programs he helps to manage for the

tribe, he is most proud of the construction training program that teaches basic carpentry skills to young tribal members, preparing them for careers in construction. “When I got back to the reservation, everything was being built by outside contractors. So all the funding left the reservation. I was determined to change that.”

After completing the VA’s Veteran Construction Team program that teaches Native American Vets to organize construction programs on the reservation, he found North Bennet Street School. Relying on this combined experience, he developed the basic curriculum he would use to turn his young carpenters-to-be back home into confident construction professionals.

Now, any bids for new construction projects on the reservation must first come through Robert’s VA-sponsored program and the Tribal Employment Rights Office. “The idea is to give local Native Americans and veterans a fair shot at getting the work,” he explains.

His job also involves lobbying with high-level politicians to maintain government funding, and report the positive results of his programs. Though he’d rather be working in the field, he views such activities as critical to his role. “If it means that I can continue the work of helping people on the reservation, I’ll be happy to talk with them all day long.”



Locksmithing and Security Technology student Sean McGowan manipulates safe dial.

50%
OF FULL-TIME
NBSS STUDENTS
COME FROM
OUTSIDE
NEW ENGLAND

Strategic Planning Process

In spring 2014, the School convened a Strategic Planning Committee to develop a focused set of actionable priorities for FY 2016–2020. The planning centered on the opportunity provided by the new facility and the operational and financial requirements for realizing that promise over the next five years.

The planning centered on the opportunity provided by the new facility.

The strategic planning began with faculty and staff sessions to identify key questions and planning assumptions. These were summarized as a starting point and supported with comprehensive background information and data on programs, comparators and competitors, enrollment, marketing, development and finances.

The Strategic Planning Committee, comprised of members of the Board of Directors, Overseers, faculty and staff, convened in May 2014 and met over the course of twelve months. Several staff working groups met in 2014–2015 to discuss topics in-depth (including full-time programs, Continuing Education workshops and public programs, and financial considerations) and develop recommendations. The Chair of the Board of Directors and the NBSS President convened an ad hoc group on organizational structure that developed recommendations for discussion with the Planning Committee in winter 2015.

The Board of Directors held planning discussions in December 2014 and March 2015 to discuss planning work and review draft priorities, and approved the final plan at their June 9, 2015 meeting.



Middle school students complete their pencil box projects.

\$911,713
FEDERAL AND
STATE LOANS
AWARDED TO
NBSS STUDENTS

Overarching Goals for FY 2016–2020

Recommendations from the approved *Strategic Plan FY 2016–2020* are organized in two areas where the School will make progress in the next five years:

MISSION AND PROGRAMS focuses on realizing the programmatic potential of the new North Street location and strengthening full-time and continuing education programs.

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY focuses on securing the financial sustainability of NBSS and evolving its organization and governance to support the goals of the plan.

Mission and Programs

The first section of the plan, **MISSION AND PROGRAMS**, focuses on realizing the programmatic potential of the new facility and strengthening full-time and Continuing Education programs. One major objective is achieving and sustaining full enrollment for NBSS full-time programs by clearly defining target markets for each program, providing additional resources to expand local and regional admissions outreach, and improving the affordability of full-time programs through increased financial aid. Recommendations also include an increased focus on student outreach and student support services to improve retention, as well as strengthening program offerings in target areas including Carpentry, Locksmithing and Security Technology, and Jewelry Making and Repair.

A second objective is fortifying and expanding the Continuing Education and public programs, in part by taking advantage of the new Windgate Gallery in order to reach a broader audience, develop new supporters for the School and ultimately increase overall awareness and visibility of NBSS.

Continuing Education also provides an opportunity to incubate new full-time program concepts through experimentation with new areas of interest and course structures.

A third priority is to deepen the School’s relationships with its immediate neighborhood of the North End, as well as with the City of Boston and the Boston Public Schools, and to develop new partnerships that advance NBSS’s mission. The School’s historic location and partnership with the City are among its most distinguishing aspects.

ALUMNI PROFILE



Katelyn Dumont, Jewelry Making and Repair, 2007
Model Maker, Tiffany & Co., Cumberland, RI

The intense scrutiny that comes with certain high-profile jobs can sometimes lead those who hold these positions to worry about the pressures of “working under a microscope.” But for Katelyn Dumont, a 2007 graduate of the school’s Jewelry Making and Repair program, it’s just another day at the office.

Katelyn, 31, was recently promoted to the position of apprentice model maker at the world-renowned Tiffany & Co. after working her way up through the company as a production jeweler. Her new position is a critical one in the jewelry-making process that involves turning staff-designed renderings of a new product into a “soft sample”—a three-dimensional model of the jewelry piece. When it’s approved, a “master model” is made.

The master model has to be perfect. Several rounds of inspections—under an actual microscope—uncover any tiny imperfections that need correcting. A mold is then created from the master model, and waxes are injected into the mold and cast for production in sufficient quantities to serve Tiffany’s many retail stores.

“I wasn’t always a perfectionist,” says Katelyn, “but it is one of the ways my training at North Bennet Street School helped to shape me as a jewelry professional. If it weren’t for the fundamental skills I learned and mentors I had at NBSS, I wouldn’t be where I am today.”

