

North Bennet Street School

Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2016

Welcome to North Bennet Street School.

Last year at this time we had just completed a year-long look toward the future of the School, and the result, the Strategic Action Plan FY 2016 –FY 2020, was published in our FY 2015 Annual Report. The plan set out two overarching goals: to fully realize the programmatic potential of our new building and to secure the long term financial sustainability of the School.

At the end of the Plan's first year, I am pleased to report progress toward both goals. On the financial front, we have added nearly \$3.6 million to our endowment and we are in the initial stages of a capital campaign to raise funds for our general and scholarship endowments that will be essential to the future of the School.

In terms of fully capitalizing on the new facility, we have increased our enrollment, enhanced our programs and increased our visibility in the community; all key recommendations of the Strategic Plan. This year's Annual Report documents a number of those achievements,

including doubling the size of the full-time Carpentry program and broadening our audience with an expanded Continuing Education program. There are profiles of generous donors who have funded program enhancements, and stories of talented students who have practiced their craft in myriad ways.

This year's report also describes a few of the ways that we have increased our visibility in the community, with our ongoing internship programs, public exhibitions, and the Preservation Carpentry program's partnership with the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C.

In short, the new building continues to strengthen our sense of community, both internal and external, especially on PB&J Thursdays, when students gather for free lunch and conversation.

Thanks once again to all of you who have helped to make it possible.



Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez
President

Our challenge is to make an outstanding crafts-based education widely available.

This past year, we are proud to have made significant progress on this goal by:

Expanding our public presence with new exhibitions and events


Engaging the community through low- and no-cost service projects

Broadening our audience via new Continuing Education classes

Connecting with alumni through job fairs and trade shows

Enhancing our programs with support from individuals, businesses, and non-profit partners





For over 135 years, North Bennet Street School
has provided vocational training as a path to
self-sufficiency and a meaningful, productive life.

Introducing stories from our year.



Bookbinding

INSTRUCTORS

Jeff Altepeter BB '99 (*Dept. Head*)
Martha Kearsley BB '95

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mary Patrick Bogan
Samuel Ellenport
Babette Gehrich
Paul Parisi
James Reid-Cunningham BB '90
Deborah Wender

ANNUAL TUITION

\$23,157

GRADUATION RATE

88%

EMPLOYMENT RATE

100%

STUDENTS

15

Nine years after he passed away, master bookbinder Joseph Newman is still vividly remembered not only by his many friends and colleagues, but also because of the Joseph Newman Bookbinding Scholarship at North Bennet Street School, which honors his legacy by supporting aspiring bookbinders.

“Joe loved to teach people who were newer to the field,” recalls Deb Wender, retired Director of Book Conservation at the Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC), where Newman served as senior book conservator. “He really loved to see new people come along, which makes the scholarship in his name so perfect.”

Over \$13,000 was raised for the Scholarship through the Joseph Newman Bookbinding Exhibit, organized by Bookbinding Department Head and Instructor Jeff Altepeter BB '99 with help from Joe's brother, Walter Newman, and held at the School in November 2015.

“The exhibit brought out a fantastic gathering of bookbinding professionals from as far away as Texas. We welcomed Joe's family and friends, as well as collectors and potential clients,” explains Jeff. “Every scholarship dollar raised is important, of course, and these funds are dedicated to Bookbinding students. This and our other exhibits help our students make connections in the community. We encourage that, too, because our field by nature is very collaborative and social.”

Joe entered the profession in the mid-1970s, apprenticing at Boston's Harcourt Bindery where he went on to become bindery foreman before opening his own bindery in Beverly, Massachusetts. In the mid-1980s, Newman became a book conservator at NEDCC, where he conserved titles including an early copy of the Magna Carta.

“Joe was a tremendously skilled binder and conservator and he was also very hard working. His fine bindings were creatively executed and exquisite,” says Mary Patrick Bogan, NEDCC's current Director of Book Conservation. “He believed in the bigger picture—understanding where the books you were working on came from. We all benefitted from his connoisseurship. He was very funny, too, and a joy to be around.”

Mary Patrick believes Newman would have been pleased by both the scholarship and the exhibit. “The exhibit was beautifully done and provided a wonderful look at how he approached fine bookbinding and models of book

structures. Joe believed in learning and I think he'd be very happy to see his name connected to efforts that expand knowledge.”

