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Tuesday June 20th, 2023

Present: Neel Vasaveda, Declan Battles, Anthony Alamia, Stephanie Fortunato, Jessica Wallach, Clara Decerbo, Tom Claerson, Charles Baldwin, Dan Chonde, Nancy Smith, Michelle Vigilance, Bertrand Evans-Taylor, Zoe Davis, Scott Towers, Kristin Collins,

Action items

Everyone: make final invitations and spread the word! We still have a few spaces remaining for Saturday at BAMS Fest. Thursday is SOLD OUT and we are reaching room capacity.

- The event will be livestreamed. People can waitlist to receive the link/info.
- [You as a host committee member can please submit any requests for Thursday "VIP" invites here.](#) DO NOT HAVE PEOPLE WAITLIST IF YOU WOULD LIKE THEM TO ATTEND IN PERSON.

Follow us [on Instagram](#) and [on Facebook](#) so we can tag you in promos! Or help spread the word by sharing the [event graphics](#).

If you were the point of contact for the following presenters, please ask them to register ([speaker coordination doc](#)):

- Robert Gibbs (Saturday)
 - Representative from Caribbean Festival (Saturday)
- I. Joining us, roles, needs
 - Paul - describe room, building, detailed arrival info, etc.
 - Room At Berklee - AV setup 7am, Matt plus *** discuss
 - Sign-Up Table
 - Green Room
 - Putting it All Together Session
 - So you are a Mama Duck, now what? (Saturday 6/24)
 - II. Accommodations and accessibility
 - Accommodations for CART, SIGN
 - [ACCESSIBILITY & ARRIVING @ The Art of Mass Gatherings in Boston](#)
 - Golf cart and other accommodations
 - III. Other logistics
 - Coffee, Lunch
 - Live Stream

For materials, presenters can enter off of Walnut Ave off of xX Stadium to unload.

20A electric drop to the tent plus large fans rented from Home Depot?

Tips for speakers

On Thursday, we'll be using a combination of live remote CART (introduction, accessibility, community asset mapping) and AI interpretation (other sessions) on Thursday. Good audio is critical to help ensure good interpretation.

Rule of thumb: put your thumb on your chin and that's the distance the microphone should be from your mouth. Please remind fellow panelists.

Confirmed: A four-person golf cart that could be stationed at our tent.
There are a few carts specifically assigned to vendors

Food for Mela's guests - Halal or kosher

Monday, June 12th, 2023

Action items

- Thursday is SOLD OUT - we reserved some tickets for our own latecomers and VIP (select [Thursday VIP ticket type from this link](#) or use access code RESILIENCE22)
- LUNCH Thursday - what was the cost and how did we settle?
- Should we still do Press Junket?

Agenda

- IV. Registration update
- V. Firming up of VIP addresses
- VI. Program updates, scheduling/choosing speakers tools
 - [List of confirmed presenters](#)
- VII. Communications/press updates
 - Invite your networks! [People Planning \(Presenters/Speakers\) - Art of Mass Gatherings in Boston!](#)
- VIII. Next steps
 - If you are a primary contact for a confirmed speakers/presenters, [please add their contact info](#) to the speakers spreadsheet (fill out all green columns) so we can contact them to register and provide their bio/photo.

Invite your networks!

1. Share the FB event for [Thursday at BAMS CONX](#) and/or [Saturday at BAMS Fest!](#)
2. Find event graphics you can post and sample invitation text in our [Event Launch Kit](#).
3. Follow us [on Instagram](#) and [on Facebook](#) so we can tag you in promos!

Click the image below to download it or [find all event graphics here](#).



Monday, June 5th, 2023

Present: Majestic (Matt, Jessica, Bert, Jenny), Christine Poff (Franklin Park), Nancy Smith (OEM), Ciara Culligan (Emerald Necklace), Kristin Collins (OEM), Latifa Ziyad, Mela, Paul, Melissa Hector, Michelle Vigilance, Scott Towers, Stephanie Fortunato, later Kenny

Action items

-

Agenda

- IX. Program updates, scheduling/choosing speakers tools
 - [Jam Board: visual aid](#) - Triangle is confirmed. Diamond means no honoraria required
 - [List of confirmed presenters](#)
- X. Communications/press updates
 - Invite your ne[People Planning \(Presenters/Speakers\) - Art of Mass Gatherings in Boston](#)works!
 - Press junket updates/discussion
- XI. Registration update.

Register now!