Financial Sustainability

The second section of the plan, **FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY** and organizational capacity, focuses on securing the financial sustainability of NBSS and evolving its organization and governance. Recognizing that the School is 75% tuition-dependent and that it will not be possible to continue to grow tuition and program revenue at rates that support long term financial needs, NBSS must diversify its resource base. By design, the recent fundraising campaign and building finance plan left the School with a new facility, free of debt, and with a stable, balanced operating budget. However, NBSS needs to rebuild its endowment and reserve funds following the capital project. A multi-year fundraising effort is planned with the aim of expanding annual contributed support, growing a broader donor base and rebuilding the School’s endowment and financial aid funds.

A parallel objective is to strengthen the School’s administrative capacity, as it operates on a relatively small organizational base and draws on the dedicated leadership of its President, Provost, Board of Directors and senior staff to carry out its mission. Faculty members play an active role in the life of the School, the delivery of the curriculum and in advancing craftsmanship in the field.

Realizing the goals of this plan will require increased organizational and governance capabilities in the future. Specific objectives include the (now-fulfilled) addition of a new Executive Vice President role to oversee the core financial, enrollment, marketing, and administrative functions of the School so that the President can focus on external relations and fundraising, profile-building, and leadership in the broader field of craft and craft education.

ALUMNI PROFILE



John Cavanaugh, Piano Technology, 1987
Executive Director of Keyboard Technology, Oberlin Conservatory, Oberlin, OH

Growing up in Madison, Wisconsin, John Cavanaugh had always imagined that he would one day end up working in an academic environment. After all, his father was a college professor; his mother worked as a librarian. It seemed like a natural career direction for him too.

But after graduating with a degree in history from Kalamazoo College, John, 55, realized he was short on marketable skills. He had enjoyed taking piano lessons for many years, and so when a job selling pianos in Washington, DC came to his attention, he took a chance—a chance that, with subsequent training from North Bennet Street School, would eventually lead to John’s current position as overseer of one of the largest collections of keyboard instruments in the world.

The Conservatory’s inventory is vast—240 Steinway pianos (including eight concert grands), five forte pianos, 16 harpsichords and a handful of mechanical action pipe organs. With over 600 concerts a year to prepare for, John and his staff never slow down. “We work on the same instruments continually, which gives us a chance to groom them to be as fine as they can be,” says John. “In fact, our flagship pianos that are used for performing and recording get tweaked on a daily basis.”

He is proud of the technical skills he mastered through his NBSS training. Yet he also points to his ability to interact with the many world-class artists that come through the conservatory as an important measure of his successful 14-year career at Oberlin.

“A lot of what we do depends on our relationships with the artists,” he says. “They all have their own priorities, their own idiosyncrasies about how they want the instrument to feel and sound. Part of my job here has been to elevate what we do in the eyes of the musicians. They’ve grown to see us as being not just technicians, but true collaborators in making their performances successful.”



Violin Making and Repair student Bryan Worley shapes his violin back. *image: Robin Lubbock/WBUR.*

88%
OF NBSS STUDENTS
WERE EMPLOYED
WITHIN A YEAR OF
GRADUATION
IN 2015

Financial Resource Requirements

The *Strategic Plan FY 2016–2020* will require new resources to realize its goals. Some of these will be one-time capacity building investments, while others will be ongoing annual operating costs, supported by the improved financial performance of the School.

The financial model is based on a multi-year fundraising plan.

One-time costs, estimated to be between \$250,000 and \$350,000, include engaging an outside consultant to develop a marketing strategy for the full-time programs, improvements to enrollment and information systems, and engaging external support to assist with the planning and execution of a capital campaign.

Additional ongoing operating costs will include funding for the Executive Vice President as well as additional staffing expenses for program development, marketing, outreach and institutional advancement. These additional operating costs are estimated to be approximately \$500,000. A funding plan will be developed in 2016 to organize a staged implementation of the plan’s objectives based on existing and new resources. The School’s annual budgeting process will incorporate requirements of the plan as resources become available.



Jewelry Making and Repair student Sergio Jaramillo works on a jewelry project.

83%
OF NBSS
STUDENTS RECEIVE
FINANCIAL AID

Statement of Activities

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JULY 31, 2015

On behalf of the Finance Committee of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present the *Treasurer's Report* for FY 2015. The School completed another successful year, with income of \$8,129,219 and expenses of \$5,671,137, producing net revenue of \$2,458,082.

This year's financial statements present tuition revenue net of NBSS scholarship grants, which totaled \$298,799. For purposes of comparison, the prior year's net tuition revenue has also been presented in this format.

A significant accomplishment this year was the repayment of the \$1 million outstanding balance of the loan taken out to finance the construction of 150 North Street and the relocation of the School. The repayment of the School's borrowing, which at its peak was \$8 million, leaves North Bennet Street School once again free of any debt.

Also significant was the addition of \$350,000 to the unrestricted endowment and \$1.5 million to the scholarship endowment. This represents a very positive first year in the rebuilding of the School's financial reserves—a key goal of the recently completed *Strategic Plan FY 2016–2020*.

The consolidated financial statements show that the school added \$3,069,672 to its net assets in FY 2015, bringing the total net assets to \$34,734,709.

