

South End News

February 15, 2018 [Vol. 39, No. 6]

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Local news
for and about Boston's
best neighborhood

South Enders show Hearts of Gold

BFSA scholarship benefit

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

The Blackstone/Franklin Square Neighborhood Association's college book and supply scholarship program for South End students started in 2006 with an intimate cocktail-party fundraiser in its founder Andrew Parthum's living room, and over the years, the benefit, now called Heart of Gold, has drawn a bigger crowd, netted more money and endowed a greater number of scholarships each year.

On Thursday, February 8, approximately 150 people enjoyed Spanish snacks and wine accompanied by upbeat jazz, bid on a wide array of appealing products and experiences in the live and silent



State reps with past scholarship winners Kenny Mei and Nicholas Antoine

at the Heart of Gold fundraiser at Estragon, 700 Harrison Avenue.

Supplementing ticket sales and auction proceeds, individuals and

local concerns sponsored scholarships and application fees, while local concerns including Washington Gateway Main Street, Orinoco Venezuelan restaurant, RG Lathrop

Continued on page 3

Whittier Street Health Center To Honor Brigham & Women's Wanda McClain

2018 Black History Month Leadership Award

The South End's Whittier Street Health Center (WSHC) will honor Wanda McClain, Vice President of Community Health and Health Equity at Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH), the Whittier's 2018 Black History Leadership Award on Thursday, February 22, 2018 at its headquarter at 1290 Tremont Street in Roxbury. The event is part of WSHC Black History Month celebration and its Annual Meeting. The award will recognize McClain's

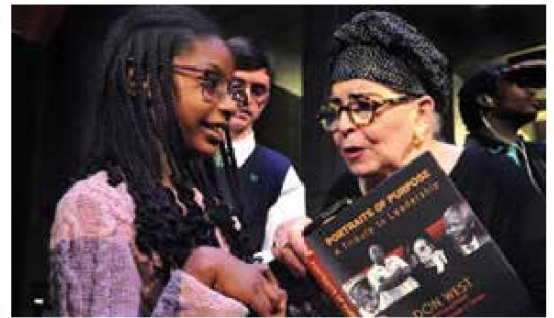
major contributions to elevating the health status and health outcomes of the diverse populations in Boston.

"Wanda McClain embodies Whittier's mission of addressing health disparities among people of color, and Black History Month is a perfect opportunity to honor Wanda for her contribution to Boston's community health," said Frederica M. Williams, Whittier Street Health Center's president and CEO. "Wanda has successfully led her team to implement programs that address health equity, ensure comprehensive access to primary healthcare, and provide educational



Wanda McClain

Continued on page 2



Frieda Garcia, former director of Alianza Hispana and United South End Settlements, signs her page in Portraits of Purpose: A Tribute to Leadership, co-authored by Don West and Ken Cooper at the NEXT GENERATION event at Boston City Hall on February 8. One hundred-twenty Boston Public School students joined with community leaders at the event. Photo Credit: Randy H. Goodman@donwestfoto

Portraits of Purpose

South End legends featured

SUBMITTED BY SUSAN KOOPERSTEIN

On February 8, 2018, Portraits of Purpose: The Next Generation, was hosted by Boston City Hall, provided a symbolic passing of the "torch of justice" from leaders of the African

American community to the youth of Boston with 120 high school students from the Boston Public Schools participating.

African American leaders and their allies for social change featured in photographer Don West's exhibit images from Portraits of Purpose: A Tribute to Leadership

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South End Honor Roll

Naod Zacharias Inducted into BC High's National Honor Society

Naod Zacharias of the South End, a junior at Boston College High School, was one of the 128 students inducted into the Robert J. Fulton, S.J. chapter of the National Honor Society at the Hunter-Fahey Commons on January 25, 2018.



Naod Zacharias

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Online

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Online

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
Project File No. 605789

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassDOT to discuss the proposed Reconstruction of Melnea Cass Boulevard project in Boston, MA.