- Congratulations! We've only got NINE public spots left for Thursday's BAM CONX event! 31 people have already registered!

- A fantastic 23 people have already registered for Saturday. We've got plenty of more room so keep those invitations coming!

XII. Next steps

- If you are a primary contact for a confirmed speakers/presenters, [please add their contact info](#) to the speakers spreadsheet (fill out all green columns) so we can contact them to register and provide their bio/photo.
- [Add your organization's details](#) for inclusion as an event partner

Invite your networks!

4. Share the FB event for [Thursday at BAMS CONX](#) and/or [Saturday at BAMS Fest!](#)
5. Find event graphics you can post and sample invitation text in our [Event Launch Kit](#).
6. Follow us [on Instagram](#) and [on Facebook](#) so we can tag you in promos!

Click the image below to download it or [find all event graphics here](#).



The area in front of the second stage (top left) probably more of a risk in rain.

Resilience booth

- Location
- About six organizations from the city, public health, and community

- L-shape of tables facing outward
- Capacity of about 65-70 people

4 different time shifts wherein festivalgoers can drop in

Notes from Franklin Park accessibility:

Sorry, my laptop died, but is plugged in again - for accessibility: we do not have moveable features unfortunately, but we place our events so that wheelchairs and walkers can use a paved path to join activities. Also, the Park Rangers can reserve more parking for those who need to get closer to the festival. - christinepoff@gmail.com

If you go to the homepage on our website you'll find the action plan and a summary we created - the original is 450 pages, but we created a summary of bulleted recommendations that is easier to read. <https://www.franklinparkcoalition.org>

Request from Darian:

Which performances will be available with ASL and alternatives for BAMS Fest.

Ciara / Emerald Necklace has been reaching out regarding ASL interpretation but they haven't found a provider who can do it yet.

For Ian if joining us, the Element hotel is well-equipped for wheelchair access and other needs.

NB: Still working on timeframe for Narcan; Stop the Bleed will be present all day; but CPR Anytime (American Red Cross) will be available only for 4 hours but also should accept festivalgoers

Tuesday, May 30th, 2023

Action items

- Nancy to e-connect Darian and Ciara (Emerald Necklace) about ASL providers for BAMS Fest
- Nancy to reach out to Darlene and confirm participants from various city/medical presenters
- Jenny has updated the partners graphic re: feedback, to potentially add access icons to the event graphic
- Seeking "Momma Duck" roles (1-2 per rotation)

- Ciara will loop back about their team's availability for "Momma Duck" leads during rotations; she personally is likely encumbered overseeing ASL interpreters

Agenda

- XIII. Program updates, scheduling/choosing speakers tools
 - [Jam Board: visual aid](#) - Triangle is confirmed. Diamond means no honoraria required
 - [Presenters confirmation page](#)
- XIV. Communications/press updates
 - Invite your networks!
 - Press junket updates/discussion
- XV. Registration update
- XVI. Next steps
 - If you are a primary contact for a confirmed speakers/presenters, [please add their contact info](#) to the speakers spreadsheet (fill out all green columns) so we can contact them to register and provide their bio/photo.
 - AoMG event page with program will go live shortly
 - [Add your organization's details](#) for inclusion as an event partner

Invite your networks!

7. Share the FB event for [Thursday at BAMS CONX](#) and/or [Saturday at BAMS Fest!](#)
8. Find event graphics you can post and sample invitation text in our [Event Launch Kit](#).
9. Follow us [on Instagram](#) and [on Facebook](#) so we can tag you in promos!

Click the image below to download it or [find all event graphics here](#).



Resilience booth

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Ciara / Emerald Necklace has been reaching out regarding ASL interpretation but they haven't found a provider who can do it yet.

For Ian if joining us, the Element hotel is well-equipped for wheelchair access and other needs.

NB: Still working on timeframe for Narcan; Stop the Bleed will be present all day; but CPR Anytime (American Red Cross) will be available only for 4 hours but also should accept festivalgoers.

Meeting agenda/notes, Mon. May 15th

Present: Nancy Smith, Tara Murphy (Nashua OEM), Stephanie Fortunato, Tom Claeson, Matthew Kowal, Jessica Wallach, Jenny Filipetti, Latifa Ziyad. As of top of the hour Paul Willis; later Ciara Culligan; at beginning also Clara Decerbo (Providence OEM).