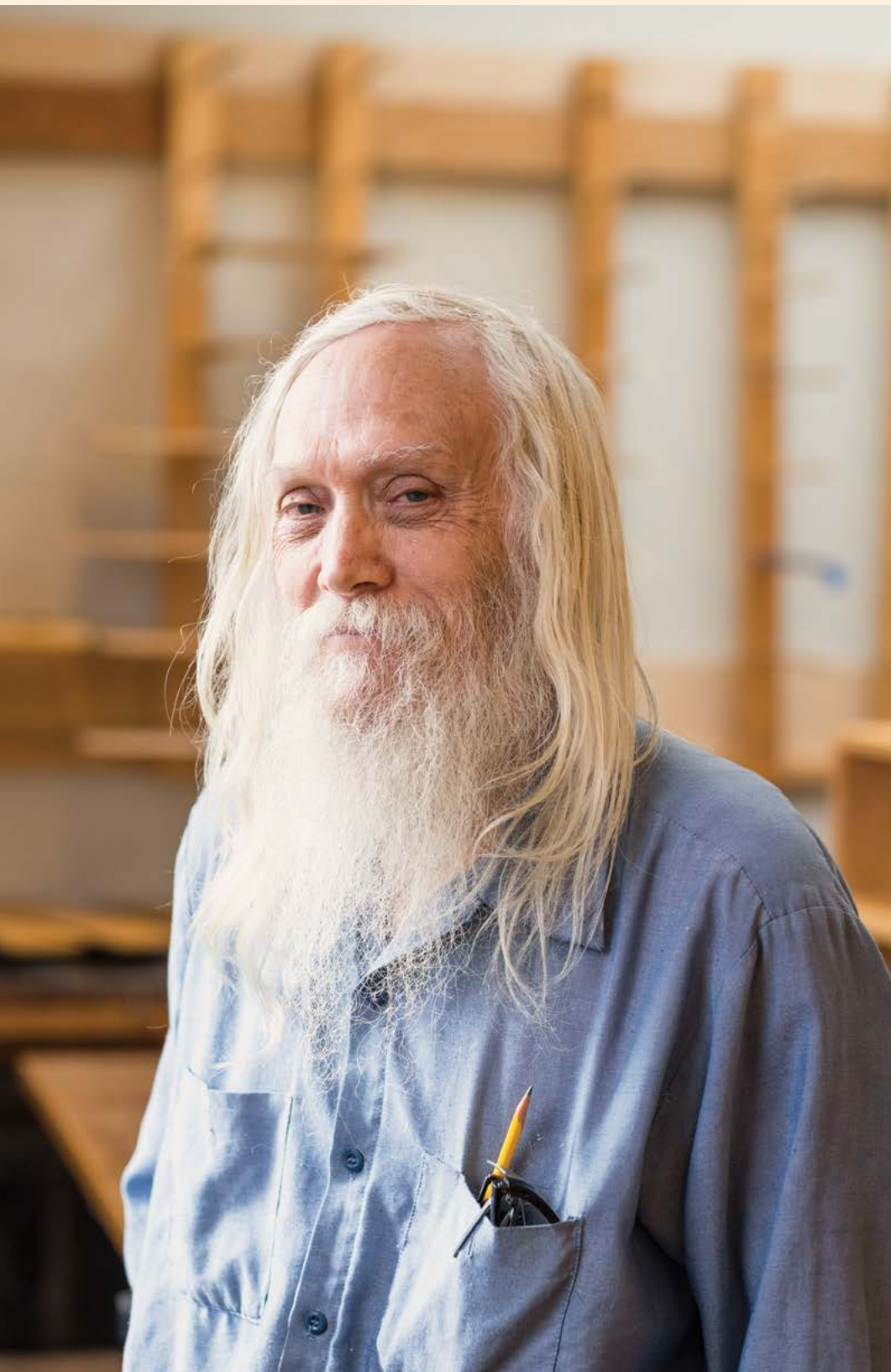
Todd Pattison, Senior Book Conservator at NEDCC, remembers his friend by two of his nicknames. “Joe was always called either ‘Dr. Binder’ or ‘The River,’ the latter because a river brings water, sediment, and fish and, like that, Joe brought a wealth of information forward which he always shared with other people. He taught me so much over the 20 years we worked together. He changed my life,” says Todd, who believes Newman's legacy will live on.

“We still call it ‘Joe's Bench’ even now 10 years after he last used it,” explained Todd of Joe's former NEDCC work station. “Another conservator, Jessica Henze BB '06, has used the bench for years, but it will always be his. Jessica didn't know Joe, but I think she benefits not only from the library on the history of bookbinding that he left us, but also from working at his bench.”

“This and our other exhibits help our students make connections in the community. We encourage that, too, because our field by nature is very collaborative and social.”



Cabinet & Furniture Making



INSTRUCTORS

Daniel C. Faia CF '94 (*Dept. Head*)
Steven Brown CF '90
Alexander Krutsky CF '81
Lance Patterson CF '79

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mark Del Guidice
William Doub CF '74
Sean Fisher CF '94
Brian Kelly CF '84
John F. LaGattuta CF '88
William Locke CF '95
Gregory Porfido CF '89

ANNUAL TUITION

\$24,804

GRADUATION RATE

80%

EMPLOYMENT RATE

84%

STUDENTS

40

Over three decades after it was first offered, the “Thursday Lecture” is as popular as ever with Cabinet & Furniture Making (CF) students at North Bennet Street School—as is the lecturer, longtime faculty member Lance Patterson CF '79.



“We call it the ‘Lance Lecture,’ where all full-time students gather to hear Lance talk about everything from curved veneering and columns to the different shapes and styles of cabriole legs,” explains Grant Burger CF '17. “The lectures are insights into Lance, who is ‘The Godfather’ of period furniture, and are his way of inspiring us.”

A student of the late George Fullerton, who created the current CF curriculum, Lance became a part-time CF instructor at NBSS in 1979. He went full-time two years later, and served as Department Head from 1985 to 2001. Lance is also a founding member of Boston’s Fort Point Cabinetmakers, which has welcomed many NBSS graduates including, for a time, Provost Claire Fruitman CF '96.

“When I was getting ready to graduate, a classmate and I were looking for bench space. When Lance told me there was a bench available in his shop, I was thrilled. I couldn’t believe that I was going to be working in the same place as him,” recalls Claire. “He is a genius woodworker. There is never a question he can’t puzzle through or a problem he can’t figure out. As a student, you can tell him what you’re planning to do and he knows just what books to refer you to in the CF Library, which he maintains.”

“Lance was one whose answers to my questions I most valued. He is a true polymath, with encyclopedic knowledge.”

Recognized as a “Mentor in Design” by Design New England earlier this year, after being nominated by Grant and others from NBSS, Lance has a long history in that role.