Once again, the Board expresses its admiration for the School's administration and faculty in helping maintain the School's financial health during a time of transition and growth.

Peter H. Talbot
Treasurer

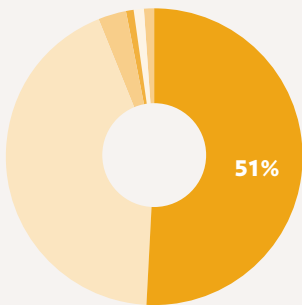
REVENUES	JULY 31, 2015	JULY 31, 2014	%CHANGE
Tuition and fees, net	\$3,522,230	\$3,565,416	-1.21%
Contributions, gifts and grants	\$4,128,235	\$1,927,211	114.21%
Project and instrument revenue	\$258,097	\$140,544	83.64%
Investment revenue, net	\$29,909	\$163,435	-81.70%
Gain (loss) on investments	(\$5,761)	\$51,438	-111.20%
Other revenue	\$110,055	\$51,438	113.96%
Rental revenue	\$27,000	\$28,800	-6.25%
Store sales, net of cost of sales	\$53,693	\$41,911	28.11%
Total Revenues	\$8,129,219	\$5,918,755	37.35%

EXPENSES			
Program	\$3,692,710	\$3,826,341	-3.49%
General and administrative	\$1,636,106	\$1,641,567	-0.33%
Fundraising and development	\$342,321	\$337,497	1.43%
Total Expenses	\$5,671,137	\$5,805,405	-2.31%

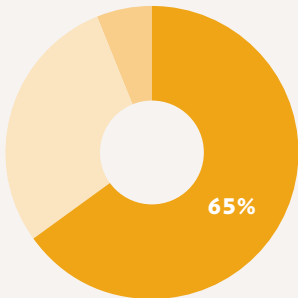
NON-OPERATING ACTIVITY			
Historic sales tax credits revenue	-	\$2,639,000	-100.00%
Syndication costs	-	(\$87,265)	-100.00%
Noncontrolling interest	\$611,590	\$1,893,296	-67.70%

NET ASSETS			
Change in net assets	\$3,069,672	\$4,558,381	-32.66%
Net assets at beginning of year	\$31,665,037	\$27,106,656	16.82%
Net assets at end of year	\$34,734,709	\$31,665,037	9.69%

This statement is an excerpt from audited financial statements of North Bennet Street School and its affiliates.



REVENUES FY 2015	
51%	CONTRIBUTIONS, GIFTS AND GRANTS
43%	TUITION AND FEES, NET
3%	PROJECT AND INSTRUMENT REVENUE
1%	INVESTMENT REVENUE, NET
1%	OTHER REVENUE
1%	STORE SALES, NET OF COST OF SALES



EXPENSES FY 2015	
65%	PROGRAM EXPENSES
29%	GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE
6%	FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT



Chela Metzger, BB '93 sews an endband on a 9th century palimpsest at the Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, MD. *Photo by permission of the owner of the Galen palimpsest.*

THANK YOU!

The generosity of our donors help to ensure North Bennet Street School continues to thrive. Thank you for your support!

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William, CF '07 &
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Lewis, PA '80 & Toni Surdam
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Jutta B. Hicks
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Timothy & Susan Larkin
Catherine C. Lastavica

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Gaye Hill & Jeffrey Urbina
Keith Ward, PA '13
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\$500-\$999

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George & Barbara Beal
Kevin Kelly, VM '92 &
Patricia Belden
David C. Betts, PA '72
H. Nichols B. Clark
Debra Cyr, PA '93
Davlin Philanthropic Fund
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Charles Morris
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Nancy & Edward Stavis
Jane & James Wilson
Clark Wright &
Lisa Goldthwaite Wright
Anonymous (3)

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\$250–\$499

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Hanna & James Bartlett
Richard Beaty
Benjamin Construction
Erin Boucher
Steve Boucher
Ira Carp
Clemency Coggins
Thomas, PC '88 &
Rhoda Decatur
Larry Fine, PT '76
The GE Foundation
David E. Franz, CF '99
Robert Gallagher, PA '00
Gary W. Green, CF '97
James Stewart Greto
Willard & Dee Hunnewell
Frederick & Winkie King
The Kline Lazarus Family
Alexander Krutsky, CF '81 &
Maggie McNally
Thomas Lee, CF '88
Sarah Leggat
Daniel Levitan, PT '75
Loy Martin
Peter & Barbara Miller
Susan & Robert Montgomery III
Jane Callahan Moore, CA '88
Donald Morris & Suzanne Pender
Matthew & Catherine Nash
Fred & Christine Parson
Chris Rifkin
Jim & Dorothy Rogers
Maria & Adam Schauer
Toni Strassler
David Troiano/Aborn Lock
Richard & Lisa Tucker
Thomas & Alice Walsh
Michael Ward &
Elizabeth Webber
David H. Wellington, CF '98
Frank S. Wright, CF '00
Anonymous (2)

JOURNEYMAN
\$100–\$249

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Charles & Kathleen Ames
Mary Anderson
Francis & Carla Baird
Susi Barbarossa, BB '96
Dorothy Bell, PT '99
in honor of Oliver Rodgers
Garry & Sylvia Bennett
Lisa Bielefeld
Michael R. Blackwell, PT '79
Mary Boyd *in honor of Heather*
Queyrouze and Paul Wagner
Cambridge at Home
Sara B. Chase
Chilton Club
Laurel & Tobey Clark
Adele F. Cleveland *in honor of*
Kaitlyn Krauskopf & Eli Cleveland
Colonial Dames of Massachusetts
John & Joan Cronin
Juliet R. Davenport, PT '94
Jeremiah, CF '84 & Amy de Rham
Paul & Paula Deare
J. T. Delaney Construction LLC
John J. Donahue, Jr.
Daniel Dover, PA '90
Robert Ecke
Mark Elenko
Gallery NAGA
Melissa Gallin &
Alessandro Vianello
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Tony Hayden, CF '93
Jessica Henze, BB '06
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ALUMNI PROFILE

**Brandon Gordon, Preservation
Carpentry, 2002**

*Woodcrafting Section Chief, NPS
Historic Preservation Training Center,
Frederick, MD*



Brandon Gordon, 35, knows more about openings at the White House than perhaps anyone else in Washington, D.C. But he is not some high-powered political operative,

nor is he a well-connected human resource professional.

Rather, he is a preservation specialist with the National Park Service, where he heads the agency's Historic Preservation Training Center (HPTC) and works on a wide variety of historically significant structures throughout the country, including the White House.

Brandon joined the agency after graduating from North Bennet Street School. He figures that in his 14 years with the HPTC, he and his colleagues have worked on every doorway and window in the Chief Executive's residence—openings through which countless world leaders have either passed or peered through.

Armed with his NBSS training, Brandon rose steadily at the HPTC from maintenance worker to exhibit specialist to staff project leader to project supervisor. Now in his role as chief of the woodcrafting section, he gets to set the craft standard for his staff of 17 preservation professionals.

Brandon had just returned from the Little Bighorn Battlefield site in Montana when he paused to list some of the other projects in which his section is involved: Franklin D. Roosevelt's home in Hyde Park, NY; Antietam National Battlefield; Robert E. Lee's residence in Arlington, VA; the Carl Sandberg Home National Historic Site in Hendersonville, NC. His project list reads like an encyclopedia of American history.

"I love the variety of projects and structures that we get to work on," he says. "The detail and craftsmanship of historic structures has always fascinated me. By the end of the week, I actually can't wait to get back out there on Monday."

Heather Dawson, Continuing Education
Lead Journeyman, Doriss Design
Workshoppe, Boston, MA



Johann von Goethe once said, “In the realm of ideas everything depends on enthusiasm. In the real world everything depends on perseverance.”

At age 29, Heather Dawson is clearly grounded in the real world. And she is also a big believer in the power of perseverance. Her own tenacity has brought about success in multiple, simultaneous roles: as a student, a teacher, a journeyman woodworker and an entrepreneur.

After taking workshops and private lessons in woodworking, Heather’s acceptance to North Bennet Street School’s Cabinet and Furniture Making program in 2010 felt to her like things had finally fallen into place. She remembers being drawn to the carpentry classes at her vocational high school. But her parents resisted, saying that she was “too smart” to pursue a trade career.

Still, the urge to earn a living with her hands followed her through college and into an entry-level white-collar job. Because she had to work, she declined attending the full-time program at NBSS, until she learned about a pair of unique partnerships between the school and two other local institutions—MassArt and Bunker Hill Community College.

“The two new initiatives—a certificate program in Furniture Design with MassArt and an associate’s degree in Craft Entrepreneurship from BHCC—were perfect for me,” she says. “The programs were affordable, financial aid was available, and night and weekend classes gave me the chance to work during the day.”

In her spare time, Heather teaches woodworking at the Eliot School in Jamaica Plain, at the Cambridge Center for Adult Education, and is a privately tutoring two students. She is also developing her own brand of custom furniture and handmade home goods under the name Welkinwood, which she hopes to eventually turn into a full-time business.

“I’m young, and I’m willing to sacrifice now in order to capitalize on all the opportunities coming my way,” she says. “I can’t let any of them go by.”

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August 1, 2014–July 31, 2015

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Intro to Bowl Turning
Rich Friberg, Janet Collins

