



BENCHMARKS

THE MAGAZINE OF NORTH BENNET STREET SCHOOL
SUMMER 2016 || **EDUCATION**

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BENCHMARKS

The magazine of North Bennet Street School
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Send news and comments to info@NBSS.edu

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NBSS receives support from the
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For more great pictures of the School's 2016 Commencement, turn to page 8.

A REWARDING PATH

BY MIGUEL GÓMEZ-IBÁÑEZ, CF '99
President of NBSS

THE BOSTON GLOBE recently devoted nearly an entire issue of its *Sunday Globe Magazine* to student debt and the surrounding issues and crises of those seeking a degree. "[Hopes, Dreams, Debt](#)" details the plight of students from low-income families who enroll in traditional college and accumulate such a significant amount of loan debt that they fail to see any economic advantage afforded by a college degree. Some of those profiled left after only two years, but already held over \$50,000 in debt. The article also quotes four-year graduation rates for several well-respected Boston area private colleges at less than 50%, with one as low as 16%.

While disturbing, these numbers are not surprising. We at NBSS have been engaged in conversation over the past several years regarding how we can mitigate the financial challenges facing our students, including those from low-income families. Thankfully, we are in a much better position than the schools profiled in the article. **An NBSS education is significantly less expensive than a four-year college, and we have enviable graduation and employment rates (83% and 88% in 2015, respectively).**

Still, we are not immune to the student debt crisis. Over the past several years the financial burden shouldered by our graduates has been growing. With 56% of NBSS students needing to take out

loans to complete their education, it is common for students to graduate with \$20,000 to \$30,000 in debt. This translates to payments of about \$300 monthly for the first ten years out of school. It is not conscionable to expect an individual to embark upon a career in craft, with modest expectations for financial rewards in the early years, with this level of obligation.

Too often, the burden of student loans forces graduates to "get a job" rather than start a meaningful career using the skills they learned while in school.

Even if graduates are able to successfully repay their loans, their debt can still exert a negative influence on their lives. According to a 2015 survey conducted by American Student Assistance (ASA), "Those with student debt are delaying decisions to buy a home, get married, have children, save for retirement, and enter a desired career field." The prospect of starting a small business is the goal of many (especially those who come to study at NBSS), yet 61% of ASA survey respondents felt their student debt had negatively affected their ability to realize that

dream. Too often, the burden of student loans forces graduates to "get a job" rather than start a meaningful career using the skills they learned while in school.

Our own response to the student loan crisis has been thoughtful and deliberate. In 2007, NBSS earmarked just \$15,000 yearly in scholarships from our operating budget. Since then—as a result of strategic planning related to our budget and fundraising—we have increased this amount exponentially. **I am proud to share that this year we will award our students nearly \$515,000 in financial support.**

A quality education accessible to all has been a hallmark of NBSS, and the School is embarking on a \$20M scholarship campaign in order to mitigate the need for tuition increases each year, and provide critical, long term support for our future students. Expect to hear more of this campaign in the coming months.

A four-year college is the right choice for some, but not all. Throughout our 136 years, NBSS has been a responsible and rewarding path for thousands of students seeking a meaningful life and a fulfilling career. We will continue to fulfill this promise for many years to come.

Call For Carpentry Projects

NBSS is always looking for relevant real-world projects for our [Carpentry](#) class. As an integral part of training in the School's Carpentry program, students learn the practical aspects of new construction on select off-site projects.

The supervised project helps develop real-world, on-the-job skills, efficiency, and confidence in students, and the work itself is of the highest quality. Plus, the experience is like no other. One satisfied client shares, "In addition to the rewards of seeing our new addition take shape, working with the students has been priceless."

Carpentry projects for private individuals are chosen on the basis of their educational value, variety of work, and suitability for the entire class to work safely.

Do you need a home addition, garage, or outbuilding? [Click here to propose your carpentry project via our website.](#)

Some restrictions apply, and all proposals will be reviewed for suitability.



Sheds For Sale

NBSS Carpentry students hand-built these amazing stick-framed sheds, and by purchasing one you can help further their education.

For more info and to order yours today go to info@NBSS.edu



HONORING ROSEMARY TRAINOR

AFTER 19 YEARS teaching in the [Jewelry Making & Repair](#) (JM) program—16 of which were as the Department Head—Rosemary Trainor JM '90 retired at the end of this school year. Known affectionately as Ro, she worked as a welder for some time before arriving at the School as a JM student. After seven years in the industry, Ro began her teaching career at NBSS and ultimately came to lead the program in 2000.

A force for intense, hands-on education, Ro implemented changes that helped NBSS usher in a new era for the program. This included not only adding new equipment (microscopes, workbenches, and a laser welder) but also lowering the upfront costs for students through a metals library supported by a generous donor. She also taught this year's pilot high school jewelry program. She actively sought leaders within the field to round out and expand the curriculum. Top lecturers like gem expert, Barbara Lawrence, and Kate Wolf, a premier wax carver, were familiar guests.

Ro made sure that all graduates were well-qualified for employment through the high standards she demanded in the classroom. Post graduation placement statistics show that JM alumni consistently tend to advance quickly at well-paying jobs. As is often heard, employers hire NBSS graduates because they know those individuals will have the skills needed to succeed.

Students kept it interesting throughout Ro's 19 years at the School, and she credits the "Aha!" moments—when a student has a breakthrough and understands something new," as especially rewarding.

In her retirement, Ro and her partner, Barb, plan to spend some time traveling the world and visiting friends. They're also looking forward to hiking The Long Trail in their home state, Vermont.

[Ann Cahoon](#) JM '02, an NBSS faculty member since 2013, will take over as the JM Department Head beginning this fall.

EXCELLENCE IN ALL THINGS

"Quality is never an accident. It is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, intelligent direction, and skillful execution. It represents the wise choice of many alternatives."

Unknown author, circa 1885

NBSS HAS LONG prided itself on upholding the principles and practices of the craftsmanship tradition and on its dedication to the highest quality work. This past year, this concept of, and dedication to, fine craftsmanship was extended to the administration of the School. It was formally codified in the Strategic Plan 2016–2020, which was finalized and approved at the June 2015 Board meeting.

The overarching goals of the Plan are to **fully realize the programmatic potential of the new building**, and to **secure the long term financial sustainability of the School**.

The School promptly completed one of the major objectives of the Plan: hiring Rebecca W. King, Executive Vice President, to oversee the School's core financial, enrollment, marketing, and administrative functions. With this new EVP on board, President Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez can focus more closely on positioning NBSS as a leader in craft education and on rebuilding the School's endowment. Provost Claire Fruitman can now focus solely on academics, curriculum, and faculty development. Together, these three form a senior leadership team at NBSS who will build upon the fantastic foundation laid over the past 136 years.

Since last summer, almost every aspect of the School has been examined to see how systems, processes, and policies can be improved, streamlined, and enhanced. Some changes have been big and highly visible, such as the hiring of four new staff members (Director of Continuing Education, Director of Marketing & Communications, Director of Student Life & Career Services, and School Administrator). Other changes have been more administrative and less visible, such as the enhanced student billing system created by our Controller and Director of Financial Aid or the implementation of monthly enrollment reports for full-time and [Continuing Education](#) programs.

In addition, we have implemented software and systems to better attract, manage, and communicate with prospective students. In addition, we are currently redesigning the NBSS website to be more flexible, friendly, and useful for visitors—whether they're interested in enrolling in full-time programs, signing up for a Continuing Education class, attending an event at the School, or partnering with our institution.

Due to a change in state law, the School underwent the state licensure process for the first time, requiring us to update our Enrollment Agreement and make the contract between the School and students clearer. A more formalized reporting structure for staff allowed for improved communication and collaboration.

Changes visible to our students and alumni included restructured Student Life and Career Services events, such as the creation of program-specific Networking Days that more directly connect students to industry employers. Also, Alumni Services moved from Development to its previous home in Career Services. Updates the public may have noticed include the restructuring of our Annual Celebration of Craft exhibit and events, the addition of new benches in the Continuing Education woodworking rooms, and our facilitation of public meetings in Windgate Gallery. These are the first steps toward more robust public programming that will help realize the potential of our building.

This list of changes isn't exhaustive, but does begin to fulfill the promise of the Strategic Plan. Everything accomplished, big or small, has improved the student experience, and made the School smarter, more cost effective, and more efficient. Most importantly, all the changes this past year have forged more collaborative relationships among departments, energized the School community, and demonstrated that the work of the administration should mirror the expectations we have of our students: to pay attention to detail and to always strive towards excellence in all things.

ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF CRAFT

EVERY YEAR, NBSS hosts a three-week long exhibit and series of events that promotes the appreciation of craft across a variety of disciplines and helps ensure a quality education is accessible to all.

Ushering in the 2016 Annual Celebration of Craft was the Student & Alumni Exhibit, which featured work from more than 60 members of the School's talented community. Hand-carved chairs and cabinetry, jewelry in platinum and gold, ornate leather-bound books, and a refurbished grand piano were just some of the many notable items on display.

Kicking off the events, on May 17 the School hosted a fun and engaging evening that included progressive demonstrations in our program spaces, an intimate dinner, and special remarks from students. The following week, on May 26, NBSS opened its doors to over a hundred guests for a reception. Attendees viewed the magnificent work of the annual Student & Alumni Exhibit, mixed and mingled with artisans, and enjoyed drinks and conversation with our extended community.

Proceeds from the Annual Celebration of Craft support the School's mission to train students for careers in traditional trades that use hand skills in concert with evolving technology. This year, NBSS received \$166,875 in support, the second highest amount since implementing the events in 2000.

For more information on making a gift to NBSS, please contact Christine Murphy at cmurphy@nbss.edu or 617-227-0155 x170.

[Click here for more images of the Annual Celebration of Craft on our Facebook page.](#)



photo credit: Evan McGlinn

A PARTNER IN CRAFT

*Greg Pomeroy, President
Pomeroy & Co., Inc.*

GREG POMEROY IS the President and Founder of [Pomeroy & Co., Inc.](#), a leading general contracting and architectural woodworking company located in Boston. Since 1984, the company has worked on hundreds of residential projects throughout New England, offering a comprehensive range of services: new construction, restoration, design support, millwork production and post-construction services.