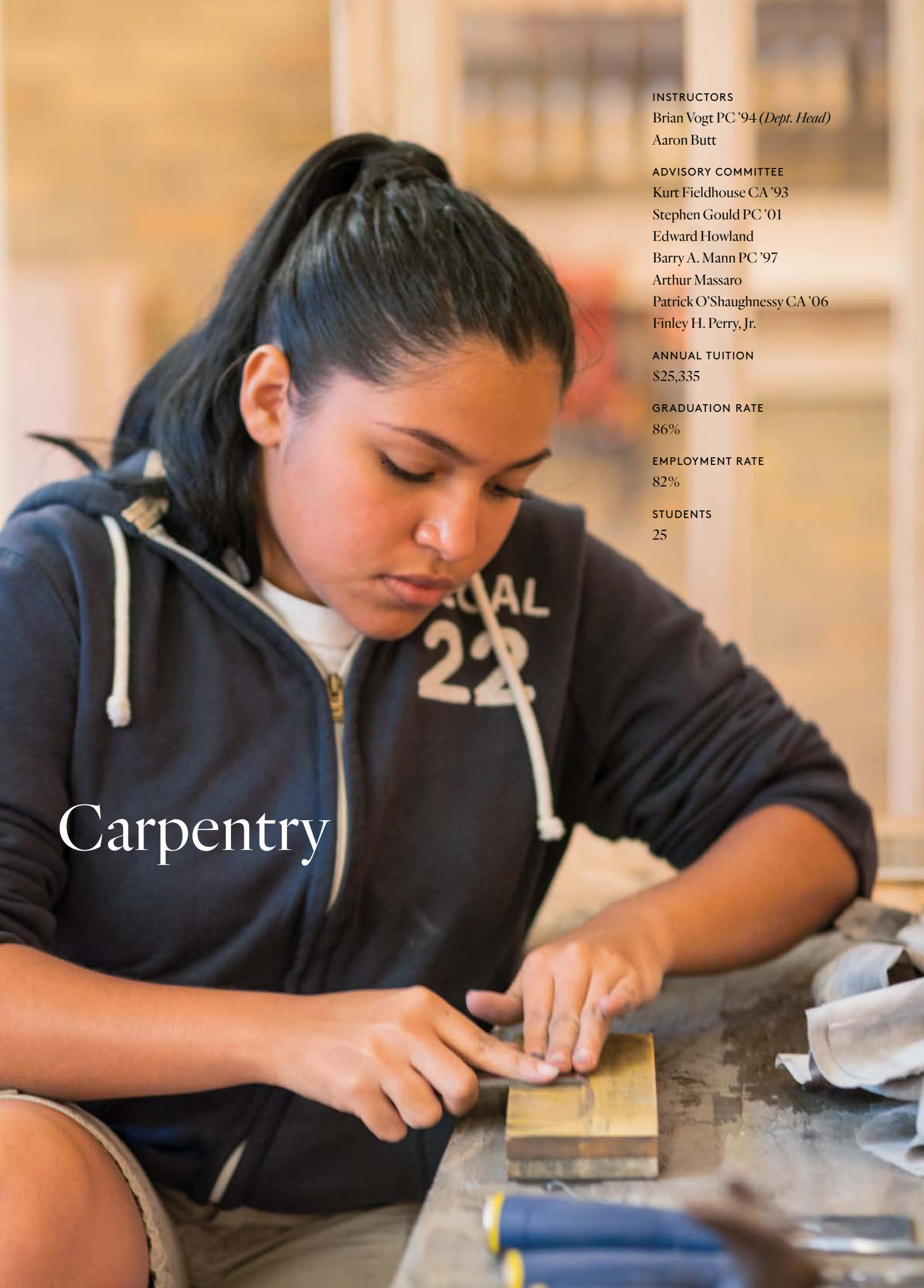
“Lance was one whose answers to my questions I most valued. He is a true polymath, with encyclopedic knowledge,” explained NBSS President Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez CF '99, who also once had a bench at Fort Point. “Lance has a hugely appealing personality, but one of the charming things about him is that he is not a public speaker. He is self-effacing and very low-key. You have to really focus on what he’s saying.”

Among those listening closely are three of his former students and now his CF colleagues—Department Head Dan Faia CF '94, and instructors Steve Brown CF '90 and Alex Krutsky CF '81.

“What’s great about working with Lance is that he is always excited even when he’s working on something he’s done many times,” says Dan. “As our senior instructor, Lance is Master of the Shop. Most everything goes through him before it gets done. We were all his students, and while we’re now his peers, we still learn from him every day,” says Dan.

Lance—whose professional-quality photographs of CF pieces have appeared in *Fine Woodworking*—enjoys sharing lessons learned from his mentor.

“George had worked in the trade all his life and was a most inspiring teacher. He taught Phil Lowe [CF '74], too. He changed a lot of people’s lives. The tradition in the trade is to pass on what you know to the next generation. It is part of the continuum,” says Lance, adding with a laugh, “So when my students do something wrong, I tell them ‘George wouldn’t like that.’”



Carpentry

INSTRUCTORS
Brian Vogt PC '94 (*Dept. Head*)
Aaron Butt

ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Kurt Fieldhouse CA '93
Stephen Gould PC '01
Edward Howland
Barry A. Mann PC '97
Arthur Massaro
Patrick O'Shaughnessy CA '06
Finley H. Perry, Jr.

ANNUAL TUITION
\$25,335

GRADUATION RATE
86%

EMPLOYMENT RATE
82%

STUDENTS
25

Growth has become the watchword for Carpentry (CA), which last year doubled its class size and added a second full-time faculty member, while taking on its first ever community service projects.

"There are a lot of people who want to learn carpentry so our enrollment has doubled, and Aaron Butt has joined us as an instructor. Adding another teacher adds another set of ideas and another way to solve problems," explained Brian Vogt PC '94, the Department Head and an instructor in the CA program. "We believe we have the ability to make a tangible difference, too, so we've incorporated community service into what we do."

In February, Brian, Aaron, and 23 Carpentry students joined forces with Harborlight Community Partners, a Beverly-based non-profit providing housing for low- and moderate-income people. "We were subcontracted to help renovate a historic home in Beverly," recalls Aaron of the two-week project. "We removed all the old windows, installed new windows, repaired rot, and replaced interior and exterior trim." And when those tasks were complete, North Bennet Street School students didn't look to clock out, according to Harborlight construction foreman Steve Albanese.

"When they finished up ahead of time on the windows, the students asked for additional work. So we had them patch drywall and do some other small jobs as well. I was very happy with their work and they were also well supervised," says Steve. "Replacement-window jobs are very common these days, too, so that was a good task for the students."

In May, the students participated in the Association of General Contractors' National Service Day, working alongside representatives from Suffolk Construction, Turner Construction, and other major companies on a project for the non-profit St. Mary's Center

for Women and Children in Dorchester, which offers transitional space for women and children on their way to self-sufficiency.

"We re-plastered and repainted an old kitchen that was turned into a library, and built bookcases for it, too. We also built a bank of 18 food lockers to help the moms and their children keep their food secure. We fabricated the cabinets at NBSS and then installed them on Community Service Day," says Brian. "Everything went very smoothly. And I think there was an overall feeling of teamwork and accomplishment in finishing the project and knowing it was for a good cause."

"We believe we have the ability to make a tangible difference, too, so we've incorporated community service into what we do."