Fundamentals of Fine Woodworking
Ryan Messier, Judith Hansen

Woodcarving Intensive #3
Dan Faia

Intermediate Woodworking
Ryan Messier

Introduction to Hammer Veneering
Matt Wajda

Sawhorse Workshop
Bill Rainford

3 Month Furniture Making Intensive
Jamey Pope

Fundamentals of Machine Woodworking
Matt Wajda, Ellen Kaspem, Brian McQuay

Reeds and Flutes
Bradley Wolcott

Period Furniture Carving Workshop
Dan Faia

Fundamentals of Brass Hinges
Sue Agram Kowalski

Shaker Oval Box
Judith Hansen

Intermediate Bowl Turning Lids
Rich Friberg

Family Workshop—Inlaid Bookmark
Ellen Kaspem

Introduction to Letter Carving
Janet Collins

Introduction to Veneer
Bradley Wolcott

Machine Woodworking—Panel Chest
Ellen Kaspem

Chair Making Intensive
Jamey Pope

Turning for Furniture
Janet Collins

Introduction to Spindle Turning
Janet Collins

Woodworking for Homeschooled
Chris Kearney

Intro to Shutters
Bill Rainford

Carving Ball and Claw Foot
Dan Faia

Intro to Youth Woodworking
Chris Kearney

Historic Timber Framing
Matt Morrison

Secrets of Shellac
Bradley Wolcott

Family Workshop—Make a Toolbox
Ryan Messier

Traditional Woodcarving
Dan Faia

BOOKBINDING

Bookbinding Open Workshop
Amy Lapidow/Stacie Dolin

Fundamentals of Bookbinding I & II
Amy Lapidow (I), Erin Fletcher (I&II)

Secret Belgian Binding
Erin Fletcher

Box it Up!
Amy Lapidow

Focus on Case Bindings
Erin Fletcher

Paper Marbling w/Chena River
Regina and Daniel St. John

Introduction to Book Repair
John O'Regan

Historical Bindings in Paper
Bill Hanscom

Single Signature Binding
Erin Fletcher

Family Workshop—Make a Book
Nancy Fresella-Lee

19th Century Field Book Workshop
Martha Kearsley

Building Boxes for Books
Erin Fletcher

Leather Satchel Ethiopian Books
Bill Hanscom

Intro to Blind & Gold Tooling on Leather
Samuel Feinstein

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Italic Calligraphy/Accordion Book
Maryanne Grebenstein

Fundamentals of Calligraphic Arts I
Maryanne Grebenstein

Speed Calligraphy for Adults & Teens
Maryanne Grebenstein

Intro to Calligraphy for Teens
Maryanne Grebenstein

JEWELRY AND METALSMITHING

Stringing/Restraining Pearls
Gretchen Wilkinson

Make Your Own Wedding Ring
Leslie Hartwell

Fundamentals of Jewelry Making I & II
Leslie Hartwell

New Growth WW for Jewelry Making
Julia Harrison

Etching Workshop
Leslie Hartwell

Teenweek—Jewelry Workshop
Leslie Hartwell

OTHER

Walking Tour of Historic Center
Bob Miller

Intro to Piano Technology
Emily Townsend

Intro to Bow Making
David Hawthorne

Build a Guitar
Steve Spodak

Advanced Bow Making
David Hawthorne

ALUMNI PROFILE

Greg Porfido, Cabinet and Furniture Making, 1989

Chief Operating Officer, Mark Richey Woodworking, Newburyport, MA



Twenty-six years ago, Greg Porfido put his cabinet and furniture making skills to use when he took a job as a woodworker just before graduating from North Bennet Street School. He figured it would be

a short-term position—a way to earn a living and buy some time while he decided what he “really wanted to do” with his life.

Today at age 51, Greg not only works for the same company that first hired him; he runs it. As the COO of Mark Richey Woodworking, Greg is responsible for the day-to-day operations of a \$30 million commercial woodworking company with 110 employees and an additional 75 carpenters on call. The company works on some of the largest and most desirable projects in the business, and counts some of the country’s most prestigious corporations and institutions as its clients.

Yet Greg still finds himself relying on the skills he learned at NBSS to tackle the complex challenges of the high end work, and come up with creative, efficient solutions.

“I was taught to break down woodworking into components. I got to know the properties of wood. I was taught the fundamentals of how tools cut, how machines cut. I learned to draw. Most people don’t come by these skills the way I did at North Bennet Street School. The School taught me to ask good questions.”

It is the assignment, he said, that has changed—from making the perfectly proportioned chair or chest of drawers to finding the perfect solution for a client’s woodworking project. “I’m using the same part of my brain,” says Greg. “So it wasn’t that difficult a transition. That part of my brain is still very much stimulated.”

“There are many journeys that this sort of education can take you on. For me, NBSS was a starting place and, as it turned out, gave me a wonderful toehold on what has turned out to be a very satisfying career.”

Jon Issa, Locksmithing and Security Technology, 2014

Owner, Jon's Locks, Warwick, RI



From the time he was eight years old, Jon Issa had a premonition that he would one day become a locksmith.

"It's hard to believe, I guess, that a kid that

young would aspire to locksmithing as a career," says Jon. "But I remember going with my grandfather to the local barbershop in my hometown of Central Falls, and leafing through the magazines while he got his hair cut."

One particular magazine spread always caught his eye: an ad by the Foley Belsaw Co. inviting readers to sign up for a correspondence course on how to become a locksmith. He also remembers being impressed by the tools and racks of blank keys he saw during visits to the local locksmith.

Jon's career path took a detour when he joined the military and was deployed to Iraq in 2002. His tour was cut short due to injuries he sustained there. But his sacrifice meant that he would eventually qualify for vocational rehabilitation back home through the Veterans Administration.

It was an opportunity Jon couldn't pass up. After completing a few correspondence courses for the basics, he applied for admission to North Bennet Street School's Locksmithing and Security Technology program with the intention of eventually opening his own business.

