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**Celebrate the area's rich architecture with Common Boston 2016, Boston's first ever open-house design festival.**

## ***2016 Common Boston—One Weekend. Your City Unlocked.***

(June 4–5)

Common Boston 2016 (#CB16), the first ever open-house architecture festival in Boston, kicks off on June 4 and 5. For that one weekend only, the completely free festival will unlock the doors to dozens of architecturally, culturally, and historically significant sites, encouraging residents and tourists to consider why design matters, while tapping into unique stories that illuminate the region's vibrant communities. From historic sites to office towers to community gardens, participants will get unparalleled access to more than 50 unique sites that contribute to making Boston such an exceptional place to live, work, and play.

This year's festival partners represent a diverse variety of spaces and places throughout Boston, Cambridge, Somerville, and Brookline, including:

Ayer Mansion, Boston Architectural College, Boston Public Library (Central Branch, Honan-Allston Branch, East Boston Branch, Parker Hill Branch, Hyde Park Branch, Mattapan Branch), BSA Space, Cambridge City Hall, Christ Church Cambridge, Church of the Covenant, District Hall, Dorchester Heights Monument, Eliot Hall and the Footlight Club, Eliot School of Fine Arts, Emerald Necklace Conservancy and Shattuck Visitor Center, Ether Dome and the Bulfinch Building at Massachusetts General Hospital, Fenway Studios, Fenway Victory Gardens, Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site, GrandTen Distilling, Hibernian Hall, The Innovation and Design Building, The KITCHEN at Boston Public Market, Loring-Greenough House, Lunder Art Center at Lesley University, Massachusetts College of Art and Design (Design and Media Center, Treehouse Residence Hall), Midway Artist Studios, MIT List Visual Arts Center, Nichols House Museum, Old North Church, Otis House of Historic New England, Paul S. Russell, MD Museum of Medical History and Innovation, Restoration Resources, Strand Theatre, South Street Farm by Groundwork Somerville, Trinity Church Urbano Project, The Vilna Shul, Metropolitan Waterworks Museum, Dorchester Historical Society (William Clapp House, Capt. Lemuel Clapp House, James Blake House), Y2Y Harvard Square, and YMCA of Greater Boston.

*"Common Boston is a fantastic opportunity to discover the amazingly rich architectural, cultural, and historic resources of neighborhoods throughout Greater Boston,"* says Mike

Davis FAIA, Chair of the BSA Foundation. *“Festival partners will not only showcase their organizations and share their architectural stories, but by welcoming visitors will also foster a stronger sense of community. The Foundation looks forward to stimulating new conversations among neighbors, business owners, and residents, and a greater sense of how the built environment impacts our everyday lives.”*

All #CB16 open house programming is free and open to the public.

The festival weekend will launch with the dParty, a fun and lively get together that celebrates all things design, on Friday, June 3 at The Innovation and Design Building (IDB) in the Seaport. For the #CB16 dParty, Common Boston will transform the IDB’s seventh floor space into a fully realized block party, complete with a variety of streetscape amenities. Tickets: \$10 in advance. To reserve your place, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/common-boston-dparty-block-party-2016-tickets-25198160376>

For more information on #CB16, including open house times and answers to FAQs, visit [commonboston.org](http://commonboston.org).

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## About Common Boston

Common Boston (CB), a program of the BSA Foundation, was founded 10+ years ago by the Boston Society of Architects/AIA. Since 2005, CB has hosted more than 250+ events for thousands of attendees in 35 communities around the region. In doing so, the all-volunteer organization connects designers and the public for more vibrant, sustainable, and equitable communities. For more information, visit [commonboston.org](http://commonboston.org).

## About the BSA Foundation

The goal of the BSA Foundation (Foundation) is to enhance public understanding of the built environment and the processes that shape it. With understanding, the Foundation believes communities will be better equipped to enrich and preserve our physical and natural surroundings. The Foundation's vision is to build a better Boston by engaging communities, inspiring vision, and provoking positive change. The Boston Society of Architects/AIA established the Foundation in 1971 with a goal of engendering in current and future generations informed commitment to sensitive, well-designed, humanistic environments. A 501(c)(3) public charity, the Foundation is an independent corporation governed by a 15-member Board of Trustees that includes six architects as well as nine non-architect members. For more information, visit [architects.org/foundation](http://architects.org/foundation).

## Social Media

[#CB16](https://twitter.com/BSAAIA)

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With thanks to our 2016 Community Partners:

