

South Enders Receive ACE Mentor Program of Greater Boston Awards

SUBMITTED BY
ACE MENTOR PROGRAM

ACE Mentor Program of Greater Boston, the free after-school program run by award-winning design and construction professionals with the goal of encouraging high school students to pursue careers in the architecture, construction and engineering industries, awarded a record-high \$168,000 in scholarships to 27 deserving seniors enrolled in ACE's 2020-2021 program, held virtually this year.

With more support from donors, sponsors, and partners than ever before, the fundraised money helps provide financial assistance to a select number of graduating seniors as they continue to pursue their education at the collegiate



Karen Mai

level. The scholarships vary in amount from \$1,000 – \$13,000 each. This year, the program was grateful to have continued support from their sponsors, all of which contributed to a scholarship for a

student. The sponsored scholarship donors include Consigli Construction, Prellwitz Chilinski Associates, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, Su-

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Developer turning former South End church into residences wants to change proposed apartments into condos

COURTESY ADAM GAFFIN
WWW.UNIVERSALHUB.COM

For the second time in a week, a developer is signalling the reluctance of lenders to put money into condo projects has ended: This time with a proposal to sell 63 units at the former Immaculate Conception Church at 771 Harrison Ave. in the South End as condos, rather than renting most of them as apartments.

The reconstruction of the church and an adjoining building

into residences has been underway since 2017. When developer Ronald Simons first proposed the project in 2016, he said he planned to sell all the units as condos, but in 2019, he won BPDA approval to change that to 51 rental units and 12 condos.

Six of the units will be sold as affordable.

Some 45 spaces in an adjoining garage will be reserved for resident parking.

The church was originally constructed in 1859 for Boston College,

based on plans by Patrick Keely, who also designed Holy Cross Cathedral. The buildings were most recently occupied by the Jesuit Urban Center.

Last week, a developer asked the BPDA for permission to change 148 planned apartments to condos in a building under construction on Lagrange Street in Chinatown. Last year, as the pandemic crashed into Boston, developers had said lenders were reluctant to put money into new condo projects.



Barre 3, a Buy-A-Bite participant. Photo by Michele Maniscalco

Neighbors helping neighbors

South End groups aid struggling residents and businesses

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

While government programs and non-profit organizations have sought to aid the millions of Americans whose livelihoods have been disrupted by the pandemic, here in the South End, neighbors have used their imagination to help struggling neighbors at the community level.

Most recently, the South End

has welcomed two such initiatives: the grassroots South End Fridge project, a give-what-you-can, take-what-you-need food pantry located in front of Make Shift Boston at 549 Columbus Avenue, and Buy-A-Bite, a shopping-incentive campaign to bolster sales at local stores and restaurants organized and sponsored by the South End Business Alliance (SEBA) and the Blackstone/Franklin Square Neighborhood Association (B/F/SNA). The South End News contacted organizers of both efforts to learn more.

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News from...

United South End Settlements

SUBMITTED BY
MAICHARIA WEIR LYTLE
PRESIDENT & CEO

United South End Settlements (USES) is hosting two listening sessions to share how we've managed through the pandemic and we want

to hear from you on what we've done well and what we can do to best support children and families.

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted all of us. USES responded to the crisis by providing digital

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Online

Check us out online at
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Online

DND Income-Restricted Rental Opportunity

Newcastle Saranac Apartments
599 & 607-627 Columbus Ave, South End, MA 02118

94 Affordable and Income-Restricted Units

32 units are available through the lottery and all units will build a waiting list

# of Units	# of bedrooms	Estimated Square Feet	Rent	Maximum Income Limit in AMI
1*	Studio	407	30% of HH Income	30%
2	Studio	407	30% of HH Income	30%
1	Studio	407	\$1,301	60%
1	Studio	407	\$1,432	80%
1	Studio	407	\$2,063	100%
3*	1-bedroom	498	30% of HH Income	30%
4	1-bedroom	498	30% of HH Income	30%
14	1-bedroom	498	\$1,389	60%
3	1-bedroom	498	\$1,529	80%
4	1-bedroom	498	\$2,206	100%
5*	2-bedroom	883	30% of HH Income	30%
6	2-bedroom	883	30% of HH Income	30%
12	2-bedroom	883	30% of HH Income	50%
15	2-bedroom**	883	\$1,671	60%
8	2-bedroom	883	\$1,840	80%
8	2-bedroom**	883	\$2,653	100%
1*	3-bedroom	1,245	30% of HH Income	30%
1	3-bedroom	1,245	30% of HH Income	30%
1	3-bedroom	1,245	\$1,933	60%
1	3-bedroom	1,245	\$2,126	80%
2	3-bedroom	1,245	\$3,065	100%

*10 Homeless Set-aside units will be filled through direct referral from HomeStart. For more information, please contact us at the email address or phone number below. For direct referrals, please visit <https://www.homestart.org/bostonhsa>.