Jewelry Making & Repair



INSTRUCTORS

Rosemary Trainor JM '91
(Dept. Head)
Ann Cahoon JM '02

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ilah Cibis JM '05
John F. Gifford JM '97 & CF '01
Barbara L. Lawrence
Alan Leavitt
Geraldine Kish Perry JM '00
Emily Scott JM '07
Daniel R. Spirer

ANNUAL TUITION

\$22,329

GRADUATION RATE

40%

EMPLOYMENT RATE

33%

STUDENTS

7

When a personal friendship brought Starr Moore to North Bennet Street School 16 years ago, another enduring relationship was launched between Starr, an Atlanta-based jeweler and graduate gemologist, and the School itself.



“One of my good friends, Rosemary Trainor JM '91 (the recently retired Jewelry Making & Repair [JM] Department Head), was teaching a two-week course in jewelry making, and I came to Boston to take it to get a sense of the metalsmith part of jewelry-making. I found that I do not have the hand skills to be a metalsmith, and the key there is definitely hand skills,” recalls Starr. “The day I started was the same day Rosemary became Department Head of the JM program at NBSS. I’d known Rosemary for years and we were already good friends.”

Good friends, of course, tell us what they really think.

“When I walked in, the Jewelry Making & Repair program was not as good as it could be. The rooms were filthy and unkempt. I like to leave places better than I find them, so in the afternoons I got soap, water, and rags. I cleaned and I also organized. I could see the need for additional equipment to teach students additional significant skills. NBSS had never taught casting, so with Rosemary’s blessing, I bought the necessary equipment for the Department. Just cleaning and suggesting they add casting equipment were important first steps.”

Starr —honored last year at NBSS with a plaque that reads, in part, “with gratitude for her vision and support”—has also shared the benefit of her own industry background and experience. “You can’t be a metalsmith without knowing how to handle gemstones, so I and other gemstone dealers made sure that they had gemstones. I also provided a ‘gemstone library’ in a display case of many types of stones,” says Starr.

New Department Head (as of June 2016)
Ann Cahoon JM '02 values Starr’s input.

“One of the really unique challenges we face is that we’re incredibly traditional as a trade, but the marketplace is ever-changing. A lot of the changes are technology based, and so two years ago Starr funded the replacement of our laser

welder and other tools. It’s the support and generosity of friends like Starr that make sure our students are working in the true analog of a modern shop,” says Ann. “Starr loves to share her passion for jewelry by bringing examples from her own collection when she visits NBSS, which is very inspirational for our students.”

Starr, an NBSS Overseer, believes that the Department is in good shape and good hands.

“Rosemary had the insight to develop the program into what it is today. She was comfortable handing the program to Ann, too, because she knows Ann will take it where it next needs to go. And I will always make time for NBSS. Anything I can do to help is my way of giving back to an industry that means so much to me.”

“One of the really unique challenges we face is that we’re incredibly traditional as a trade, but the marketplace is ever-changing.”



Locksmithing & Security Technology

INSTRUCTORS

Barbara Baker LK '04
(Dept. Head)

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Lew Alessandrini
John (Jack) Hobin
Stephen McKinney
Virginia M. Newbury
Michael Samra LK '87
Jeffrey G. Schwartz
Dave Troiano

ANNUAL TUITION

\$20,835

GRADUATION RATE

83%

EMPLOYMENT RATE

100%

STUDENTS

11

Sometimes the best way to help students find employment is to bring the employers directly to them, which is what the Locksmithing & Security Technology program (LK) did last year in an unusual type of job fair.

Lock shops and other prospective employers in the industry came into the program space to see first-hand what students were learning. Several company representatives were given a brief overview of the program and a tour of the space by LK Department Head Barbara Baker LK '04, followed by an opportunity to mingle with the students.

“It was really terrific. Students could ask about lock shops and service vans, and a distributor’s representative explained that portion of the industry to them. Students asked all kinds of great questions,” says Barbara, adding that several students were invited to submit their resumes to prospective employers.

Job opportunities in the security technology industry are expanding as the technology itself continues to evolve.



The job fair was ideal for students to network and learn about the current state of the industry they expect to join.

“We’re moving beyond an old-time locksmith who could hand-file a key and repair something by making a part for it. Now we’re working with robust, very high-end equipment that integrates electricity and software control,” explains Barbara. “Some locksets for houses can now ‘talk’ to the owner’s smartphone so the home industry is expanding incredibly.”

In the commercial sector, locksmiths may do the mechanical installation while others handle the electrical component of the work, so there’s more integration between locksmiths and electrical companies—or locksmiths may simply get additional training to do it all themselves.

“It’s just exploding,” according to Barbara.

You never know where jobs might pop up. For example, combination safes are actively used in banks and elsewhere. LK students learn how to maintain those locks just as they do other types of security technologies. The home market also increased after the 2008 financial crisis. “Sales of safes for homes went through the roof because people started hanging onto their money,” Barbara notes.

It’s a continuing education for students and also for Barbara, who graduated from the LK program in 2004 and immediately went to work for Michael Samra LK '87, owner and president of Action Lock & Key, Inc., in Burlington, Massachusetts.

“You’ll never, ever have learned everything,” says Barbara.

“We’re moving beyond an old-time locksmith... now we’re working with robust, very high-end equipment that integrates electricity and software control.”

A woman with long brown hair, wearing a red dress with black polka dots and a silver watch, is smiling and looking down at a small wooden tool she is holding. She is in a workshop-like setting with various tools and materials visible in the background.

Piano Technology

INSTRUCTORS

David Betts PA '72 (*Dept. Head*)

Debbie Cyr PA '93

Mario Igrac

Emily Townsend PA '08

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

George Crawford

Lawrence Fine PA '76

Sean Mallari PA '06

Don Mannino

Lewis J. Surdam PA '80

ANNUAL BASIC TUITION

\$23,814

ANNUAL ADVANCED TUITION

\$22,329

GRADUATION RATE

94/100%

EMPLOYMENT RATE

100/100%

STUDENTS

27

Educating Basic (PT) and Advanced (PA) Piano Technology students for employment may begin in the School's practice rooms and program spaces, but the work doesn't end there.

Newly learned skills are tested in the real world, via a wide variety of internship opportunities. From tuning grand pianos at summer music festivals to servicing upright models in the Boston Public Schools, NBSS piano students have the chance to work with head technicians and celebrated musicians in pursuit of their craft.

