

August 2022

## LBFE Boston's Quarterly News



Hello!

This summer I have the pleasure of attending our weekly *CitySites* program in Symphony Tower. Over the course of the summer, I've worked with Northeastern student, Amber, to plan activities and build community. Every Wednesday afternoon we all get together to paint, play cards, and chit chat. Thankfully, Amber speaks Chinese and can carry conversation and help translate for several of the residents, while my good friend Frank and I play cribbage. A few weeks ago, Frank said something that struck me. He shared that his young life doesn't exist anymore – the home he grew up in has been torn down, the Charlestown Naval Yard where he was stationed is now a National Park, many of the establishments he used to frequent when he first moved to Boston are gone. He said that the older he gets, the more his past disappears. It struck me as a little sad, but also as important. We have the opportunity to learn about the places, people, and culture of yesterday from the people who lived it. What a privilege it has been to share my Wednesday afternoons learning about my adopted city from another Boston transplant who arrived decades earlier.

I also made a new friend, Bin, while attending *CitySites* this summer. Bin is originally from China and is a talented artist. With the help of Amber and the Resident Service Coordinator, Anna, I was able to chat with him a bit about his work. He is an accomplished painter and photographer, painting in the traditional Chinese style, and photographing landscapes and landmarks. After hearing about our upcoming [\*\*Friends on the Harbor fundraising gala\*\*](#) he offered to donate a few pieces for auction. He brought down a few of his favorites along with his wax seal to sign with his given name, and his artist's name. Below you will find more information on how to buy tickets to our gala for the chance to win these stunning pieces.

With our summer programs nearly over, we are busy planning for the fall. We are excited to share that this will be our biggest program session yet with *CitySites*, *Digital Dividends*, and *Creative Connections* in more than 25 different locations across the city every week. Thank you for being an important part of the LBFE family and making it possible for us to create intergenerational friendships and build community.

Warmly,

Nikki Shults



## Friends on the Harbor

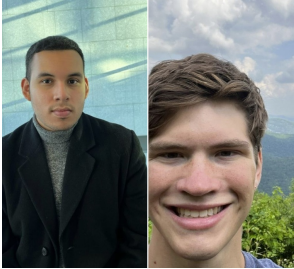
LBFE's biggest fundraising event of the year is just around the corner! Join us for an evening of celebration including, dinner, live music, special guests, raffles, silent auction, and the best views of Boston Harbor. All proceeds go towards our programs to relieve isolation and loneliness among older adults.

[Buy Tickets](#)

## Staff Update

Please join us in welcoming our new Northeastern co-op students Ben Lefevre and Richard Santamaria. Ben and Richard joined the team in July and have become fast friends with older adults at our CitySites and Digital Dividends programs.

[Meet Ben and Richard](#)



## LBFE Around Town

LBFE will be presenting at this year's Mass Council on Aging annual conference in October. The program team will be sharing best practices and expertise on Teaching Tech with older adults.

[About MCOA](#)

## Program Updates

This summer was a milestone for LBFE - we are officially 100% back to in-person programming. We continue to monitor the COVID situation and are ready to pivot as needed, but being back together again has been a real joy for older and younger participants.

We're also closing in on the end of the first year of Digital Dividends and are pleased to share that with an 85% participant retention rate we are ready to expand beyond our first four locations.

[About Our Programs](#)



## Our Partners

Our friends at the AARP MA Task Force to End Loneliness & Build Community are hosting the annual Good Neighbors Day conference on Sept 28th. The theme is "Shift Happens," looking beyond the pandemic to address social isolation and forge friendships across Massachusetts. All are welcome to attend this virtual event.

[Register Here](#)



Virtual Summit on Sept. 28 @ 10-12 ET  
Register at [endlonelinessma.com/summit](https://endlonelinessma.com/summit)

## LBFE Boston's Values

LBFE has been partnering with the YW Inclusive Boston program this year. As part of that work we have developed an updated values statement to guide our work.

[Learn More](#)



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