Pomeroy & Co. focuses on teamwork and collaboration with all of their clients. Greg shares, "What I love about my job is that I get to work with people just as passionate as I, including other builders, architects, designers, and colleagues, as well as our many wonderful clients."

Greg first learned of North Bennet Street School after moving to the city in the early 1970's. He spent his days working on renovation carpentry projects, and took night classes at Boston Architectural Center, eventually setting up his own shop. While working on a renovation in the historic South End, he interacted with a number of NBSS alumni. Greg is a former member of our Committee of Overseers, a former program advisor to the Carpentry program, and longtime donor to the School.

Pomeroy & Co. has made their job sites available so students could learn more about both real world conditions, and the business of the building industry. The company has also hired a number of alumni and created internship opportunities for NBSS students. Jennifer Mello PC '01 manages the Company's Preconstruction and Design Services Department and helped design the School's conference table. Barry Mann PC '97 manages Pomeroy's Construction Services and is a current advisor for the School's Carpentry Program.

Of the company's internships and ongoing financial support to the School, Greg relates "Our scholarship support for Carpentry and Preservation Carpentry is extremely important. It helps students by creating links to opportunities that nurture their gifts and grow their field experience."

The School's history and its commitment to the preservation of craft keeps Greg and his company involved at NBSS. He admires how many good people support the School, including other general contractors. "The School recognizes the importance of preserving the crafts and is passionate about teaching the trades. Our businesses are fortunate to have NBSS, as their graduates are talented craftspeople who bring their expertise to demanding projects and help further the industry as a whole."

Greg and Pomeroy & Co., Inc. have graciously supported NBSS for over 15 years as a member of our Partners in Craft. For more information on joining this group of businesses with a strong affinity to the mission of NBSS, please contact Christine Murphy, Director of Development, at cmurphy@nbss.edu or 617-227-0155 x170.

VISUAL CURRICULA

Differentiated Instruction at NBSS



Draft curriculum chart for the Piano Technology Program

NBSS IS **UNLIKE** traditional colleges and universities on multiple levels, but especially in academics: we teach traditional trades and crafts at a very high quality, with a defined mission of education for employment. Our student body, just as unique, is comprised of diverse learners with varied backgrounds, levels of experience, and challenges. In order to address the many ways in which NBSS students learn, our faculty utilize a number of approaches, from lectures and demonstrations to one-on-one instruction.

Most faculty members are comfortable teaching the same style in which they themselves learn, and so it's extremely valuable for them to understand the multiple ways in which their students comprehend and retain information. To this end, NBSS has hosted professional development seminars on the specific tools and approaches necessary for [differentiated instruction](#). In addition, both

faculty and students utilize questionnaires to become more familiar with their own styles of teaching and learning. This knowledge has an impact across departments, improving conversations both inside and outside of the classroom. The faculty utilizes questionnaires so that they can become more familiar with their own teaching/learning styles. Students also have access to these same documents so they can self-identify the unique ways in which they learn.

A priority for Provost Claire Fruitman CF '96 has been to help students understand what to expect of their program: What will they learn while at NBSS? Which projects should be completed each semester? What skills should they master? Knowing that text-heavy lists of topics wouldn't

be helpful for the majority of students, NBSS faculty are working to develop visual curricula that represent each of their programs.

Known as data visualization or infographics, such representations are intended to present information quickly and clearly, and have been shown to improve cognition and memory recall. This method of organizing information has grown increasingly popular in recent years, and comes in all forms, including charts, maps, cartoons, icons, graphics, and more.

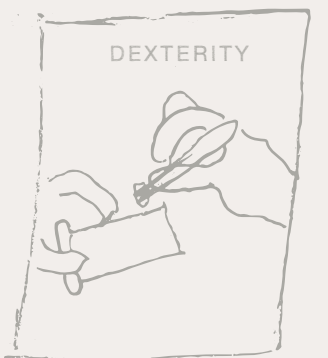
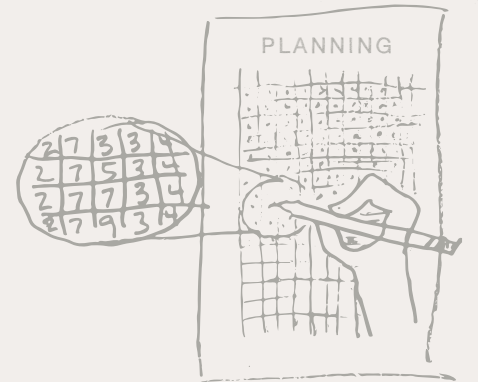
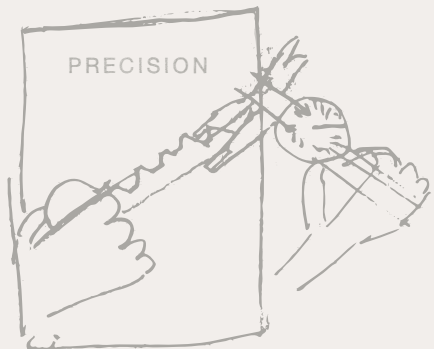
A FEW EXAMPLES OF LEARNING STYLES:

- VISUAL
- SPATIAL
- KINESTHETIC
- AUDITORY
- VERBAL
- SOLITARY
- SOCIAL

The range of ideas put forth by NBSS faculty—even in their earliest drafts—offer fascinating insights into what each program believes their students will find useful and interesting. There are as many ways to visualize the curricula as there are instructors thinking about it: acronyms for ways of thinking, pictures that represent skills or project sets, flexible calendars that can ebb and flow with the program, and a pie chart of color-coded concentric rings. There's even a puzzle, in which each piece represents a portion of the curriculum, and which creates a house when "complete."