- I. Program updates
- II. (Almost) ready for launch!
 - A. Timeline (press outreach, event goes live, etc)
 - B. [Resources to share the event with your networks](#) (await Matt's notes on when we go live!)
 - C. [Press release](#)
- III. Revisiting old business
 - A. [Add your organization's details](#) for inclusion as an event partner

From Clara: Providence Arts, Culture, and Tourism potentially interested in attending/sharing

- PVD Fest moved to September

Speaker updates

Update from Nancy on OEM staff speaking at Thursday's event

>> Preferable to list it as "OEM staff" as they figure out exact speaker details

>> Re. any potential additional programming Friday, Boston OEM is supporting Providence so may not be highly available

Stephanie knows [Leah Bamberger](#), Director of Sustainability at Northeastern, working on environmental justice plan.

- <https://news.northeastern.edu/2023/04/26/climate-justice-action-art-murals>
- Nancy will loop back to Zoe first

Accessibility sessions: Folks confirmed to participate on a tour on Saturday (accessibility): Wilbur Brown, Bianca (will join on the next call), and Chris. Latifa is working on confirming Heather Watkins.

Jessica from Museum of Fine Arts will join on next call.

Community engagement: Dan Chonde confirmed he can speak on either Thurs/Sat

Thursday location confirmed: Loft in the [David Friend Recital Hall](#), Genko Uchida building at 921 Boylston Street. Other [venue details/transit](#)

Press junket at Nia Grace's venues

- [Grace by Nia](#) at Seaport
- [The Underground Cafe & Lounge](#)

Paul performed songs from this album on Saturday at the Roxbury Community College Homecoming - <https://paulwillisishiphop.bandcamp.com/album/wonderland-teachers-edition>

Press release notes

- To simultaneously go out from BAMS Fest and Majestic Collaborations
- Paul is building a press list, CBS and WBZ will be coming out to film the CONX. The Globe will be writing an article (typically from a performing artist angle).

The Loft (921 Boylston St, 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02115)

Action items

- **Sustainability session:** Stephanie will connect with Leah Bamberger, and Nancy will resync with Zoe
- **Sustainability session:** Nancy will reach out to city person involved in Open Streets to connect Latifa (Boston edition of Take Back the Streets modeled after Bogotá). If not available, Shane (contractor) as next step.
- **Safety, health:** Nancy to text Melissa Hector about topics she'd like to cover either or both days
- **Accessibility session:** Nancy and Latifa to continue finalizing speaker availability
- **Accessibility session:** Jessica to schedule another accessibility meeting after next host committee meeting.
- Start organizing an in-person press junket
 - Paul is reaching out to Nia Grace
 - Schedule for after Memorial Day

Notes from internal team meeting, Tuesday May 9th

More strategic if press release goes out on Tuesday.
Draft ready by Thurs/Fri

[Current program outline of both Thurs/Sat](#)

Jamboard

- Phone number for event questions / accessibility requests?
- Which questions are needed for which event: food, accessibility, etc.

NB: Festival on Saturday starts at noon

- Nancy will reach out to volunteer coordinator Lanelle Sneed: Lanelle@bamsfest.org
- Bert will be [leading community engagement session](#) today

Updates from Latifa

- Spoke with Helena, VP of Meet Boston (first African American VP in their history) who is launching a new initiative on accessibility for festivals and can speak
- Wilbur Brown or Heather Watkins
 - Nancy has spoken with Wilbur about this. He worked in this area as investigator for inspection services, more recently an amputee using a prosthetic, and he lives across the street from Franklin Park. He will join the next host committee meeting. He's also done his own program for 30 years for people in recovery.
- Spoke with Children's Museum (climate change perspective), they said they were interested but not sure
- Carl Donalson (possible sp) - doing session on self-care for first responders in CERT as part of their Unit 5 Disaster Psychology - to present Qi Gong during opening as part of community engagement, health, safety / self-care
- Action item: Will check-in with the person who handles safety / hospital response for Boston Marathon bombing
 - Nancy could also invite Matt Kearney who handles coordination from Boston OEM perspective

Notes from Jessica

- Community engagement: Dan Shadday (possible sp) from People's Heart - in COVID under his direction led program to put instructions for x-rays on an iPad to meet patients languages
 - Action item: will check in today (e-mailed last week)

Theme: Boston as a Hub of Black Creativity: Safety, Sustainability, Community Engagement, and Accessibility.

