

2016

National Park Service  
CENTENNIAL

National Parks of Boston

CELEBRATING

THE SPIRIT OF  
**Revolution**

## Celebrating the Spirit of Revolution

Boston is truly a *National Park City*, represented by three partnership parks – Boston African American National Historic Site, Boston Harbor Islands National and State Park, and Boston National Historical Park. As the National Park Service reaches its 100th anniversary, the National Parks of Boston will be hosting festivities under the theme **Celebrating the Spirit of Revolution**. There is a full suite of special activities taking place August 25th through the 27th that brings together the parks and its many partners. This collective park system represents the spirit of political, social and environmental revolution. For many people around the world the principles that these places and outcomes embody have served as models for personal freedom, civil rights and environmental justice. They are what makes Boston one of America's great urban success stories. A Centennial kick-off celebration takes place at Christopher Columbus Park with special events throughout the day that include 3,600 free ferry tickets out to the Boston Harbor Islands, music, family activities, and local organizations engaging people in ways that celebrate America's parks and cultural heritage.

More information at [www.bostonnpsevents.com](http://www.bostonnpsevents.com)



### SPECIAL EVENTS *All events are free and open to everyone.*

#### Focus on Boston African American National Historic Site

The Museum of African American History, a partner of Boston African American National Historic Site, recently opened their new exhibit "Picturing Frederick Douglass." This exhibit revolutionizes our knowledge of race and photography in 19th-century America and the images trace Douglass's visual journey from self-emancipated man to firebrand abolitionist and elder statesman. Join a series of ranger talks exploring the life of Frederick Douglass and his time spent in Boston. Talks begin in Faneuil Hall education space at 12:30pm.

- August 22: Life and Times of Frederick Douglass
- August 23: Exposing the Mask: Blackface Minstrel Shows in Boston
- August 24: Frederick Douglas's Boston

#### Focus on Boston Harbor Islands National & State Park

Celebrate the 100th birthday of the National Park Service at Long Wharf North/Christopher Columbus Waterfront Park on Thursday, August 25th. Free ferries to the Harbor Islands start at 8:30am and run throughout the day. On the mainland, energize your day with a 9:00am *Healthy Parks, Healthy People* Zumba session, live music and a special Junior Ranger ceremony. At 11:00am, join the Centennial kick-off ceremony featuring local guest speakers and birthday cake! Explore a variety of #FindYourPark activity tents. These tents feature childrens' activities at the "Find Your Fun" tent, local artists at the "Find Your Creativity" tent, and walking tours led by park staff at the #FindYourPark tent.

#### Focus on Boston National Historical Park

Rosies Invade The Yard! Join the fun at the Charlestown Navy Yard as we take a trip back in time celebrating the role of women in the navy and on the homefront. Come aboard USS *Cassin Young* from 10:00am–5:00pm to learn more about the women who built the navy ships during World War II or take a tour focused on the shipbuilding women of the navy. A special speaker series will explore what life was like on the homefront during WWII including discussions about wartime cartoons and the legacy of Rosie the Riveter. In the afternoon and evenings, wander victory garden displays or learn to swing dance with a renowned swing dance band.

# National Parks of Boston Partners

The National Parks of Boston were developed as partnership parks that recognize the importance of working at a regional scale. The complexity of the urban landscape requires innovative cooperative approaches to preserving and interpreting these important places. The following “legislated” partners have this shared responsibility with the National Park Service:

## Boston Harbor Islands National and State Park Partners:

**Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA)** is the City of Boston’s urban planning agency partnering on the future of the waterfront and islands.

**Boston Harbor Now** is a new not-for-profit civic organization with a bold vision to maximize recreational, cultural and social opportunities in our active Port City.

**Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation** oversees one of the largest state park systems in the country with over 450,000 acres of public land. MassDCR owns and operates 16.5 of the 34 islands within Boston Harbor Islands National and State Park.

**Massport** is the public authority operating our public transportation infrastructure providing connections to your parks as well as breathing new life into open spaces like Piers Park.

**Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA)** provides wholesale water and sewer for 2.5 million people in Massachusetts. Their Deer and Nut Island facilities include more than 70 acres of public walkways and trails perfect for walking sightseeing and fishing.

**Thompson Island Outward Bound Education Center** is a not-for-profit organization providing experiential learning programs and serving over 6,500 early adolescents annually from greater metropolitan Boston with hands-on field experiences.

**Trustees of Reservations** is a 125 year old non-profit land conservation and historic preservation organization dedicated to preserving natural and historical places in Massachusetts including Worlds End.

**US Coast Guard** owns Little Brewster Island, site of America’s First Lighthouse. This year marks the TriCentennial of Boston Light, first lit on September 14, 1716.

## Boston African American National Historic Site

**The Museum of African American History** are the stewards and storytellers of the African Meeting House and Abiel Smith School in Beacon Hill, located along the Black Heritage Trail®

## Boston National Historic Park

**Old North Church** (1723) is Boston’s oldest surviving church building noted for the famous “one if by land, and two if by sea” signal that led to Paul Revere’s midnight ride on April 18, 1775.

**Old South Meeting House** (1792) is the location where the Boston Tea Party was launched in 1773 and is one of the nation’s most important colonial National Historic Landmarks.

**Old State House** (1713) is the oldest surviving public building in Boston. It was at this location that the Boston Massacre took place, freedom was debated, and independence was announced to Boston.