In addition to these visual curricula, instructors are updating handouts with more pictures and graphics, from charts to help students plan their time better, to checklists that ensure students move through their curriculum appropriately.

Though all of these efforts reflect new insights into teaching and learning, the School remains true to its historic mission: to provide vocational training in traditional crafts and trades so that our students can achieve self-sufficiency and a meaningful, productive life.



Draft curriculum sketches for the Locksmithing & Security Technology Program



THE CLASS OF 2016

NBSS WAS DELIGHTED to host Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh as he delivered the commencement address to our newest graduates at Old North Church on Friday, June 3, 2016.

Mayor Walsh is a lifelong Boston resident who formerly served in the Massachusetts House of Representatives and headed the Building and Construction Trades Council of Boston's Metropolitan District. He has won national recognition for expanding young people's opportunities and shares our commitment to workforce development, civic responsibility, and access to quality education for Boston youth and veterans.

In advance of the event, Mayor Walsh welcomed the invitation to speak at the historic craft and trade institution. "North Bennet Street School is a treasure for the City of Boston. For 136 years, the School has offered hands-on, intensive training in traditional trades and fine craftsmanship, while also acting as a beacon for citizens and communities."

The Mayor went on to say "I share the School's commitment to an accessible, quality, and meaningful education for Boston youth and veterans, and to ensuring that all Boston residents have a fair shot at realizing their full economic potential. I am truly excited to welcome the Class of 2016 to their chosen industries."

The 2016 Commencement was a private event that saw 101 students from all nine programs joining the NBSS alumni community. They come from a variety of backgrounds and from locations around the world, representing one of the most diverse classes ever.

Congratulations to all of our 2016 Graduates!

[Click here to watch the full 2016 Commencement \(approx. 45 minutes\)](#)

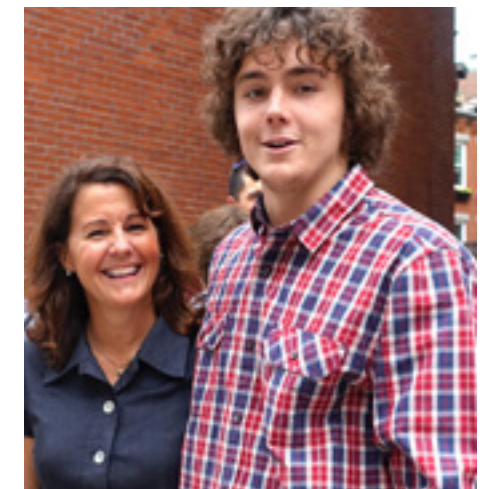
[Click here to view more images of the full graduation day.](#)



**WATCH THE NBSS 2016
COMMENCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS VIDEO**

“If you follow your passions, it becomes a special kind of strength and confidence you carry all throughout your life... and there's no telling how far they will take you. Whatever struggles you had while pursuing this degree, you should all be incredibly proud of yourselves.”

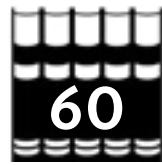
Mayor Walsh, 2016 Commencement Speaker



By The Numbers, 2015–16



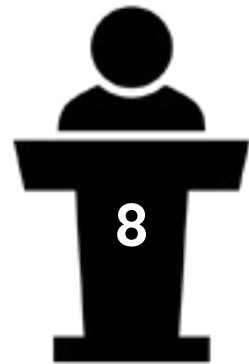
sawhorses made by [Carpentry](#) class



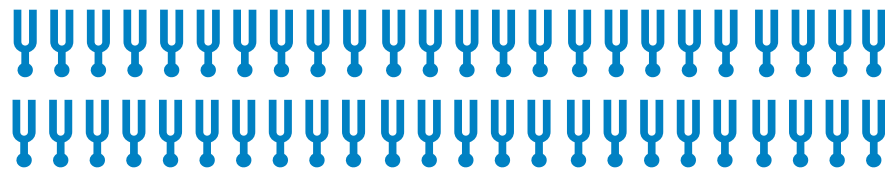
leaves of gold typically used by a second year [Bookbinding](#) student

3000+

hours 11 [Preservation Carpentry](#) students spent on the Loring House window restoration



guest manufacturer representatives in [Locksmithing & Security Technology](#)