1 May 2023

Present: Latifa Ziyad, Scott Towers, Paul Willis, Bertrand Evans-Taylor, Nancy Smith, Tom Claeson, Charles G. Baldwin, Jessica Wallach, Matthew Kowal, Jenny Filipetti

Agenda

- Welcome, Latifa! (Latifa)
- Discuss final event details, times, and programming (Matt)
 - Announce what's set (Paul)
- Getting ready for event launch
 - [Preview of graphics](#) (Jenny)
 - Please fill out [partner form](#) (Jenny)
 - Press release, [local press list](#) and earned media (Bert)
 - [Majestic Collaborations Boston Press List](#)
- Programming updates
 - Accessibility (Jessica)
 - Community engagement working group (Bert)

Accessibility committee updates

- [View updates to our host committee speakers jamboard here \(boards 3-7\)](#)
- [Boston Accessibility Session Ideas:](#)

The founding questions:

1. What questions do YOU have about accessibility and mass gatherings?
2. Where does Boston need to move in terms of mass gatherings and accessibility? What do we perhaps know but haven't widely implemented yet?
3. Interesting intersections across accessibility and other pillars: safety, sustainability, and community engagement
 - a. Transportation and parking and honoring the people who are coming with a variety of accessibility needs whether or not they identify as disabled

Current thought about structure would be a large tour on Saturday where people can rotate to get a sense of what does and doesn't work to meet various accessibility needs. Next steps will be inviting speakers/facilitators.

Nancy reminds the group of one of the underlying goals of this event—using this event as a launchpad to help strengthen BAMS Fest— and the importance of flowing with festival production/rhythms as they evolve.

BAMS Fest Updates

- Field space on Saturday is getting increasingly limited. We can be hosted under existing 40x40' tent but we would need a rain plan because the artists doing live painting would need to move under the tent.
- Person from Seattle planning a 5-mile bike ride to support Black-owned businesses that ends at BAMS— likely will be at the Ride Share where they can do the bike pickup with their truck and then enjoy the festival.
- Continuing to work on grants and sponsorships
- Major milestone: headliners will be announced starting today
 - Future pushes will be for food vendors, businesses, and the conference

Other notes

- Bosch participation: happy to help however they can but their venues are a bit far away from Franklin Park
 - Mostly equipment they've used to meet accessibility needs have been rentals; Scott will confirm the rental companies.
 - Scott does have a resource list of humans / captioning resources (but trickier via state law when it comes to businesses/
 - Boston Children's Museum was getting rid of a small portable ramp but not sure where it's landed
- Any accessibility needs from artists to main stage?
 - Paul will confirm. None from lead vocalists but to confirm about band members.
- From Boston OEM offices, can deploy electronic boards with directions, will get update on this as well as generators, etc.
- Nancy will soon be talking with Jessica (*missed last name*), former chief of staff for former Commissioner for City of Boston disability, now at Museum of Fine Arts.
- Nancy has two confirmed folks excited about doing the walk-through

Graphics and communications

- View [preview of graphics!](#)
- Please fill out [partner form](#).
- What messaging would resonate? What materials would be helpful?
 - Allowing people to come out of their homes and feel safe, feeding into mental health as an ability to commune and convene at BAMS Fest

- Centering the local nature of the event, founded by an African-American artist and arts advocate/champion. [Read the herstory](#). Its ties to movements around self-identity and self-determination.
- >> Highlight Catherine T. Morris and the governor
- BAMS Fest as a public health response to racism in Boston. The need to highlight Black creators and events, and building Boston's reputation as a destination city via BAMS Fest and Black Boston in general, shift how Boston is received as a city for Black creatives.
- NAACP coming to Boston in mid-July
- Latifa suggests getting some media play for a tour of BAMS Fest inviting some of the NAACP leaders who may be local or onsite earlier. Nancy mentions that their youth group may be an easy way to do this bridging.
- "Summer of Black Boston" as part of city promotion
- There was a thought for a "press junket" with Paul/Nancy/Latifa plus maybe Cat + Emerald Necklace + ? At a coffee shop and give a quick talk and answer questions?
- Juneteenth as another nice bubbling up moment, perhaps a few days prior so as to give each their room
- Continual press attention as "cresting, as the cultural wave comes closer to the shore"
- About safety: Latifa notes that with 10,000 people at the BAMS festival, there was no violence: the planning is done in the spirit of love, forethought for safety, etc. Over the years people have become distanced from the park because of events that were violent, a phenomenon that the festival seeks to reverse.
 - Track record: 0 issues of violence at BAMS. Possible safety session of how this has been cultivated? Mel King's "Love is the question and love is the answer" as throughline.
- [Boston Press List](#)
 - Please add contacts!