Since his graduation in 2014, Jon, now 35, has fulfilled his childhood aspirations as the sole proprietor of Jon's Locks in Warwick. He services a growing mix of residential and commercial customers as the word gets out about his technical competence and his friendly, easygoing manner. On weekends, his 16 year-old son Zach helps out, cutting keys and accompanying his father on service calls. "You never know," Jon muses. "This could grow into a nice little family business someday."

Middle School Programs

WOODWORKING

Chris Kearney, CF '07
Daniel Cheek, CF '10

BOOK ARTS

Caitlyn Thompson, BB '11
Erin Fletcher, BB '12
Colin Urbina, BB '11

2014–2015 Public Lectures and Exhibits

LA COULEUR DU VENT:

An international exhibit of 51 design bindings

July 18–September 14, 2014

ARTISTIC VISIONS:

Work by Members of New Hampshire Furniture Masters (at 127-129 Newbury Street, Boston)

Exhibit: August 1–15, 2014

NBSS Reception: August 4, 2014

AMERICAN CRAFT COUNCIL SYMPOSIUM

Panel Discussion

September 25, 2014

THE WORK OF SARA GALNER, A SATURDAY EVENING GIRL EXHIBIT

December 15, 2014–

November 30, 2015

ART AND REFORM

The Saturday Evening Girls & Paul Revere Pottery Lecture

December 16, 2014

UNVEILING OF THE NORTH BENNET STREET SCHOOL'S SOLAR ARRAY

with Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh and Cambridge Mayor David P. Maher

December 17, 2014

MAKING IT IN AMERICA: AFRICAN AMERICANS AND CRAFT

Lowery Stokes Sims Lecture

January 13, 2015

QUALITY IS CONTAGIOUS:

John Economaki & Bridge City Tool Works

Exhibit: March 9–May 15, 2015

Reception: May 14, 2015

ANNUAL STUDENT AND ALUMNI EXHIBIT

Exhibit: May 18–29, 2015

Reception: May 28, 2015

ANNUAL EVENING OF TRADITIONAL CRAFT

May 19, 2015

TO HEAR THE MUSIC FILM SCREENING

May 27, 2015

Exhibitors

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Jock Gifford, JM '96, CF '01
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Marc Margulies, CE
Nathalie Marquis, CF '13

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Weizenecker, BB '10
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Yelena Synkova, CF '15
Seth Tanguay, JM '07
Cyle Thomas, JM '13
Nick Trahan, JM '15
Rosemary Trainor, JM '90
Ronald Trapasso, CF '69
Joanna Tully, CF '15
Colin Urbina, BB '11
Jonathan Wachs, CF '15
Mary Grace Whalen, BB '16

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Nicholas English, CF '15
Donna Fisher, CF '15
Rob Hiza, CF '15
Taima Krayem, CF '15
Adrian Land, CF '15
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Matthew Shuster, CF '15
Yelena Synkova, CF '15

CRAFTBOSTON HOLIDAY

December 4–7, 2014
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Nicholas English, CF '15
Donna Fisher, CF '15
Rob Hiza, CF '15
Taima Krayem, CF '16
Adrian Land, CF '15
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Mark Pouliot, CF '15
Jeff Schauer, CF '16
Matthew Shuster, CF '15
Yelena Synkova, CF '15
Joanna Tully, CF '15
Dane Visnick, CF '15

**NBSS Holiday Party
Raffle Donations**

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Brooks Ltd. Piano
Products LLC
Cocoonuts
Commonwealth Lock
Jim Croft
Faulk Tuning Hammers
Harmata & Oakridge Leathers
J Hewit & Sons Ltd.
Hatch Mill Restoration &
Preservation Group, Inc.
The Marbler's Apprentice
Colleen Matthews, JM '12
NBSS – Cabinet and
Furniture Making
NBSS – Gallery/Store
NBSS – Jewelry Making
and Repair
NBSS – Locksmithing and
Security Technology
P&S Engraving
Lance Patterson, CF '79
Pergamena
Schaff Piano Supply
Michael Wilson, PT '12
Woodcraft

**Bridge City Tool
Exhibit Supporters**

*March 11–May 15,
North Bennet Street School*
Rickey Albert
Rex Bare
McKey, BB '11 &
James Berkman
Donald Bertucci
William T. & Louise Burgin
Rick Capecelatro
Michael Chandler
Neil Clemmons
Joseph Corigliano, CF '15
Bruce & Lynn Dayton
Dell Giving
John Demakas
Bob & Bobo Devens
Forbes & Carolyn Dewey
John M. Driggers, CF '87
Mark Edry
Claire Fruitman, CF '96 &
Brian & Griffin Bram
Jock Gifford, JM '97 CF '01 &
Brigid Sullivan
Karl Graf
Colin Hayward
Eric Hilfers
John Hoffstrom
Barbara & Amos Hostetter
Brent Hull, PC '93
Thomas Jarvis
Vin, CF '13 & Becky Kennedy
Brendan C. Kinnane, CF '85
Charles, CF '05 &
Charlotte Kline
Brad Komenda
Gregg & Ann Kulichik
Timothy & Susan Larkin
Peter Lee
Nancy A. Maloney, CF '10
Anne & Marc Margulies
Bradley Marples
Paul & Carla McDonough
Peter McGhee, CF '04

Joshua Miner, PC '12
Michael Morris
John & Marianne Nelson
Edward O'Neil
David Pickhardt
Bill Rainford, PC '11
Neil & Anna Rasmussen
James Reid-Cunningham, BB '90
Chris Rifkin
Ian Schwandt
Donald Snyder
Steven B. Soppe
Paul Sorenson
Thomas M. Stoker
Mark Stubblefield
Paul Viser
Christopher von Suck
Rutager West
Christopher Wilson
Joseph W. Worthen II
Anonymous

Preservation Carpentry sash project.