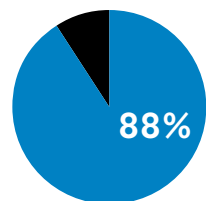


238,000 tuning pins turned by [Piano Technology](#) students



feet of wire [Jewelry Making & Repair](#) students made into chain

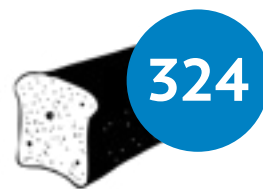
13:1 student to faculty ratio



average employment rate across all full-time programs

31

veterans enrolled in full-time programs



loaves of bread served as part of PB&J Thursdays



55

skeins of yarn used as part of the NBSS Knitting Club



scholarships awarded



\$515,000

scholarship funding awarded in 2015

A WORLDWIDE COMMUNITY OF CRAFT

BY KIM TOIGO, PC '05
Alumni Association President

THIS PAST JUNE, a new cohort of students joined the NBSS Alumni Association, a worldwide community of craft. With their significant accomplishments as a foundation, these new alumni now begin their lives as professional artisans. On behalf of the entire alumni community—over 2,500 individuals spread across six continents—welcome!

The Alumni Association is here to connect, engage, and support students as they transition from learning in school to working within their chosen industry. There are a number of ways in which new alumni can participate in the life of the Association:

Attend quarterly meetings at alumni workshops and studios. The most recent meeting was held at Essex Restoration in Wilmington, and included a tour of the workshop, a presentation by Matt Wajda on his experience helping woodworkers in Guatemala, and a vigorous discussion on how to increase alumni engagement. *The next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 13.*

Utilize the Student/Alumni Portal to search for jobs, accept a commission, and connect with alumni near and far. (NBSS alumni are your

best resource!) You can also check on Alumni Association Meetings and see other important events from the School. Visit www.NBSS.edu to log into the Student/Alumni Portal and stay up to date.

Join the NBSS Alumni Association Facebook page, a great way to stay in touch with old friends and make new ones. Alumni news, meeting dates, and other activities will be posted here. www.Facebook.com/alumniNBSS

Connect at the New Alumni Welcome Picnic this August. Attendees will enjoy great food and drink, meet new friends and colleagues, and share their experience with the larger NBSS community. Be on the lookout for an invitation soon.

For any questions related to this or other alumni activities, please feel free to send a note via the alumni Facebook group or email AlumniAssociation@NBSS.edu.

Once again, congratulations and welcome new alumni!



Janet A. Collins CF '96

2016 Distinguished Alumni Award

Congratulations to Janet A. Collins CF '96, our 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award Winner. Established by the Alumni Association in 2005, the Award recognizes those who excel in their profession and contribute to the craft community. Upon being presented the Award at this year's commencement ceremony, Janet shared her insights, urging graduates to "Be persistent. Be determined. Do what's right."

While a student at NBSS, Janet worked for our Workshop Program. Upon graduating, she became the Workshop Program Director (now known as Continuing Education Director), where she grew the program in number of courses and enrollments. In 2003, she secured the donation of a dozen lathes, which led to her launching woodturning workshops at the School. Her passion for education and woodworking deepened while working with the School, impacting hundreds of students.

Janet is currently a Continuing Education instructor at NBSS, and a teacher at the Dartmouth College Student Woodshop. She previously taught at Vermont Woodworking School, Snow Farm Craft School, WoodenBoat School, Connecticut Valley School of Woodworking, and The Furniture Institute. Janet has participated in woodturning symposia and demonstrations for schools, museums, and organizations in New England. In 2006, she was awarded Furniture Maker of the Year by the Vermont Wood Manufacturing Association.

Janet continues to make furniture and turn wood at her shop in Vermont. Her portfolio of work can be seen at www.greenmountain-woodturning.com.

Board Updates

MCKEY BERKMAN BB '11 first joined NBSS as a member of the inaugural Three Month Bookbinding Intensive class in 2008. She works in bookbinding and conservation from her bench in the bindery at the Miller Street Studios in Somerville. A former attorney, McKey has volunteered in the areas of low-income housing, homelessness and education. She previously served as chair of the boards of Landmark Trust USA and the Farm & Wilderness Foundation. She also did conservation work on the archives at Milton Academy.

EDWARD S. COOKE, JR. is the Charles F. Montgomery Professor of American Decorative Arts in the Department of the History of Art at Yale University, with a focus on American material culture and decorative arts. At Yale, Ned teaches lecture courses on American decorative arts and domestic architecture from the seventeenth century to the present, and an introductory course on global decorative arts. He also offers seminars on a variety of topics including material culture theory, vernacular architecture, the American interior, American furniture, craft and design in post-World War II America, and the globalization of modern craft. Ned has served as Director of the Yale Center for the Study of American Art and Material Culture since 1992, and was the Chair of the department from 2000 to 2006.

PEDER JOHNSON is a partner and portfolio manager for the Boston Family Office. He joined the firm in 2016 after running his own investment advisory firm, Roxiticus Partners, for several years. Peder was introduced to the wonders of NBSS by his friend, mentor, and past business partner S. Parkman Shaw. He also serves on the Board of the Shaw Fund for Mariners' Children and is Chairman of its investment committee. Peder lives in Charlestown, Massachusetts with his wife and children.