WHERE: Boston Water and Sewer Commission
 980 Harrison Avenue
 Roxbury, MA 02119

WHEN: Thursday, March 1st @ 7:00PM

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Reconstruction of Melnea Cass Boulevard project. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The mile long Complete Streets focused Reconstruction of Melnea Cass Boulevard project looks to enhance public safety and provide multi-modal travel options for all users while serving the regional traffic demand on the corridor. The project will reconstruct all pedestrian and bicycle facilities, reconstruct roadway pavements, update traffic signal equipment, enhance storm-water management, invest in landscape architecture, and include protected intersections. The proposed typical roadway cross-section will include two 10.5 foot travel lanes in each direction with 10.5 foot turning lanes. Sidewalks ranging from 7 to 8 feet in width will be provided along both sides of the Boulevard. Bicycle accommodations consisting of 6 to 8 feet wide separated bike lanes are provided in accordance with applicable design guides.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The City of Boston is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private or public lands. MassDOT's policy concerning land acquisitions will be discussed at this hearing.

Written views received by MassDOT subsequent to the date of this notice and up to five (5) days prior to the date of the hearing shall be displayed for public inspection and copying at the time and date listed above. Plans will be on display one-half hour before the hearing begins, with an engineer in attendance to answer questions regarding this project. A project handout will be made available on the MassDOT website listed below.

Written statements and other exhibits in place of, or in addition to, oral statements made at the Public Hearing regarding the proposed undertaking are to be submitted to Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E., Chief Engineer, MassDOT, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: Highway Design, Project File No. 605789. Such submissions will also be accepted at the hearing. Mailed statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public hearing transcript must be postmarked within ten (10) business days of this Public Hearing. Project inquiries may be emailed to dot.feedback.highway@state.ma.us This location is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (including but not limited to interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, open or closed captioning for videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats, such as audio tapes, Braille and large print), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone (857-368-8580), fax (857-368-0602), TTD/TTY (857-368-0603) or by email (MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us). Requests should be made as soon as possible prior to the meeting, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten (10) business days before the meeting.

In case of inclement weather, hearing cancellation announcements will be posted on the internet at <http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/Highway/>

JONATHAN L. GULLIVER
 HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

PATRICIA A. LEAVENWORTH, P.E.
 CHIEF ENGINEER

McClain

Continued from page 1

and career opportunities for young people. These are some of the very goals that Whittier has been working to achieve since our dayone."

Wanda McClain is the Vice President of Community Health and Health Equity at Brigham and Women's Hospital (BWH) in Boston, MA. Overseeing the Center for Community Health and Health Equity at the Brigham, its two licensed community health centers and its relationships with the nine affiliated health centers in Boston, Wanda works to ensure the Brigham fulfills its strategic

commitments to health equity and high-quality patient and family-centered care.

Prior to joining the Brigham, she was the Director of Community Partnerships at Partners HealthCare. In addition to her tenure in health care, she has experience in community development and in the financial services industry.

The celebration will include the annual statement by Whittier Street Health Center President and CEO, Frederica M. Williams, a presentation by Wanda McClain, a musical performance, storytelling and poetry readings.

More about Whittier Street Health Center
www.wshc.org



Pet of the Week



Murphy
 ANIMAL
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 of BOSTON

Helping animals since 1999
 10 Chandler Street
 Boston, MA 02116

Here at the shelter, **Murphy** has shown herself to be a sweetie-pie. When someone walks past her kennel, she comes right up to the front. If someone opens the door to say hi, she'll start to squeak and head butt! She would like nothing more than for you to take a seat and stay a while! **Murphy** loves to be brushed and will purr loudly if you pet her. **Murphy** does not like other cats and should be the only pet in her forever home. This lovely gal is easy to please and is hoping for a loving, quiet home of her own. **Murphy** is a polydactyl (check out her toes!) with beautiful tabby markings and a white bib and feet. If you think **Murphy** might be a good match for you, please plan a visit to our shelter today or call 617.226.5602. The shelter is open Tuesday through Thursday 1-7pm & Friday through Sunday 1-4pm, excluding some holidays.
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ANNETTE HILL GREEN

BFSNA

Continued from page 1

Consulting LLC, Old Boston Restorations and Boston University endowed full and half scholarships.

Dozens of residents and businesses donated silent and live auction items to satisfy a wide variety of desires such limited-time memberships and classes at Boston Sports Clubs and Endurance Pilates, an evening of dinner and drama at Kava Restaurant and the Lyric Stage and a pair of Red Sox tickets donated by diehard fan and scholarship supporter Nancy Wall Farrington.

Trumpeter Matt Hull, a Berklee graduate and former B/FSNA scholarship recipient, set a festive musical mood with his trio. Hull's mother, Deborah, a member of the scholarship committee, made a donation to cover college application fees.