**Paul Revere House** (1680) was the colonial home of American patriot Paul Revere during the time of the American Revolution.

**USS Constitution Museum** serves as the memory and educational voice of USS *Constitution*, America’s “Ship of State,” by collecting, preserving, and interpreting the stories of “Old Ironsides.”

# CENTENNIAL EVENT SCHEDULE *All events are free and open to everyone.*

## EVENTS HAPPENING EACH DAY

### Boston Harbor Islands National and State Park

For a full list of daily activities visit [www.bostonharborislands.org/calendar](http://www.bostonharborislands.org/calendar)

### Bunker Hill

— Free ranger-led talk exploring the Battle of Bunker Hill (Every half hour; 10:00am–4:00pm)

## THURSDAY, AUGUST 25

### Christopher Columbus Park

#### Featured Events:

- Free ferries to Georges and Spectacle Islands (start at 8:30am)
- Special activities all day on Georges Island and Spectacle Island.
- Healthy Hearts, Healthy Bodies Fitness program (9:00am-10:00am)
- Josh and Jamtones children’s band (10:00am–10:45am)
- Centennial kick-off celebration (11:00am–11:30am)
- Berklee College of Music concerts (12:00pm–1:00 pm; 2:00pm–3:00pm)
- Sea Shanty Music (1:15pm–2:00pm)
- Freedom Trail photo workshop with Elliot Higger (1:00 pm)
- New England Aquarium touch tank (10:00am–12:00pm)

### Charlestown Navy Yard

— Navy Yard tours with a special Rosie the Riveter focus (10:00am, 4:00pm)

### Bunker Hill

— Ranger-led tour exploring the Battle of Bunker Hill (every half hour; 10:00am–4:00pm)

### Faneuil Hall

— John Brown’s Boston: Discover abolitionist John Brown’s strong connections to Boston on his road to Harper’s Ferry (11:00am)

### Faneuil Hall

- Ranger’s Choice Talks (10:00am, 3:30pm)
- Freedom Trail Tour: Enemies to the Country (11:00am, 2:00pm, 3:00 pm)
- Freedom Trail: Meetings, Mobs and Martyrs - The Boston Massacre and the Boston Tea Party (12:00pm, 1:00pm)
- Great Hall Talks: Boston’s Town Hall (Every half hour; 10:00pm-4:30pm)

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 26

### Charlestown Navy Yard

Board USS *Cassin Young* 10:00am–5:00pm and learn more about the women who built navy ships during World War II.

#### Join a ranger-led tour:

- USS *Cassin Young* (11:00am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm)
- Rosies of the Yard (10:00am, 2:00pm, 4:00pm)
- Pirate or Patriot? Special tour exploring the illicit sea-trade (6:30pm)

#### Live Music on Pier I

- U.S. Air Force Band (1:00pm)
- Berklee Music Concerts (2:00pm–5:00pm)

#### Hands on History Tent (1:00pm–4:00pm)

— Kids of all ages can take history home by making rope, riveting a ribbon bracelet, designing a work badge, or taking a picture at the “We Can Do It!” selfie booth

#### Special Speaker Series

- Animating the War Effort by Christina Knopf (USS Constitution Museum–1:00pm, 4:00pm)
- The Boston Harbor Islands in WWII by Donald Cann (1:30pm)
- Race and Rosie by Allison Horrocks (2:00pm)
- Lowell: The Home Front and War Production by Jack Herlihy (2:30pm)
- A Woman in Preservation Carpentry by Tracy Rines (3:00pm)
- Peggy Citarella, First Woman Welder by Julia Wagner (3:30pm)
- SWON: Shipbuilding Women of the Navy, by Ranger Polly Kienle (4:00pm)
- Rosie’s Legacy: Panel Discussion (4:30pm)

#### Movie under the stars

— WWII-era cartoons followed by 1949 movie musical “On the Town” (7:00pm–9:00pm)

### Boston African American National Historic Site

- Black Heritage Trail Tour: Boston’s role in the Underground Railroad and the fight against slavery (10:00 am, 12:00pm, 2:00 pm)
- African Meeting House Talk: The African American community of 19th century Boston & the fight against slavery (Every hour 10:00am–4:00pm)

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

### Charlestown Navy Yard

Board USS *Cassin Young* 10:00am–5:00pm and learn more about the women who built navy ships during World War II.

#### Join a ranger-led tour:

- USS *Cassin Young* (11:00am, 1:00pm, 3:00pm)
- Rosies of the Yard ( 10:00am, 2:00pm, 4:00pm)

#### Special Speaker Series

- Rosie the Riveter: Women Working on the Home Front in World War II by Penny Colman (1:00pm)
- Where the Action Was: Women Correspondents in World War II by Penny Colman (2:00pm)
- SWON: Shipbuilding Women of the Navy by Ranger Polly Kienle (12:00pm, 3:00pm)
- Animating the War Effort by Christina Knopf (USS Constitution Museum–1:00pm, 4:00pm)

#### Hands on History Tent (1:00pm–4:00pm)

— Kids of all ages can take history home by making rope, riveting a ribbon bracelet, designing a work badge, or taking a picture at the “We Can Do It!” selfie booth

#### Live Music on Pier I

- Swing Dance Demonstration with the Boston Lindy Bomb Squad (1:00pm)
- Berklee Music Concerts (2:00pm–5:00pm)
- Swing dance lessons (6:30pm)
- Tin Pan Band swing dance for all (7:00pm)