For those who have completed the PT program, there are more internship opportunities than there are available students to fill them. The School has long-standing relationships with nationally renowned organizations that include the Tanglewood Music Center in Massachusetts, the Aspen Music Festival and School in Colorado, and the Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan. Many of those internships lead to high-profile jobs at places like Steinway & Sons and the Juilliard School.

"If you stand out, you're going to get a really good recommendation from these head technicians, who are well known throughout the industry," says Instructor Debbie Cyr PA '93. Proof positive, the head piano technicians at the Curtis Institute of Music and the San Francisco Conservatory of Music are each NBSS graduates.

"It's normally unheard of for someone with one year of experience to get a job at a place like an Ivy League university or music conservatory," notes PT instructor Emily Townsend PA '08.

During the school year, PA students go out on tuning calls for local customers in private homes and other venues, and then share their experiences with fellow students and staff. "It gives them practice out in the field and some experience with all kinds of pianos and customers," Debbie says.

Another opportunity for students to apply their tuning chops comes from the Boston Public Schools (BPS), which has used NBSS students to maintain the school system's pianos for the past four years. The program is funded by the BPS Arts Expansion Fund at EdVestors, a Boston-based education non-profit focused on improving educational outcomes for students. Students tune the pianos and then create invoices and a report on each piano they work on.

"It gives the students a little bit of pocket money and some business experience, and of course the BPS teachers are over the moon," Debbie says. "It's been a winning situation for everybody."

The abundance of opportunities like these reflects the robust job market for piano technicians, who are now retiring faster than new ones can be trained. "There's a humongous black hole for piano technicians all over the world," Debbie says. "We get a lot of requests from universities or guys who are retiring."

"We're the place that has stood the test of time," Emily says. "It's the caliber of grads we put out there."

"We're the place that has stood the test of time. It's the caliber of grads we put out there."



Preservation Carpentry

INSTRUCTORS

Steven O'Shaughnessy PC '99 (*Dept. Head*)

Michael Burrey

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Robert A. Adam

William Lewis Barlow, IV

Sara B. Chase

William Finch

Anne Grady

Denis Semprebou

ANNUAL TUITION

\$25,065

GRADUATION RATE

92%

EMPLOYMENT RATE

82%

STUDENTS

24

Last year's Preservation Carpentry (PC) project was a first in many ways. It was the first time students had worked on a building that no longer exists, but it will also be the first time their work will appear in a national museum.

Several prominent New Englanders had a hand in creating the Loring House in the Prides Crossing neighborhood of Beverly, Massachusetts. The summer cottage built on a cliff overlooking the Atlantic Ocean in 1884 was designed in the Shingle Style by architect William Ralph Emerson (a cousin of Ralph Waldo Emerson) for Charles G. Loring, the first director of Boston's Museum of Fine Arts. Also involved was Frederick Law Olmsted, the father of American landscape architecture whose portfolio includes the "Emerald Necklace" series of parks in Boston and Brookline.

By the time Loring descendant Samuel Codman died in 2008, the house had lived through more than a century of oceanside wind, rain, and sun, and needed a major restoration. Each year, PC students practice their skills by doing restoration work on a historic building, so normally this would be a great opportunity to help bring it back to its former glory.

However, it turned out that restoration would have been too expensive, so the house was slated to be torn down after museums had a chance to salvage components for their collections. The National Building Museum invited the School's PC program to help by removing and then restoring a divided window with a fanlight and raised panels as well as a curved door with brownstone threshold.

In the spring of 2015, PC students identified, photographed, and labeled pieces of the house section before it was disassembled, crated, and moved to NBSS. The subsequent restoration work included repairs when possible, or replacing missing pieces with identical pieces made of the same materials and techniques. Since the house had stood for over a century with various cosmetic changes, the students had to choose a specific point in time they would try to restore it to. They picked 1906.

The project eventually took 11 students and one instructor more than 3,000 hours to complete, even though they deliberately worked on only half of the piece to maintain a "before and after" look. The half-restored wall is now on display in the School's Windgate Gallery, but it will be moved soon to the National Building Museum.

Although the project didn't employ any ground-breaking techniques, "it was all absolutely a new experience for the students. And I haven't gotten involved in a window of these proportions in the 15 years I've been teaching here," says PC Department Head Steven O'Shaughnessy PC '99.

"It was a unique situation, because it sort of goes against why we're here," he adds. "We're here to protect, preserve, and restore, so it's sort of a melancholy experience to work on a house that no longer exists. I'm very proud of my students that they kept their heads down and really brought their game to the task at hand and didn't let their emotions rule."

"I'm very proud of my students that they kept their heads down and really brought their game to the task at hand and didn't let their emotions rule."



Violin Making & Repair



INSTRUCTORS
Roman Barnas (*Dept. Head*)

ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Kevin Kelly VM '92
David Polstein VM '89
Christopher Reuning
Andrew Ryan

ANNUAL TUITION
\$24,860

GRADUATION RATE
60%

EMPLOYMENT RATE
67%

STUDENTS
12

North Bennet Street School has had a cutting-edge program in Violin Making & Repair (VM) for 32 years, but the room's new tool-sharpening station—made possible by a gift from the Cricket Foundation—has brought new meaning to that phrase.

Working with violins requires meticulous handiwork to shape the instrument's distinctive scroll and hourglass body. One mistake with a chisel or finger plane can undo weeks of work. And the best way to make sure those tools do exactly what their users intend is to make them as sharp as possible. VM students thus spend quite a bit of time at the sharpening station working on their tools with stones, diamond plates, and water.

Ten years ago, in the School's original building, the sharpening station could accommodate only one student. It didn't have a water source either, so students had to lug water to and from a nearby bathroom. The station in the new building eventually had a Formica top and a closer sink, and could accommodate two students, but then the Formica began delaminating from repeated wettings. "It was barely usable after a year," says VM Department Head Roman Barnas.

"It was open and dusty and just looked cluttered, and it didn't have a smooth surface—you need that if you're sharpening to a fraction of a millimeter," says Melissa Gallin, Director of Institutional Support at NBSS.