**One unit built out for persons who are deaf/hard of hearing and/or with vision impairments.

Minimum Income (set by owner + based on # of bedrooms + Area Median Income (AMI))

Maximum Income (set by DND + based on household size + Area Median Income (AMI))

# of bedrooms	Minimum Income***					HH Size	Maximum Income				
	30% AMI	50% AMI	60% AMI	80% AMI	100% AMI		30% AMI	50% AMI	60% AMI	80% AMI	100% AMI
Studio	0	\$33,600	\$39,030	\$42,960	\$61,890	1	\$26,880	\$44,800	\$53,760	\$66,650	\$83,250
1-bedroom	0	\$36,000	\$39,870	\$45,870	\$66,180	2	\$30,720	\$51,200	\$61,440	\$76,200	\$95,250
2-bedroom	0	\$43,200	\$50,130	\$55,200	\$79,590	3	\$34,560	\$57,600	\$69,120	\$85,700	\$107,100
	0	\$43,200	\$50,130	\$55,200	\$79,590	4	\$38,370	\$63,950	\$76,740	\$95,200	\$119,000
3-bedroom	0	\$49,890	\$57,990	\$63,780	\$91,950	5	\$41,460	\$69,100	\$82,920	\$102,850	\$128,550
	0	\$49,890	\$57,990	\$63,780	\$91,950	6	\$44,520	\$74,200	\$89,040	\$110,450	\$138,000

***Minimum Incomes Apply. Minimum incomes do not apply to households with housing assistance (Section 8, MRVP, VASH, etc.) or for the units in this development that include a project-based housing assistance voucher.

Applications are available from April 8, 2021 to May 20, 2021

To request an online application or to have one sent by email, visit <http://bit.ly/newcastlesaranac> or call **617-307-5951**

After careful consideration and an abundance of caution, the City of Boston has decided to cancel the in-person application distribution period. If you cannot complete the application online, please call us at **617-307-5951** to request that we mail you one and to ask us for any support or guidance you might need to complete the application.

We will be holding two (2) virtual informational meetings on **April 12, 2021 at 6:00 pm** and **April 15, 2021 at 6:00 pm** through the following links: bit.ly/ncslottery and bit.ly/ncslottery2

DEADLINE: Applications must be submitted online or postmarked no later than **Thursday, May 20, 2021**

Mailed to: 599 Columbus Ave, Boston, MA 02118

- Selection by Lottery.
- Asset & Use Restrictions apply.
- Preferences Apply.

For more information, language assistance, or to make a request reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, please call **617-307-5951** or email lottery@schochet.com



Teen and Child Summer Programs

USES

USES Summer Program Summer @ club48 is now enrolling full-day STEAM-focused summer programming for children ages 5-12. Secure your spot for summer camp now and alleviate last-minute childcare stress. www.uses.org

USES Camp Hale, our newly renovated overnight camp in New Hampshire, is now enrolling for boys and girls sessions! www.uses.org/programs/camp Hale/

BCYF Summer Programs and Events

Boston Centers for Youth & Families offers many summer classes and programs for youth. These aren't only a lot of fun — they also keep children active over the summer months so they are prepared for the return to school in the fall.

Boston Centers for Youth & Families will be offering a menu of programs and classes

for Boston youth this summer. These free programs will be held both remotely and in person at BCYF community centers across the City. A wide variety of options are available, including arts and computer activities, recreational programs, virtual field trips, workshops, and much more.

COVID-19 Updates

Programs and Classes: BCYF community centers will offer a hybrid model of virtual and in-person programs and classes for pre-registered youth. This page will be updated as we get more information.

Meal distribution: Select BCYF locations are meal pick-up sites.