Announcing a community engagement working group!

- Bert will organize for Tuesday May 9th at 4pm

Sustainability

- Ideas from Latifa: Maritime Fest in East Boston, Boston Museum of Science, Boston Aquarium, Boston Public Library has an interesting exhibit on Boston cross-sectional resiliency. Museum of Science has their finger on the pulse of cutting-edge technology to support sustainability
- Arboretum that borders the park, also the New England Zoo

Boston Art of Mass Gatherings

<https://bit.ly/aomgbosnotes>

18 April 2023

View the [event planning portal](https://bit.ly/aomgBOS) (bit.ly/aomgBOS)

Present: Tara Murphy (Nashua OEM), Anthony Alamia, Paul Willis, Berta Grossman (Boston Office of Public Health Preparedness and Medical Reserve Corps administrator), Majestic Collaborations (Matthew, Jessica, Jenny), Kristin Collins, Anissa Ray, Tom Claeson (Performing Arts Readiness), Scott Towers, Andrew Sharpe (Bams Fest / Authentic Caribbean Cuisine). NB: at midway mark, Charles Baldwin joined and

Agenda

1. Group check-in
2. Quick Review [Art of Mass Gatherings program outline](#) below
 - Please add ideas for additional people we should reach out to about participating as speakers/presenters.
 - After this meeting, please make intros for us with speakers! [Here is template text and FAQ.](#)
3. MAIN Topic for Today: **Accessibility Speakers**
 - Jessica presents a brief AoMG Accessibility speaker highlights and the format
 - **Jessica has prepared an [interactive survey](#)**
 - If you nominated a speaker (or know about them), please be ready to share a little!
 - Ready, set, GO! We will rank choices... giving us plenty of time to make invitations
4. Next steps and leads for programming activities outside the Art of Mass Gatherings official program on Friday.
 - Prior to event: medical / harm reduction training for BAMS fest volunteers
 - Community Booth: What needs to get solidified to move forward?

- 20X40 or what size? Add to order? We have some budget. OUR SIZE: 50 attendees plus presenters (15?)

5. Preparing for next steps

- **Submit your details to be included as an event partner!**

- Logos received in time will be included on the event flyer
- Description, links, etc. will be available on the program website
- Additional items

Meeting notes

Notes and updates from Paul

- Berkley a partner and waiving all space fees
- City of Boston also waiving fees including on police/security
- Fenway Health will table (and serve as volunteer responders in addition to the official event EMT tent)
- Working on finding festival captains who lead event areas

Garbage to Gardens handles compost collection for the City of Boston.

<https://garbagetogarden.org/curbside-compost-boston-massachusetts.php>

Paul: Flush is the company we're using for restrooms. <https://flushservices.com>

Andrew notes there is a lot of talk about "inclusion" but the reality is often not comprehensive of people with disabilities.

>> Yerba maté vendor can provide drinks for Art of mass Gatherings programming (regular drinking water is also available)

NAAC - Network of Arts Administrators of Colour – Charles can send the invite to their network

Action items

- Paul to confirm about space for the Community Booth
 - Add a new tent (upon confirming at what tent size creates permitting issues: 20x40ft?)
 - May have space already available
-

Boston Art of Mass Gatherings

<https://bit.ly/aomgbosnotes>

3 April 2023

View the [event planning portal](https://bit.ly/aomgBOS) (bit.ly/aomgBOS)

Present: Jen Mergel (Emerald Necklace Conservancy), Tim Hall, Paul Willis, Stephanie Fortunato, Nancy Smith, Mela Bush, Andrew Sharpe, Tom Claeson, Bertrand Evans-Taylor, Jessica Wallach, Jenny Filipetti, Matthew Kowal, Tara Murphy (Nashua OEM), Hank Perkins, Charles G. Baldwin, Melissa Hector,

Agenda

6. Group check-in
7. Review [Art of Mass Gatherings program outline](#) below
 - Please add ideas for additional people we should reach out to about participating as speakers/presenters.
 - After this meeting, please make intros for us with speakers! [Here is template text and FAQ.](#)
8. Discuss next steps and leads for programming activities outside the Art of Mass Gatherings official program on Friday.
 - Prior to event: medical / harm reduction training for BAMS fest volunteers
 - Possibility of an electrical safety workshop led by Richard Cadena
 - Community Booth: What needs to get solidified to move forward?
9. Preparing for next steps
 - Any specific information we want/need to capture from people during registration? [View the questions we already ask.](#)
 - **Submit your details to be included as an event partner!**
 - Logos received in time will be included on the event flyer