Among the ten-member committee are

David Wisholek, who greeted guests at the registration table at Heart of Gold and his husband Christopher McBride. The couple got involved in the scholarship committee early on and have remained active since moving to Winchester in the summer of 2015.

Guests included South End/Bay Village liaison Faisa Sharif, state representatives Byron Rushing and Aaron Michlewitz and Mayor Martin J. Walsh, who was unable to appear at last year's Heart of Gold due to a snow emergency. Walsh congratulated the scholarship committee on the success of its program and, looking around at the room filled with well-educated professionals, exhorted the young adults in the group to share their knowledge and talents with neighborhood youth as mentors.

Rushing echoed that message, inviting guests to visit and become familiar with neighborhood schools and students and to volunteer with local youth to provide inspiration. "I just want to tell the Mayor he stole my speech," Rushing quipped, "but he's absolutely right.

We have public schools in the South End: the Blackstone, the Hurley and the Quincy. Everybody here should visit the public schools in our neighborhood. Just go in and they will take you around. Go and see what it's like and find a space for yourself [to volunteer]."

The 2017 scholarship recipients, Kenny Mei, a freshman at Northeastern University, expressed his gratitude for the scholarship, noting that many things cost more than he expected once he arrived at Northeastern, while Nicholas Antoine, who started out in community college before transferring to Mount Ida College, said that the scholarship will pave the way for him to join his family's funeral home business.

The event brochure and auction-bidding card offered a timeline of the scholarship's growth, starting in 2007 with two scholarships totaling \$550. Shortly before press time, Wisholek reported 2018 proceeds of \$30,775, with additional donations still arriving.

Reflecting on the event, Jenks said in a

follow-up e-mail, "What I love about our Heart of Gold event is that it appeals to South End neighbors from all neighborhoods, all ages and all backgrounds. There were twenty-somethings and eighty-somethings and everything in between. Our friends from United South End Settlements (USES), South End Community Health Center (SECHC), St. Stephens Youth Program (SSYP), IBA, Boston University, Washington Gateway Main Street, South End Soccer, and many local business owners and professionals came out to show support for the B/FSNA Scholarship Program benefitting our young, college bound neighbors.

It feels good to live in a community that cares about young people and enjoys coming together to make a difference in their lives." Scholarship founder and co-chair Andrew Parthum commented, "Every year I'm excited and pleased with the fundraiser. It keeps exceeding my expectations."



(Top Left) Matt Hull Trio (Top Right) Mayor Walsh speaks (Bottom Left) B/FSNA Scholarship Committee (Bottom Right) Former recipients Nicholas Antoine and Kenny Mei. Photos by Michele Maniscalco

Portraits

Continued from page 1

and subsequent book co-authored with Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Kenneth J. Cooper were honored at the event. Through original theater and soul-stirring music, young people in attendance were encouraged to overcome obstacles and work with their schools and communities to help create a city and world with a fair and level playing field for all.

"I'm proud Boston City Hall is hosting this unique event," said Mayor Martin J. Walsh. "Boston is constantly striving to become a more equitable, inclusive city for all, and events like these help lift up our young people, and show them what is possible when we work together to move Boston forward."

The event featured an original theater presentation written and directed by Elaine T. Koury, artist, educator and founder/former director of the legendary Boston Youth Theater and inspired by the Don West's exhibits and book with Kenneth J. Cooper. That exhibit and book capture the images and stories of 110 African-American leaders and their diverse allies who have contributed to the advancement of the Black community in Greater Boston. The catalytic partnership of Eastern Bank made this book possible.

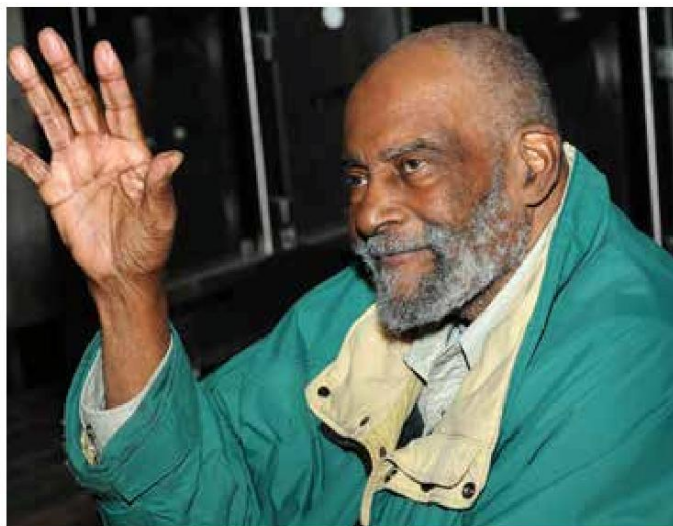
This event focused on "THE NEXT GENERATION," an audience of 120 BPS high school students who have been identified as emerging leaders by their school communities.