Students

BOOKBINDING

Kaitlin Barber*
Peggy Boston
Lauren Calcote*
Nicole Campana
Joshua Crotty*
Todd Davis
Megan Gibes*
Shannon Kerner*
Lindsay Nakashima*
Emily Patchin
Jonathan Romain
Jessica Rosenthal
Jackie Scott*
Mary Grace Whalen

CABINET AND FURNITURE MAKING

Joshua Bergeron
Mark Bokelman
Mike Brown
Joshua Brucker*
Eric Burdge
Thomas Bruce Cain
Thomas Campagnola
Seth Capista
Gregory Child*
Joseph Corigliano*
Williamson Cushing
Thomas Danel-Moore
Nicholas English*
Dana Farmer
Donna Fisher*
Lesley Gold
David Hibino
Harrison Hiza*
James Jovenich*
Samuel Kott*
Taima Krayem
Jason Krivelow
Adrian Land*
Nicholas Langille
Woraphong Lertkangwanklai*
Wes Lillig
Christopher Littlefield*
Carly Lowe*
Jamie McCoy
Kristina Moszka
Dennis Mulherin*
Dmitri Norris
Wray Paynter*
Mark Pouliot*
Kamala Questel*
Al Resta
Jeff Schauer
Evan Schmid
Matthew Shuster*
Yelena Synkova
Geneva Thorndike
Joanna Tully*
Masayoshi Uneda

Oscar Villarreal
Joshua Villegas
Dane Visnick*
Jonathan Wachs*

CARPENTRY

Simon Amin*
William Besse*
Griffin Buell*
Winston Day
Will Devil*
Patrick Earls*
John Grant*
Kevin Keegan*
Bradford Manchester*
Claudio Pinto*
Luke Shannon*
Elise Sutherland*
Woody Woodward*

JEWELRY MAKING AND REPAIR

Maggie Bransfield
Eustace Casimir
Kaleigh Dingman*
Christine Doyle*
Ana Maria Hanken
Miranda Harter
Sergio Jaramillo
Alice Jones
Prynacon Kandhamit
Emily Kara
Maril Lyon
Eduardo Madriz
James Pizzi
Alexandra Rahmann*
Robert Riddle
Chris Roi
Anna Thompson
Nicholas Trahan*
Max Traynor
Krisztina Vagenas*

LOCKSMITHING AND SECURITY TECHNOLOGY

Aramarie Colon*
Brian Coolidge*
Shaun Desmond*
Daniel Jalonski
Jake Kelley*
Nicholas Lang*
Layne Lovett*
Ian McEntee*
Justin Perrino
Corey Ruane

ADVANCED PIANO TECHNOLOGY

Rachel Aganski*
Sophia Krishnaswami*
Joe Rush*
Lauren Sturm*
Micah Sundholm*
Benjamin Webster*

PIANO TECHNOLOGY

Peter Critchley*
Patrick Dover*
Zack Ferris
Adam Gliniecki*
William Harrington*
Phillip Itingen*
Jonathan Kotulski*
Nathaniel Lane*
Spencer Maienza*
Luke Ouellette*
Johanna Schaufeld*
Yun Wang Swanson*
Michael Thompson*
John Totter*
Ian Wolford*
Zheming Zhang*

PRESERVATION CARPENTRY

Nathaniel Allen
Kyle Bernard
Ben Bonyhadi
Eli Cook*
Maia Dilorenzo
Brendan Doyle
Eric Elizondo
Michael Fazio*
Lucas Ferreira*
Douglas Goulding*
Nathaniel Groppe*
Jacob Imlay*
Nate Irwin
Krista Isaacson
Evan Kistler*
Brock Leiendecker
Chris O'Reilly
Emily Ostroff
Sean Regan*
Scott Reichenbach*
Elizabeth Rice
Torey Rubrecht*
Timothy Sweeney
Heather Tauck*
William Wheeler*

VIOLIN MAKING AND REPAIR

Karen Bellerose
Marcus Bretto
Seth Colon
Evan Davenport
Jedidjah de Vries
Gabriel Denton*
Julia Feliz*
Louis Fram
Douglas Kebles
Francesco Rowe*
Ryan Stulb*
Kathryn Taub
Bryan Worley

**Denotes Class of '15*

Instructors

BOOKBINDING

Jeffrey Altepeter, BB '99
Department Head
Martha Kearsley, BB '95

CABINET AND FURNITURE MAKING

Dan Faia, CF '94
Department Head
Steve Brown, CF '90
Alex Krutsky, CF '81
Lance Patterson, CF '79