JIM MARSH began his career upon completing studies at Case Western Reserve University in Ohio. After designing and building houses on Cape Cod for eight years, Jim joined Turner Construction Company in the firm's Boston office. He held several key executive positions in the construction industry, and later joined Columbia Construction Company in 1997, becoming a Partner in 2003. As Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Jim is involved with Columbia's business operations, business development and the strategic growth and direction. He also serves as Principal-in-Charge on select projects, which involves preconstruction and construction activities, contract negotiations, and ongoing client relations. Jim and his wife, Cynthia, live in Andover, Massachusetts and have two grown children, Alex and Lauren.

CAROLINE MORTIMER is a former Special Assistant to the Director (Editor) at the Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum and also Curatorial Administrator at The Brooklyn Museum. She is a calligrapher and amateur book binder who currently serves as an Overseer to the DeCordova Museum, Overseer to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Dana Farber Trustee to the Hematological Oncology Visiting Committee, and former Anniversary Gala Dinner Chair for the Friends of Mount Auburn Cemetery.

NICK OFFERMAN was taught to swing a hammer and countless other tools by his dad, grandfathers, and uncles Dan and Don of Roberts Brothers Farms. In theatre school at the University of Illinois, he used these skills to begin working in the scene shop, under the tutelage of Kenny Egan. This paid off handsomely when Nick began his professional theatre career in Chicago, as he offset his meager acting income with building scenery and props for large equity theaters. After moving to Los Angeles, he opened his own modest shop in a warehouse and began collecting

tools. He soon turned to building decks and cabins with his longtime friend Martin McClendon. Together, they fell under the spell of old-world furniture joinery, and, with Marty's help, Nick opened his shop, where he continues to build furniture, small boats, and anything else that tickles his fancy. Nick was the 2015 commencement speaker at NBSS and is an enthusiastic advocate for the School.

Although based in Hackney in London for many years, **STEFANIE VON CLEMM** has strong family ties to Boston and North Bennett Street School. In her art practice, Stefanie explores the making of artist's books, which began some years ago when she took an introductory bookbinding class at NBSS. She is a Wellesley alumna and graduate of the Massachusetts College of Art and Design.

JOHN ZURICK, a resident of the North End, is President of SALT and Executive VP of ASA. Formerly COO at Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights, he served eight years as the sole strategic planning and business consultant, helping to guide RFK Human Rights through a period of rapid financial growth and programmatic expansion. In 1994, John founded his consulting firm, ZQI, Inc., through which he has worked in close partnership with social sector clients on change leadership, board and executive leadership development, strategic planning, financial management, social enterprise initiatives, revenue generation, and hands-on operational turnarounds. He directed the \$72 million public/private capital campaign to build the first public K-12 performing arts school in America, Cincinnati's Erich Kunzel Center for Arts and Education. John began his career as a producer of off-Broadway plays that ran in Boston and London. He is the executive producer of the full-length documentary film *Bill Monroe, Father of Bluegrass*. He also has served as executive director of the Cincinnati Ballet and marketing director of the Cincinnati Symphony. He holds an M.F.A. from Brandeis University and a B.A. from the State University of New York, Brockport.



Lisa von Clemm, Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez, and Stefanie von Clemm at the NBSS new building opening event in 2014.

REMEMBERING A DEVOTED FRIEND

NBSS MOURNS THE loss of our great friend, Lisa von Clemm.

Lisa was a long time NBSS Board member—joining in 1989 and serving continuously until 2014. During her tenure Lisa initiated the Annual Evening of Craft, now a successful yearly fundraiser for the School. She opened the doors to her home in Wellesley for the both first and the tenth anniversary events. We are fortunate to have Lisa's daughter, Stefanie von Clemm, carry on the family tradition on our Board of Directors.

Lisa held a special interest in bookbinding, and the School benefited from her constant support and encouragement to make our own Bookbinding (BB) program the best it could be. She combined her interests in the School and the Boston Athenaeum by funding, through the Michael and Louisa von Clemm Foundation, a conservation fellowship for a recent BB graduate. Akin to a "third year" of the program, this one-of-a-kind experience allows

new bookbinders to delve more deeply into conservation, and helps further their career potential.

In addition, Lisa helped the BB program organize trips to England where students had the opportunity to visit suppliers, meet colleagues at industry events, and view amazing collections such as that of the Wormsley Library. Lisa and her daughter Stefanie graciously hosted BB students and faculty this past spring at her home in London, even while Lisa was ill. While there, Lisa shared her special collection of fine bindings created by others, a few of her favorite bindings collected over her years of work with the Designer Bookbinder's annual competition. Lisa was kind enough to share some of her own pieces as well.

Lisa von Clemm was a devoted supporter, advocate, patron, colleague, and friend to all of us at NBSS. She will be missed.