More information and program details: www.boston.gov/departments/boston-centers-youth-families/summer-programs-and-events-bcyf

ACE

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perior Plumbing, ARUP, PIDC Construction and D.A. Bosworth Company.

South End residents Kevin Tan (Community Charter School of Cambridge) and Karen Mai (Boston Latin School) have both received scholarships for their hard work.

"In what has been such a challenging year for so many students and families, the exponential growth of the ACE program is nothing short of spectacular," said Casey Williams, president of the ACE Mentor Program of Greater Boston. "We are beyond thankful for all our donors, sponsors, and partners for supporting us throughout the pandemic. This year, we were able to not only help more students on a financial level, but we have been able to connect with more students than ever before and teach them about these evolving industries."

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the annual showcase, as well as the entire program, looked a bit different this year as it was held completely virtual. Although shifting to a remote format came with its challenges, the program was able to expand their outreach footprint as regions beyond the Greater Boston area had accessibility to the unique mentoring from industry professionals.

As a result of the knowledge and experience received during their tenure in ACE Mentor of Greater Boston program, many graduating seniors have plans to continue their education by attending college and majoring in architecture, mechanical engineering, business management, civil engineering and mathematics — to name a few.

For more information on the ACE after-school program and ways to sign up for information sessions leading up to the launch of the 2021 – 2022 program, please visit the ACE of Greater Boston website.

ACE of Greater Boston was launched in 2007 and is one of 70-plus affiliates under the ACE national umbrella. Through practical, project-based, hands-on explorations, students work collaboratively and creatively to design innovative solutions to real world problems. With professional guidance by esteemed industry mentors who are full-time employees of construction, design and engineering firms, students embark on a five-month design project, through weekly sessions after school, to develop the professionalism, teamwork, and collaboration that the industry requires. During this time, the students construct a hypothetical project in order to learn about each discipline and take part in activities such as site visits, scavenger hunt, Revit training and trade day.



Kevin Tran

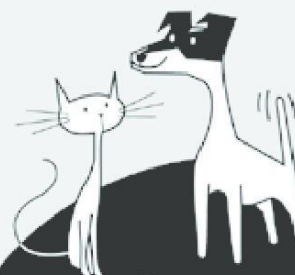


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Honor Roll

Local Regis Students Make the Dean's List

Regis College is pleased to announce that 540 students made the Dean's List for academic achievement for the 2020 fall semester.

Lily D. Cheney, of Boston, is among the students who made the Dean's List. Cheney is in the class of 2022.

To be eligible for the Dean's List as a senior, junior or sophomore at Regis, a student must have a semester grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.50. For first-year students, a semester GPA of at least 3.25 must be attained.

Local Emerson College Students Make the Dean's List

The following students have been named to Emerson College's Dean's List for the Fall 2020 semester. The requirement to make Dean's List is a grade point average of 3.7 or higher for that semester.

Fiona Chen of Boston. Major-Business Creative Enterprises. Class of 2021.

USES

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learning opportunities for students to stay connected, delivering food to over 150 community members every week, and conducting weekly virtual wellness visits during the state of emergency. In July, we reopened our early education and after-school programs, created in-person remote learning pods for students enrolled in BPS, and developed virtual financial literacy and workforce development programs while continuing to address food insecurity in our community.

Trevor McLean of Boston. Major-Communication Studies. Class of 2022.
Yutong Wang of Boston. Major-Media Arts Production. Class of 2021.

Local MassBay Community College Students Make the Dean's List

The following local students have been named to MassBay Community College Dean's List, achieving outstanding academic honor for the fall 2020 semester.

Gisselle Alcantara of Boston, studying interior design.
Entzi Stefani of Boston.
Valerie Promise of Boston, studying life sciences.
Shaquan Beckles of Roxbury, studying business administration.
Rachelle Brown-Mitchell of Roxbury, studying liberal arts- psychology/ sociology.
Rachel Tetteh-Attaah of Roxbury.
To be eligible for the MassBay Dean's List, students must complete six college-level credits and earn a grade point average of 3.50 or higher.

After a year of adapting, innovating, and responding, we are eager to hear your feedback and input so USES can continue to make an impact in our community.