"By giving voice and presence to the Black community's struggle to make Boston a more just and equitable city for all, we encourage students to overcome obstacles in the practice of their rights and in pursuit of their dreams," said event producer Libbie Shufro, Director, Portraits of Purpose Educational Initiative and former CEO of The Boston Center for the Arts (2001-2008).

Through projected images, original theater and dramatic storytelling, the event animates a chapter of a people's history and leadership for social change often overshadowed by the racial violence that emerged around court-ordered busing and desegregation of the Boston Public Schools in the 1960's and 70's.

Students received a copy of the book Portraits of Purpose: A Tribute to Leadership signed by co-authors Don West and Kenneth J. Cooper and have the opportunity to meet the cast and the many Portraits of Purpose honorees/guests present. The program booklet offers a resource guide to help students continue the dialogue on issues important to them and get involved to make a positive difference in their schools and communities.

The event was produced by the Portraits of Purpose Educational Initiative whose mission is "to plant the seeds of justice through arts and dialogue," and was made possible by the generous support of Eastern Bank, TjX, Harvard Pilgrim, Seyfarth Shaw LLP and in collaboration with the Boston Public Schools, Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture, DesignLight and the John D. O'Bryant African American Institute at Northeastern University.



(Top) Legendary community leader Mel King waves to attendees at the Portraits of Purpose: NEXT GENERATION event. Photo Credit: Susan Kooperstein (Center) Don West's photo of Paul Goodnight, renowned South End artist, from Portraits of Purpose. (Bottom) Don West's photo of Frieda Garcia from Portraits of Purpose.

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Letters policy

To be considered for publication, letters must be no longer than 500 words; refrain from extreme personal attacks; be signed and include an address and daytime telephone number. Writers should refrain from making incorrect statements since they may be barred from future issues. Deadline is noon Tuesday for Thursday's paper. To send us letters: Mail to PO BOX E14, Boston, MA 02127; FAX to 617.464.7286; E-mail: letters@southendnews.com

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Honor Roll

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Mr. Michael McConagle '70, Vice Principal for Ignatian Mission & Identity, opened the proceedings with a prayer. Then the Boston College High Concert Band played the National Anthem.

Next the National Honor Society Officers Kyle Enabulele '18 of Abington, Joseph Kester '18 of Wellesley, Kevin McDonough '18 of Milton, Joseph Meschino '18 of Hull, Justin Rich '18 of Bridgewater and Nathaniel Stewart '18 of Easton welcomed the guests and spoke about the pillars of excellence that guide the work of the Society: scholarship, character, leadership and service.

NHS Moderator Jennifer Ehalt, Associate Director of Admissions, welcomed the new members and Guest Speaker, Elizabeth O'Donnell, BC High English teacher, delivered a brilliant address to the group.

New members received congratulations and certificates from BC High President Grace Regan P'12, Principal Stephen Hughes '73, Assistant Principal Charles Drane and NHS Moderator Jennifer Ehalt. Earlier, the inductees received gold NHS pins that were worn on their jacket lapels during the ceremony.

Next NHS officer Kyle Enabulele led the inductees in the NHS pledge. This was followed by Aidan Gildea '19 who gave the blessing.

Dr. Matthew Finnegan and the BC High Concert Band provided the music for the ceremony.

South End Students Earn Boston College High School Honors

Dylan Mullin 2020 of the South End achieved High Honors for the Second Quarter at Boston College High School. For High Honors a student needs a 3.8 QPA and all grades "C+" or higher.

Noad Zacharias 2019 achieved Honors. For Honors a student needs a 3.2 QPA and all grades "C-" or higher.

Framingham State University Announces President's List and Dean's List

The following local Framingham State University student was named to the Dean's List or the President's list for the Fall 2017 semester:

Luisa Abreu was placed on the Dean's List.
Xiaofu Lin was placed on the President's List.
Nicole Harvey was placed on the President's List.
Darina Barreto was placed on the President's List.
Liraniz Colon was placed on the Dean's List.
Aizaja Rosado was placed on the Dean's List.
Kezia Hamer Miller was placed on the Dean's List.