Upcoming Events

For a full listing of activities, lectures, and meetings, visit www.NBSS.edu

JULY 15–AUGUST 31

Vessel, Guild of Bookworkers Exhibit
NBSS | Boston, MA

AUGUST 14

New Alumni Welcome Picnic
Millis, MA

SEPTEMBER 13

Alumni Association Meeting
Location TBA

SEPTEMBER 30

Student & Alumni Bowling Party
Sacco's Bowl-Haven | Somerville, MA

NOVEMBER 10

MakeSpeak Lecture
MassArt | Boston, MA

NOVEMBER 18–19

Open House
Free and open to the public. Learn more about our unique history, full-time programs, Continuing Education classes, and the great community of NBSS students, alumni, faculty, and friends.
NBSS | Boston, MA

NOVEMBER 4–6

21st Annual Fine Furnishings Show
Pawtucket Armory | Pawtucket, RI

DECEMBER 2–4

CraftBoston Holiday
Hynes Convention Center | Boston, MA

DECEMBER 6

Alumni Association Meeting
Location TBA

DECEMBER 15

NBSS Holiday Party
NBSS | Boston, MA



Continuing Education

This fall, join dozens of like-minded individuals at NBSS in taking one of our Continuing Education courses. With small class sizes, expert instructors, and well-equipped facilities, NBSS offers a fantastic learning environment for students of all ages and abilities. Learn important skills of the trade, meet new people, and enjoy a creative break from your every day.

CLASSES WITH FREE PUBLIC LECTURES



THE ART OF THE VANISHING FORE-EDGE PAINTING

Martin Frost
Workshop meets 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on Tuesday, September 13 with a free public lecture to follow from 6:00 to 7:00 pm.



A STRATEGY FOR CHAIR DESIGN

Gary Rogowski
Free public lecture on Thursday, September 22 from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. Class meets Friday,

September 23 to Sunday, September 25 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

CLASSES

CALLIGRAPHY AND PAINTING ON VELLUM

Maryanne Grebenstein and Fionnuala Hart Gerrity
Saturday, September 17 through Tuesday, September 20 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

INTRODUCTION TO GEM IDENTIFICATION

Barbara Lawrence
Monday, October 3 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

FAMILY CLASS: MAKE A BIRDHOUSE

Jamey and Robert Pope
Saturday, October 15 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

CLASSIC PAPER MARBLING

Chena River Marblers
Saturday, November 5 and Sunday, November 6 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

WOODWORKING BASICS:

CUTTING BOARD AND ROLLING PIN

Andy Glenn
Saturday, November 12 and Sunday, November 13 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

OPEN SHOP: BOWL TURNING

Sunday, November 20 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

TUBE SETTING FOR JEWELRY

Leslie Hartwell
Saturday, November 12 and Sunday, November 13 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Register 30 days in advance to receive a 10% discount on your course. Current full-time program students and graduates always enjoy 15% off tuition. [Click here for further details, including price and full course information.](#)

IN SUPPORT OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

NBSS HAS LONG been committed to improving the skills and job prospects of individuals who face barriers to employment. In recognition of our enduring efforts, the School recently received \$165,845 in grants from the City of Boston and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

At the city level, the Mayor's Office of Workforce Development (OWD) seeks to promote the economic self-sufficiency of all Boston residents to help further the City's economic vitality. The Neighborhood Jobs Trust (NJT), administered by OWD, recently awarded funding to 17 community-based employment programs. [NBSS is honored to be one of three new NJT grant recipients this year.](#)

The Mayor's award will support the School's Workforce Development Initiative, which provides economically disadvantaged residents of Boston with a viable pathway from high school or the unskilled labor force to meaningful, lifetime employment. NJT funding will make it possible for NBSS to offer scholarships, tools, and materials to Carpentry and Locksmithing students, as well as support services critical to students' success before, during, and after their time at the School.

In another first for the School, the [Governor's Workforce Skills Cabinet awarded NBSS a capital grant](#). The newly established funding supports the Cabinet's mission to align education, workforce, and economic development strategies across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Commonwealth's grant has made it possible for NBSS to purchase equipment needed for the School's thriving Carpentry (CA) program, as well as replace inadequate, aging equipment that has exceeded its useful lifespan. CA was doubled in size last fall, due to high demand, consistently strong job placement rates averaging 87% over the past eight years, and strong employment prospects.

The high quality, industry-specific equipment will significantly improve CA by elevating students' skill level attainment, enhancing the quality of instruction, and increasing the availability of equipment that closely reflects what students are likely to see on future job sites. This new equipment was recently put to use as students [made and installed wooden lockers for St. Mary's Center for Women & Children](#) as part of a Service Day hosted by Associated General Contractors of MA (pictured below).



DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT

Support NBSS students through July 31 and double your impact! All Annual Fund gifts will be matched dollar to dollar, up to \$25,000.

**GIVE ONLINE AT
WWW.NBSS.EDU/DOUBLE**

“The experiences and opportunities that have arisen as a result of my time at NBSS are invaluable. I would simply not be here without the extremely generous financial assistance I received through scholarships.”

Rebekka Almond PT '16

Whether \$5 or \$500, your donation to the Annual Fund will make twice the difference to current and future NBSS students like Rebekka.

See reverse for more information

MAKE A GIFT TODAY AND
BRING THE TRANSFORMATIVE
POWER OF AN NBSS
EDUCATION TO ALL WHO
WANT TO LEARN.

GIVE ONLINE AT
WWW.NBSS.EDU/DOUBLE

Or complete the form below and send to
NBSS, 150 North Street, Boston, MA 02109

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

EMAIL _____

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK FOR \$ _____

PLEASE CHARGE MY GIFT OF \$ _____

TO MY: ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ VISA

CREDIT CARD # _____

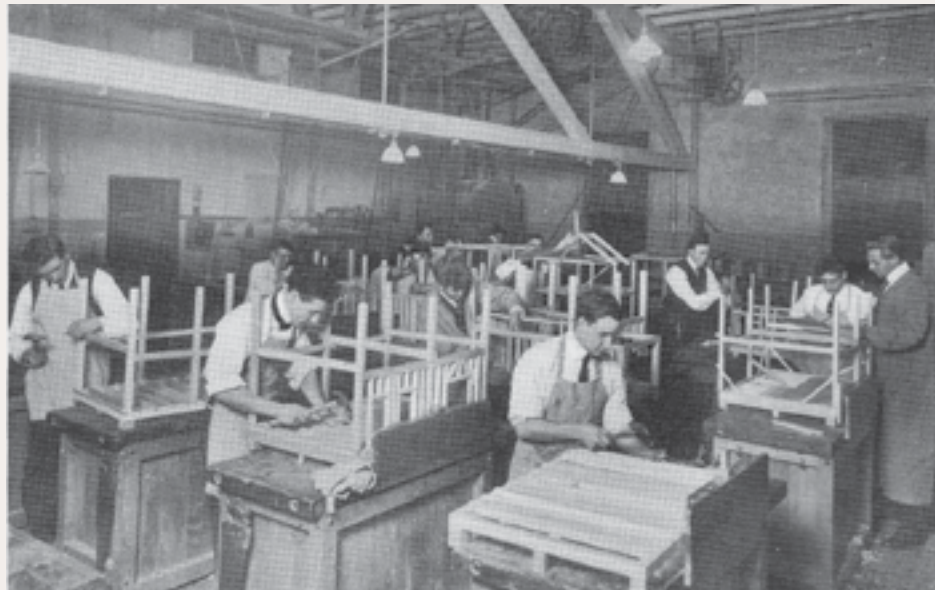
CVC # _____

EXP. DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

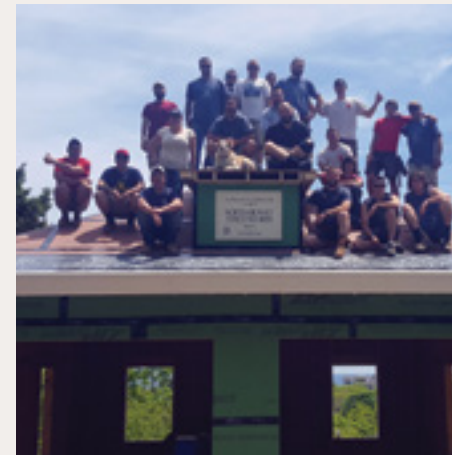
Questions?
cmurphy@nbss.edu or
617-227-0155 x170

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



PAST TO PRESENT

Selections from [NBSS's 1916 Annual Report](#)
and 2016 [Instagram](#)/[Twitter](#) profiles



WHAT INDUSTRY WANTS OF US.

"Although conditions to-day are much better than they were a few years ago, there is still a great gap between education and industry. To discover ways and means of bridging this gap should be the function of such an institution as the North Bennet Street Industrial School."

Geo. H. Ellis
Treas. of the
Geo. H. Ellis
Printing Co.

WHAT THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WANT OF US.

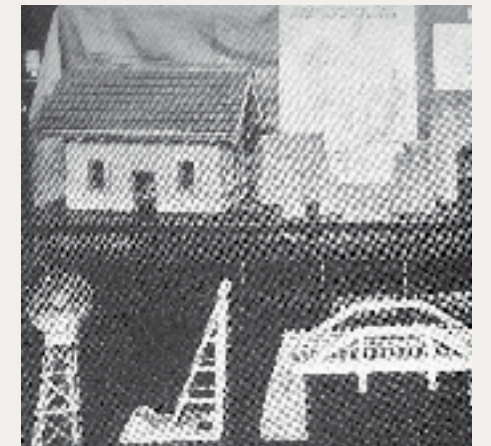
"I have visited the school off and on for the last ten years, but never made so careful an inspection of the work as I did yesterday. While it is local in its operation, its results are far-reaching. Every educator of prominence has borrowed from it. As fast as the seeds of new undertakings are sprouted there, they are transplanted all over the country. Such an institution, it seems to me, is invaluable in trying out the newer phases of education under such conditions as will determine their availability and general application."

Franklin D. Dyer
Superintendent
of Schools.

WHAT THE NEIGHBORHOOD WANTS OF US.

"One great service which North Bennet Street Industrial School can render is to supplement the educational work of the public schools. Another, is to lead its neighbors to an understanding of American institutions — prerequisite to good citizenship."

Frank Lovins
Special Justice, Boston
Juvenile Court.



Keep the conversation going!
Share a photo on Twitter or
Instagram and tag us @NBSSboston

NORTH
BENNET ST.
SCHOOL

150 NORTH STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109

Find us online

NBSS.EDU

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[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER TODAY!](#)

OPEN HOUSE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18 &
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2016