Roman came up with an idea for a custom sharpening station that was eventually designed by none other than President Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez CF '99, who was an architect for 26 years before attending



“There’s no other sharpening station like this anywhere in the world.”

NBSS. Thanks to a grant from the Cricket Foundation, the station became a reality last year and is now in its second full year of use. The new station can be used by six students at a time. It was built with extremely durable, easy-to-clean laboratory-grade bench material and equipped with three small sinks as well as individual lights and drawers for storage.

“Now it’s a very pleasant experience,” says Roman. “It’s a nice social kind of place. Everyone congregates around and talks about their work, exchanging ideas and opinions.”

This is not the first NBSS improvement funded by Cricket, which previously awarded grants to the Piano Technology program in 2013 for computer and

electronic equipment, and to the Violin program in 2008 for new benches and tool shelving. A plaque commemorating the Foundation's generosity notes that its original Trustee, A. Joshua Sherman, was also a violinist.

Melissa gave a tour of the renovated station to Cricket Trustee Michael Mikowski. “When we took him through, he was quite moved by it,” she says. “Between his response and that of the appreciative VM students, I’ve never seen so much excitement over a sharpening station.”

“There’s no other sharpening station like this anywhere in the world,” says a proud Roman.

Continuing Education

Anyone confused by people who seem welded to their electronic gadgets might want to pay attention to what Katie Theodoros, Director of Continuing Education (CE), has to say about keeping pace with technology.

“How people choose to spend their free time and money has changed drastically in the past decade, mostly because of the use of smartphones and the boom of the sharing economy. Places like NBSS that engage the general public must constantly work to create responses to the ongoing progress in technology and its effect on human behavior. It’s essential for audience development to stay in the forefront of our minds as we do future planning on the content of our classes and programs,” says Katie, who sees CE as a community of interacting organisms.

“A healthy ecosystem is balanced and consists of many different species and levels. The absence of any of these species affects the entire ecosystem. Thinking of CE as an ecosystem helps ensure that we are offering classes and programs that are appealing to the broadest community of learners.”

In CE, that includes middle- and high-school students, prospective School enrollees, empty nesters, and more. Katie—whose interests include knitting, sewing, woodworking, and bicycle repair—believes CE is important to the NBSS culture.

“It keeps some of our alumni connected to the School and it also brings in new people and ideas on a continual basis. It

also showcases the work of our full-time students to people who come in to take classes or attend a program. A number of our full-time students took CE classes to get a feel for the School before applying,” explains Katie. “Our youth programs have also become an important part of the culture. For example, eight of our current full-time students take an hour out of their schedules to volunteer as assistants with our middle-school classes. This not only provides full-time students with another learning opportunity, but also gives our middle-school students a chance to work alongside people in the trades.”

Katie worked in printmaking after earning her BFA and later in museum education. After joining NBSS in the summer of 2015, she quickly brought about CE’s best year ever.

“The most important things that are keeping us on track are responding to the needs of students, keeping large amounts of information organized, and staying current with outside competition research. There are also a number of external factors that help. For example, most people have now recovered from the recession and the region’s population continues to grow.”

“This year, we saw the CE revenue grow, and I joked that the first year that we make \$1 million in gross revenue, I’m going to throw a puppy party for everyone. And nobody would object, because we would have brought in \$1 million,” laughs the animal lover. “I was not prepared for how quickly everyone jumped on board. I soon realized that a Million Dollar Puppy Party is a great way to keep us all working toward a shared goal.”

“Places like NBSS that engage the general public must constantly work to create responses to the ongoing progress in technology and its effect on human behavior.”

ENROLLMENT*
664 (51% increase over FY 2015)

STUDENTS*
531

INSTRUCTORS
41

*does not include Youth Programs
or private lessons



Continuing Education Courses

offered during FY 2016

BOOKBINDING

- A New Binding for a Favorite Old Book and a Box to Put It In
- Beyond the Rectangle:
 - Exploring Books Through Geometry
- Book in a Box: Workshop for High School Students
- Box It Up! Making Protective Enclosures for Books
- Brass Clasps
- Conservation of Leather Bindings
- Copperplate Script
- Embroidered Leather Sampler
- Exploring Paper
- Exploring the Accordion Book
- Family and Friends Bookbinding Workshop
- Focus on Case Bindings
- Fundamentals of Bookbinding
- Fundamentals of Calligraphic Arts I
- Fundamentals of Calligraphic Arts II
- German Paper Bindings
- Italic Lettering
- Introduction to Blind and Gold Tooling on Leather
- Introduction to Paper Conservation
- Italian Paper Bindings
- Medieval Long- and Link-Stitch Bindings
- Miniature Painting and Vellum
- More Historical Bindings in Paper
- Paper “Leather” Bindings
- Paper Covered Journals
- Paper Marbling with Chena River Marblers
- Paste Paper
- Picture Inset Case Binding
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- The Sculptural Book: Using Woodworking to Create a Shaped Book
- Traditional Ethiopian Binding
- Travel Journals

CARPENTRY

- Drywall for Beginners
- Historic Timber Framing
- Window Sash Workshop

FAMILY WORKSHOPS

- Make a Birdhouse
- Make a Book
- Writing Letters: Embracing a Lovely Tradition

JEWELRY MAKING

- Chasing and Repoussé
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- Free-form Casting
- Gem Identification and Stone Treatments for Bench Jewelers
- Introduction to Hand Engraving
- Jewelry I: Essential Skills
- Jewelry II: Soldering Intensive
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- Make a Jewelry Gift
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- Tubsetting Workshop
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MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

- Advanced Bow Making
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WOODWORKING

- Bretstuhl or Two-Board Chair
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- Fine Finishing Workshop
- Fundamentals of Chip Carving
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- Fundamentals of Wood Carving
- Furniture Design Basics
- Hand Cut Dovetails
- Heart Back Chair
- Intermediate Bowl Turning
- Intro to Letter Carving
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- Machine Woodworking: Shaker Table
- Make a Spoon
- Make a Windsor Chair Workshop
- Museum Tour: NBSS Presents the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
- Molding to Picture Frame Workshop
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- Shaker Oval Box
- Three-Month Furniture Making Intensive
- Turning for Furniture
- Walking Tour: Boston’s Historic Center: Building Practices & Architectural Styles
- Window Sash Workshop
- Woodworking 101



Youth Programs

Last year, NBSS continued our partnerships with the John Eliot School and Saint John School, providing weekly Book Arts and Woodworking classes for students grades 5–8.