To be selected for the Dean's List, a student must earn a Quality Point Average (Q.P.A.) of 3.25 or higher. To be selected for the President's list, a student must have been named to the Dean's List for three consecutive semesters.

University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Announces Chancellor's List

UMass Dartmouth students are named to the Chancellor's

List in recognition of earning a Fall 2017 semester grade point average of 3.8 or higher of a possible 4.0:

Michael Medina Rojas
Helen Teklehaimanot

UMass Dartmouth distinguishes itself as a vibrant public university actively engaged in personalized teaching and innovative research, and acting as an intellectual catalyst for regional economic, social, and cultural development. UMass Dartmouth's mandate to serve its community is realized through countless partnerships, programs, and other outreach efforts to engage the community, and apply its knowledge to help address local issues and empower others to facilitate change for all.

UMass Dartmouth Announces Dean's List

Below are the names of University of Massachusetts Dartmouth students from your circulation area who have been named to the Dean's List, (grade point average of 3.2 or higher out of a possible 4.0) for the Fall 2017 Semester. Please publish.

Raymond Chen
Briiana Chery
Oluchi Oguchienti

UMass Dartmouth distinguishes itself as a vibrant public university actively engaged in personalized teaching and innovative research, and acting as an intellectual catalyst for regional economic, social, and cultural development. UMass Dartmouth's mandate to serve its community is realized through countless partnerships, programs, and other outreach efforts to engage the community, and apply its knowledge to help address local issues and empower others to facilitate change for all.

UMass Lowell Announces Dean's List

Local residents have been named to the dean's list at the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

Among those recognized for achieving academic distinction for the fall 2017 semester at UMass Lowell are:

Zoe Turner majoring in psychology
Chester Obi majoring in electrical engineering
Nikia Powers majoring in psychology
Zhi Qing Li majoring in business administration
Zhi Qing Ouyang majoring in psychology
Steven Zhou majoring in mechanical engineering
Eric Chan majoring in information technology
Anthony Cheung majoring in civil engineering
Maya Chin majoring in public health
James Tan majoring in computer science
Terry Zhen majoring in computer engineering
Mauricio Reyes majoring in civil engineering
Nisa Holley majoring in political science
Jasmin Mark majoring in psychology

To qualify for the dean's list at UMass Lowell, a student must have completed no fewer than 12 graded credits for the semester and earned at least a 3.25 grade point average with no grade lower than C and without any incompletes.

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Hype is Rousing

Hype Man, Company One, Plaza Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, through February 24. 617-933-8600, bostontheatrescene.com and companyone.org

BY JULES BECKER

For Idris Goodwin, hip-hop has served as a catalyst for wisdom and truth. In his exuberant 2012 "How We Got On," the African-American poet-playwright examines the 1980's coming of age of three black teen rappers.

In Goodwin's affecting 2016 comedy "The Realness: A Break Beat Play," A 1996 African-American romance is tested as much as the authenticity of a novice rapper. Now Goodwin has honed in even more on both the style and the substance of hip-hop in a three-character dramedy called "Hype Man: A Break Beat Play," a rousing Company One world premiere that should have all audience members at the Boston Center for the Arts' intimate Plaza Theatre moving to the infectious beat of its poetic and powerful truths.

"Hype Man" takes its title from the back-up rapper-singer—here memorably named Verb—who supports the primary one with exclamations, interjections and enhancing deliveries that help excite an audience. Intriguingly in Goodwin's disarming play, the primary rapper or front man Pinnacle is a white best friend who has been performing

with Verb since childhood. Pinnacle's name may be ironic since the pair, along with an African-American beatestablisher named Peep One, are preparing for the professional chance of a lifetime—namely, a slated appearance on The Tonight Show.

Up to this point, all seems to be leading toward their highly anticipated success. Goodwin, though, is too sharp a writer to be satisfied with a feel-good, sometimes humorous buddy effort. Instead, he compellingly has Verb and Pinnacle by turns grapple with the challenge of singing out for social justice in their art in the face of an 18-shot police shooting of an African-American 17-year-old named Jerrod. At first Pinnacle resists publicly reacting, but activist Verb daringly reveals a "Justice for Jerrod" T shirt under his shirt at one of their concerts.