Please join us and register for a listening session on either:
Thursday, April 15th, 6:00-7:30pm
Thursday, April 29th, 6:00-7:30pm
Listening Sessions will be facilitated by: Marie St. Fleur, Consultant & Gary Bailey, USES Board Member
We look forward to hearing from you.
More information here: www.uses.org

41/14

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Neighbors

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Elizabeth Beutel, director of marketing at AC Hotel Ink Block, became president of SEBA in October 2020, and is enthusiastic about using her position to expand SEBA's inclusivity and services to South End businesses. Since becoming president in October of last year, Beutel has made it her mission for SEBA to become "the South End Community Board for the South End," a clearinghouse for information and assistance to entrepreneurs "within the four walls of the South End."

SEBA's bailiwick has expanded to encompass not only strengthening the South End's identity as a shopping, dining and arts hub but also supporting non-profit groups such as South End Soccer and United South End Settlements. Buy-A-Bite stemmed from a conversation between B/FSNA's Jonathan Alves and SEBA board member Eve Ward about investing B/FSNA funds in a program to stimulate shopping at South End businesses and dining at local restaurants.

B/FSNA provided \$5,000 to purchase gift cards to South End restaurants, SEBA provided the Buy-A-Bite logo hashtag, and B/FSNA and SEBA sought 10 businesses in different retail categories to award the gift cards to shoppers who spend a certain amount at their stores.

So far, nine stores, including M. Flynn Jewelry, SOMA Optical, Sault New England, Honey and Comb salon, Coucou children's clothing and others have signed up to provide eligible purchasers with restaurant gift cards, and the two organizations would like to find

a tenth, non-competing store to round out the incentive program.

Eligible purchasers will receive gift cards to restaurants including Anoush'Ella, Estragon, Orinoco, El Centro, and the Elephant Walk on Washington Street. Each participating business determines the spending amount that qualifies for a gift card and the amount of the gift card to be awarded. The cross-promotion just became operational at the beginning of April, and SEBA will monitor the results of the program, seeing this as a pilot to be followed by other cross-promotion campaigns.

Beutel said that SEBA will do a mid-term check-in with participating businesses to provide a final overview tracking to determine the total sales generated and the number of gift cards awarded. "We want to prove that people are making money from it. Everything we do we want to make sure it is measurable. If results are weak maybe you need to tweak it," Beutel said. To learn more about the Buy-A-Bite campaign, visit <http://www.sebaboston.com/announcing-buy-a-bite/>.

On March 24, a large, white refrigerator was placed inside a turquoise wooden shed in front of Make Shift Boston at 549 Columbus Avenue with a hand-written sign that reads, "FREE FOOD Leave What You Can, Take What You Need." Brought to you by a loosely organized, grassroots group of volunteers, South End Fridge allows residents in need food and personal hygiene items that they can access anonymously at their convenience, while allowing donors to contribute items anonymously and at their convenience.

South End Fridge spokesperson Nicole Batrouny credits Audrey Ng, a recent transplant



South End Fridge. Photo by Michele Maniscalco

to the South End, with spearheading the effort, and was excited to join. I actually live in Medford, but I loved the idea and wanted to help make it a reality," Batrouny said. South End Fridge organizers held a Valentine's Day benefit comprising an on-line art sale and concert to raise launch money, and .

While the South End Fridge group stands alone, there are similar on-street "fridges" around Boston in Jamaica Plain and Hyde Park, as well as Fridge in the Square in Harvard Square, Cambridge, and community fridges in other cities such as Worcester and New York. A portion of the funds for South End Fridge will reimburse Make Shift Boston, a non-profit that offers a safe space to people of color, LGBTQ+ persons and others for co-working and community events, for electricity. Batrouny

said that Siena Farms at 106 Waltham Street has also aided South End Fridge.

Since South End Fridge is available 24 hours and is not staffed, it is hard to track exactly what and how many items are donated and picked up each day, but according to Batrouny, "Milk, snacks, personal hygiene items, meat, and ready-to-eat foods go quickly!"

For more information, visit https://linktr.ee/BostonSouthEndCommunityFridge?fbclid=IwAR20tJwHAvFuIPi0NDHWyVcaorzjV7tYEFd-N5zTkNts4SOHLwy_w9iqxpQ and follow South End Fridge on Instagram @southendfridge and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/southendfridge>. Donations can be made at the South End Community Fridge GoFundMe and on Cash App at \$SouthEndFridge.

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