In a new partnership this year, Madison Park Technical Vocational High School students took part in a program at NBSS to expand their skill set in Carpentry and Locksmithing & Security Technology. All of our Youth Programs contribute to students’ academic, personal, and professional growth.



A photograph of a violin-making workshop. Three students are working at wooden workbenches. The student on the left is wearing a white t-shirt and a dark apron, leaning over a workbench. The student in the center is wearing a blue t-shirt and a light-colored apron, standing and working. The student on the right is wearing a grey t-shirt and jeans, standing and working. The workshop has large windows, brick walls, and various tools and materials are visible on the workbenches and shelves. The text "65% of all NBSS students require financial aid to attend." is overlaid on the image.

65% of all NBSS students
require financial aid to attend.

Thank you to all our contributors on
the pages that follow for their commitment
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Paul Combe	Jonathan Bailey Holland*	Adrienne N. Rabkin
William G. Creelman	Brian D. Holt CA '05	Steven Soppe
Elliot Davis	Amos B. Hostetter, Jr.	J. Arthur Taylor CF '00*
Robert S. Devens	Edward Howland	Richard Tucker
C. Forbes Dewey, Jr.	Charles L. Kline CF '05	Colin Urbina BB '11
John M. Driggers CF '97	Linda Kochman	Lisa von Clemm
Elyse Etling*	Joseph L. Kociubes	Keith Ward PA '13
Charles Fayerweather	Theodore C. Landmark	Jane Wilson
Denise Fenoglio JM '06	Catherine C. Lastavica	

* Through December 2015

Our Students

162

TOTAL NBSS STUDENTS

5

INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTS

Japan | Thailand | Singapore | Taiwan | Canada

65

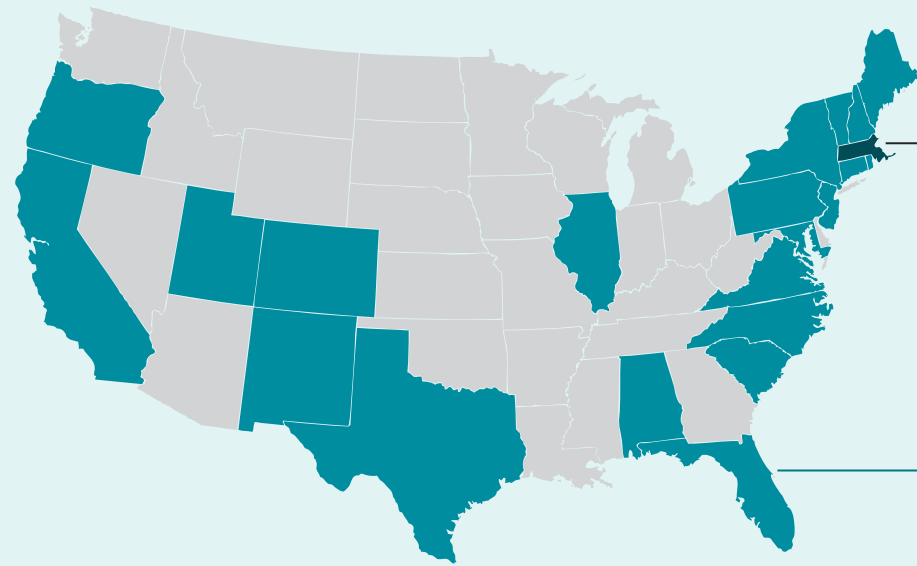
MASSACHUSETTS
RESIDENTS

55

BOSTON METRO
AREA RESIDENTS

37

OUT-OF-STATE
RESIDENTS
(29 STATES TOTAL)



18–63

AGES REPRESENTED
IN FULL-TIME PROGRAMS

29

VETERANS ENROLLED



Letter from the Treasurer

For the year ending July 31, 2016

In Fiscal Year 2016, North Bennet Street School advanced and accelerated its endowment campaign. Endowment funds increased by \$3,634,459 as fundraising efforts gathered steam.

The Scholarship Endowment increased by \$1,738,625 to a year-end balance of \$3,676,131, the General Endowment increased by \$304,199 to a year-end balance of \$608,177 and Board Designated Funds increased by \$1,591,635 to a year-end balance of \$1,639,346. Total assets in these accounts were \$5,923,654 as of July 31, 2016.

NBSS once again demonstrated its operational excellence in FY 2016. Total revenues of \$6,397,998 exceeded total expenses of \$6,189,695. Revenues and expenses increased in tandem as the School welcomed a new Executive Vice President and essential staff to support growth in our full-time programs. For example, the Carpentry program doubled in size and added a new full-time faculty member.

The expansion of the Carpentry program in response to student demand demonstrates our new facility's ability to serve the educational mission of North Bennet Street School. The success of Continuing Education further demonstrates the possibilities of our new location. Even though it struggled for years, we maintained our faith that Continuing Education would become an important part of the School's educational ecosystem. Since she began as Director of Continuing

Education in August of 2015, Katie Theodoros has improved course offerings and the overall program by striving for excellence in key metrics. Revenues for this department are broken out separately in the Statement of Activities so that you may see the remarkable progress.

As noted in the in the Strategic Action Plan FY 2016–FY 2020, the total cost of education is a significant barrier for prospective students. NBSS redoubled its commitment to scholarship programs for low income residents of Boston and veterans, as tuition scholarship funding increased from \$298,799 in FY 2015 to \$495,456 in FY 2016. The School also awarded \$23,475 in scholarships to assist students with the cost of tools and materials. The administration's focus on scholarship programs will continue to relieve financial stress and allow students to focus on their training.