The white front man speaks of their unseen agent Ryan trying to keep police unions from picketing their performances and some sponsors backing out. Still, Pinnacle ultimately does take a moral stand in both lyric and performance.

Not stopping here, Goodwin's tight, thematically dense play has Peep One remind both men that women are often maligned in rap lyrics and need the same social justice as African-American men. "Hype Man" stirring reaches a kind of musical epiphany of solidarity.

Verb warns on megaphone "no justice, no peace," and Pinnacle sings of bringing moral resolve to the populace. At this point,



Kadahj Bennett, Rachel Cognata and Michael Knowlton in "Hype Man" (Courtesy of Paul Fox/Company One)

even the priority of appearing on The Tonight Show gives way to moral principle. Tellingly Verb declares, "Being a hype man is not being a cheerleader. It's about celebrating myself." In a similar vein, Pinnacle counsels, "Grind on with the mind strong."

Under Company One artistic director Shawn LaCount's seamless guidance, all three cast members keep their characterizations just as strong. Michael Knowlton has all of Pinnacle's high energy and volatility, and his funky moves and gesturing have the authenticity of real rapping. Kadahj Bennett is electrifyingly dynamic as Verb. He also doubles effectively as music director and beat maker. Knowlton and Bennett make the friends' volley-like banter fully riveting.

Rachel Cognata finds the perfect bal-

ance as mediating but always strong-willed Peep One. Jen Rock's nuanced lighting and Lee Schuna's vivid sound design match the poetry of the play and its vivid rap sequences. Special kudos go to dramaturg Jesse Baxter and assistant dramaturg Tatiana Isabel Gil for their informative pieces in the highly helpful playbill.

Company One has done yeoman work bringing the music and magic of "How We Got On" and now "Hype Man"—the first and last parts of Goodwin's distinctive break beat trilogy to local theatergoers (with special credit to Lowell's Merrimack Repertory Theatre for having staged "The Realness" in between). To borrow from Verb's own advisory near the end of the play, audience members will want to get up and echo the play's soulful humanity.



Public Workshop

PLAN: DUDLEY SQUARE

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26
5:30 PM - 8:00 PM

980 HARRISON AVE
Boston Water and Sewer,
2nd Floor Training Room
Roxbury, MA 02119

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The February PLAN: Dudley Square workshop will continue the conversation reviewing Request for Proposal (RFP) language for publicly owned parcels in the area. Draft guidelines and evaluation criteria will be available for comment. As with all previous workshops, feedback provided will be reviewed and taken into consideration for incorporation into final documents. Throughout the evening there will be opportunity for attendees to engage in productive dialogue with City/BPDA team members and each other on elements of the material being shared as part of the workshop.

PLAN: Dudley Square is an initiative to think strategically about the types of uses and the scale of development best suited for the future of Dudley Square and Roxbury. The goals of this study are to provide an inclusive community engagement process, create an updated vision with the community, and establish an implementation plan that will lead to the issuance of RFPs for publicly-owned parcels in Dudley Square.

We look forward to having you join us at the workshop.

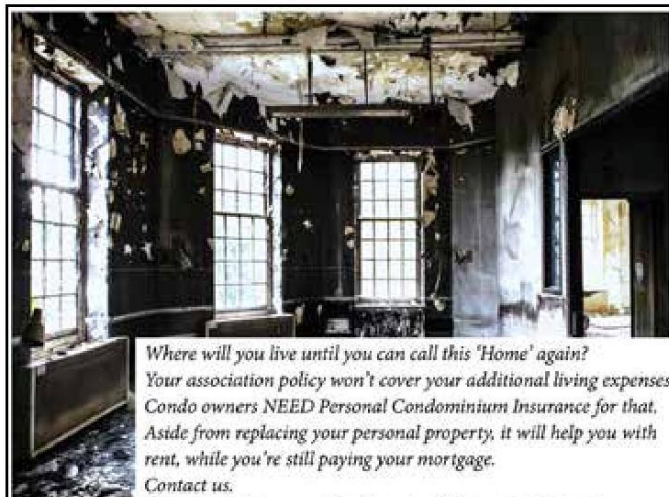
For more information please visit: <http://bit.ly/PlanDudley>

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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

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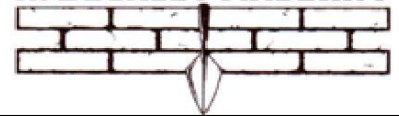
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