CARPENTRY

Brian Vogt, PC '94
Department Head

JEWELRY MAKING AND REPAIR

Rosemary Trainor, JM '91
Department Head
Ann B. Cahoon, JM '02
Gretchen Wilkinson, JM '96

LOCKSMITHING AND SECURITY TECHNOLOGY

David Troiano (through January)
Department Head
Barbara Baker, LK '04
(from February)
Department Head

PIANO TECHNOLOGY

David Betts, PA '72
Department Head
Debbie Cyr, PA '93
Jack Stebbins, PA '83
Emily Townsend, PA '08

PRESERVATION CARPENTRY

Steven O'Shaughnessy, PC '99
Department Head
Rich Friberg, PC '04

VIOLIN MAKING AND REPAIR

Roman Barnas
Department Head

Advisors

BOOKBINDING

Mary Patrick Bogan
Samuel Ellenport
Doris Freitag
Babette Gehnrich
Paul Parisi
James Reid-Cunningham,
BB '90
Deborah Wender

CABINET AND FURNITURE MAKING

Mark Del Guidice
Sean Fisher, CF '94
Brian Kelly, CF '84
John LaGattuta, CF '88
Greg Porfido, CF '89
William Doub, CF '74

CARPENTRY

Peter Feinmann, CA '83
Kurt Fieldhouse, CA '93
Stephen Gould, PC '01
(from January)
Edward Howland
Barry Mann, PC '97
Arthur Massaro
Finley Perry

JEWELRY MAKING AND REPAIR

John F. Gifford, JM '97, CF '01
Geraldine Kish-Perry, JM '00
Barbara Lawrence
Alan Leavitt
Emily Scott, JM '07
Daniel Spirer
Bill Verge

LOCKSMITHING AND SECURITY TECHNOLOGY

Lewis Alessandrini
John Hobin
Stephen McKinney
Virginia M. Newbury
Michael Samra, LK '87
Jeffrey G. Schwartz
David Trioano

PIANO TECHNOLOGY

George Crawford
Larry Fine, PT '76
Sean Mallari, PA '06
Don Mannino
Lewis J. Surdam, PA '80

PRESERVATION CARPENTRY

Robert A. Adam
William Lewis Barlow, IV
Michael Burrey
Sara B. Chase
William Finch
Anne Grady
Andrew Ladygo
Denis Semprebon

VIOLIN MAKING AND REPAIR

Kevin Kelly, VM '92
(from November)
David Polstein, VM '89
Christopher Reuning
Andrew Ryan
Chris White, VM '88
(through November)

Administration

Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez, CF '99
President

Rebecca W. King (from June)
Executive Vice President

Claire Fruitman, CF '96
Provost

Frank Baird
Building Manager

Levi Barrett (from June)
Controller

Wendy Connolly
Store/Gallery Manager

James Dergay
Director of Financial Aid

Lillian DiGiorgio
Receptionist

Melissa Gallin (from June)
Director of Institutional Support

Lana Jackson
*Director of Student Life and
Career Services*

Christine Jankowski
Director of Development

Nancy Jenner
*Director of Communications and
Strategic Partnerships*

Robin Ketro
School Administrator

Jay Knox
Director of Facilities

Brittany Molloy-Kenney
*Data Management
and Analytics*

James Morris
*Director of Continuing
Education*

Robert O'Dwyer
*Director of Admissions and
Student Success*

Sheila D. Perry (through June)
*Director of Foundation and
Corporate Support*

Ronald Santos
Building Maintenance

Maria Schauer (through April)
Business Manager/CFO

Sharon Stetson
Admissions Operations Manager

ALUMNI PROFILE

Tatsuo Imaishi, Violin Making and Repair, 2000

*Restorer, Rare Violins of New York,
New York, NY*



Tatsuo Imaishi may work for a relatively small establishment, but his job responsibilities there are enormous.

His employer, Rare Violins of New York, is an internationally respected firm in the

business of buying, selling, maintaining and conserving fine instruments. Since joining the firm in 2002, Tatsuo has seen and worked on some of the rarest and most valuable stringed instruments that are known to exist today. Also at stake for him is maintaining the trust that his employer has painstakingly built with some of the most important musicians, collectors and institutions in the world.

Raised in Hiroshima, Japan, Tatsuo knew at an early age that violin making was his professional calling. He studied violin with a passion as a boy, pausing between practice sessions only to do things that involved working with his hands—drawing, playing with Legos and model-building. It all came together for him as he entered high school. “I guess I was lucky that way,” he says.

A family friend in the U.S. helped Tatsuo search for a suitable training program, which led him to North Bennet Street School. Entering at age 18, he was the youngest in his class, sharing bench time with college graduates, second-career seekers and retirees.

Now 37, his approach as a restorer is driven by his deep admiration for the great instrument-making families—with names like Stradivarius and Guarnerius—that set the standard for quality over 300 years ago. Every time he works on one of these rare instruments, he gets to appreciate their craftsmanship up close. And he thinks about the indelible music their instruments have inspired through the ages.

“There’s a lot of pressure to the work when you remember that you’re holding a \$15 million instrument in your hands,” Tatsuo says. “But I think of it more as working to preserve an artifact. My job is to pass on these instruments in good condition to the next generation.”

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