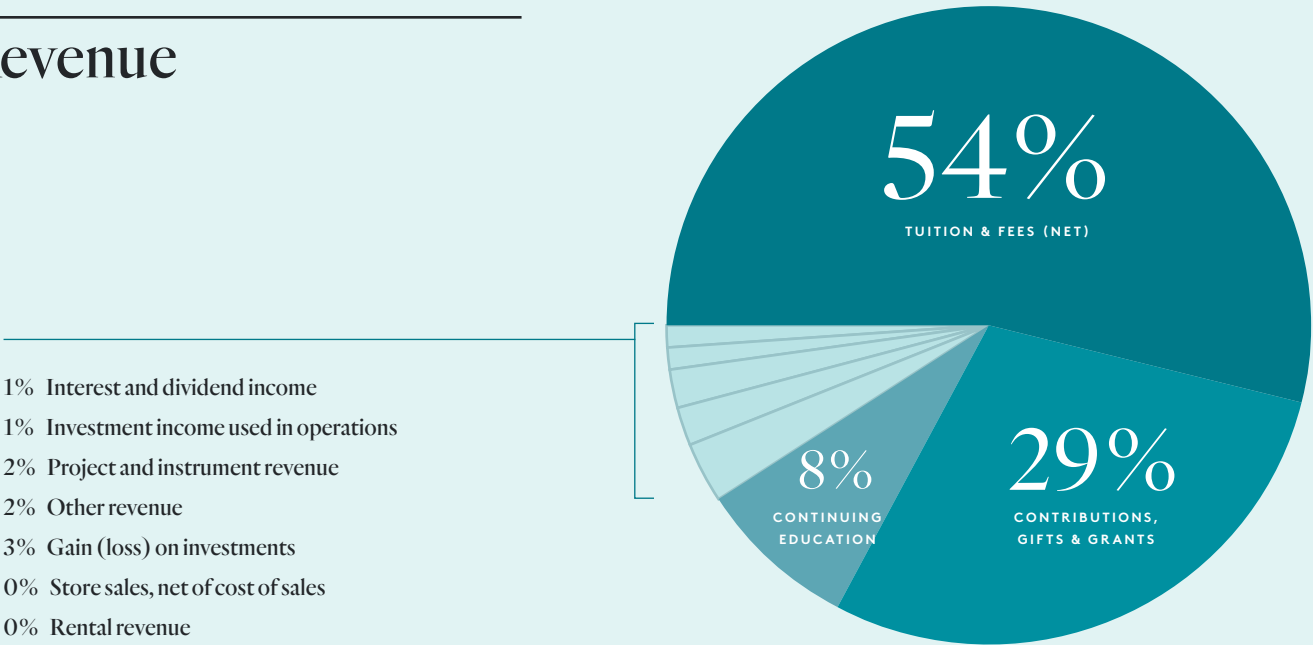
On behalf of the Board, I applaud and praise the efforts of all faculty and staff who made FY 2016 a resounding success. Their responsible financial stewardship and operational excellence are significant reasons why many judge the North Bennet Street School to be the best of its kind.

Peder Johnson
Treasurer



Financials

Revenue



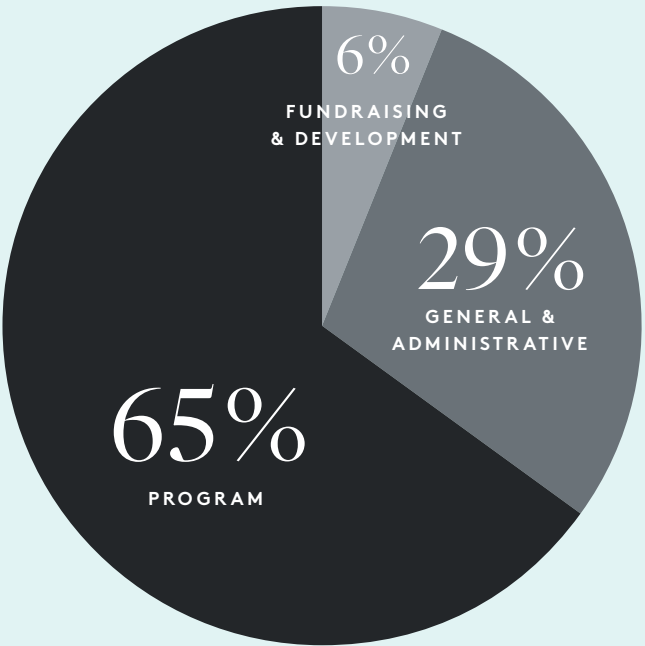
Total Revenue: \$6,397,998

Revenues

	7/31/2016*	7/31/2015**	% CHANGE	% REVENUE
Tuition and fees, net	\$3,444,789	\$3,184,118	8%	54%
Contributions, gifts and grants	\$1,825,549	\$4,128,235	-56%	29%
Continuing Education	\$498,260	\$338,112	47%	8%
Project and instrument revenue	\$127,127	\$258,097	-51%	2%
Interest and dividend income	\$67,701	\$35,670	90%	1%
Gain (loss) on investments	\$169,630	(\$5,761)	3045%	3%
Investment income used in operations	\$67,789	–	100%	1%
Other revenue	\$108,639	\$110,055	-1%	2%
Rental revenue	\$34,569	\$30,000	15%	0%
Store sales, net of cost of sales	\$53,945	\$53,693	0%	0%
Total Revenues	\$6,397,998	\$8,132,219	-21%	100%

* Results reported are unaudited as of the publish date of this report.
** Reflect results from the audited financial statements of North Bennet Street School and its affiliates.

Expenses



Total Expenses: \$6,189,695

Expenses


	7/31/2016*	7/31/2015**	% CHANGE	% EXPENSE
Program	\$4,052,470	\$3,843,718	5%	65%
General and administrative	\$1,781,059	\$1,636,104	9%	29%
Fundraising and development	\$356,166	\$342,321	4%	6%
Total Expenses	\$6,189,695	\$5,822,143	6%	100%

Non-Operating Activity

	7/31/2016*	7/31/2015**	% CHANGE
Investment income used in operations	(\$67,789)	–	-100%
Non-controlling interest	–	\$759,596	-100%

Net Assets

	7/31/2016*	7/31/2015**	% CHANGE
Change in net assets	\$140,514	\$3,069,672	-95%
Net assets (beginning of year)	\$34,734,709	\$31,665,037	10%
Net Assets (end of year)	\$34,875,223	\$34,734,709	0%



North Bennet Street School's mission 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 a greater appreciation of craftsmanship.

With your help, we will
carry the School's mission
into the future.

NORTH
BENNET ST
SCHOOL