- Description, links, etc. will be available on the program website
- Color scheme preferences for event ([view past events](#)) - See files from Paul!
- Additional items

Action items after this meeting

Everyone:

- **Submit your details to be included as an event partner!**
- Please make intros for us with speakers: [Here is template text and FAQ.](#)

Nancy:

- **With Melissa**, will coordinate with Felicia Robinson, Boston EMS, etc on what could be feasible as a 45-minute workshop for the safety session
- Will also coordinate with the Water Truck
- Will e-mail Lanelle Sneed, Program & Volunteer Manager, Lanelle@bamsfest.org about training for BAMS Fest staff/volunteers: the number of people and some possible dates/times in May or early June

Paul, Nancy, Matt, Jenny, Tom(?) and who else(?) will meet separately about the Community Booth

Matt will coordinate next steps for getting a liaison from BAMS Fest / Art of Mass Gatherings

- Andrew Sharpe
- Latifa

Melissa will coordinate with Paul about potential training for BAMS Fest staff/volunteers.

Meeting notes

Live BIPOC ASL interpretation as a possibility via Jen Mergel

Updates from Paul: Closing stages of closing negotiations with Berklee (likely will have Performance Center and Recital Hall as well as smaller classrooms for morning and majority of afternoon).

NB: festival comprises about 18 acres

OEM Region 1 includes Nashua OEM (Justin Case / Taylor)

Via Nancy: Deputy Superintendent Felicia Robinson - Stop the Bleed, CPR, Narcan

- For training to BAMS Fest staff/volunteers, just need to know number of people and some possible dates/times
- Also being onsite at festival with classes
- Training size
 - 24 per session - 3 trainers and Deputy
 - Until HELP Arrive 2 hrs virtual and 2 hrs in-person (3 trainers and Deputy Supt.)

Melissa Hector: I can see if Boston EMS is available to present on CPR/Narcan

At BAMS Fest, definitely doing trash and recycling. FYI: Boston as a city is single-stream recycling.

Idea for incorporating an element of the fashion / waste reduction learning outcome: We all would wear something upcycled/rescycled/fashion show like, but just us and then we would describe quick in a audio description way...overlap sustainability and accessibility and art/FUN

NB: At BAMS Fest, about 30 food trucks and chefs... and 75 small business vendors

<https://stores.savers.com/ma/westroxbury/savers-thrift-store-1065.html>

Adding info on the BAMS Fest website/flyer and also our event, social media, etc on bringing a water bottle plus statistics around how many plastic bottles otherwise end up in waste streams.

Community Booth

Ideally(?) both Friday June 23rd and Saturday, June 24th. To discuss together. Here are a few of the programming ideas that have surfaced so far:

- Workshop on community owned solar and the City of Boston pilot solar program
- Workshop or informational resources on building an emergency kit or creating an emergency plan
- Mobile mammography or community health screening van
- Can be something we make available to other collaborators (e.g. asset mapping session "presenters") as a value add for participating
- Tours of the festival from a four pillars perspective

Boston Art of Mass Gatherings

<https://bit.ly/aomgbosnotes>

Art of Mass Gatherings program outline

The Art of Mass Gatherings will use BAMS Fest as a classroom to build community resilience through experiential learning in these four pillars: safety, accessibility, sustainability, and community engagement. This section outlines the main content areas of our day (in addition to lunch and a participatory wrap-up exercise). During our meeting, let's discuss topic priorities and potential speakers in more detail! Jot down any ideas directly in this doc.

[View the host committee program priority survey results](#)

Introductions

Majestic Collaborations in collaboration with our host committee will facilitate introductions and wayfinding as the first part of the program. Are there people whom you would like to invite to say a few words of welcome? We also will want to extend the possibility to a local culture bearer of opening with a land recognition.

Community Engagement (approx 45 min)

Our idea for structure for this session is a collaborative keynote, dedicated to the question of: *Who are you centering/inviting into the gatherings you design?* We know BAMS Fest itself fills an important role for centering Black musicians and creative entrepreneurs in Boston. This topic also invites considerations related to physical and sensory accessibility, language justice, and more.

Potential presenters to discuss and add ideas:

- Keith Jones / [Josh Crary](#)
- Paul Willis (if available)
- Dan Chande
- Nancy Smith
- Dr. Darlene Flores
- Melissa Hector

Safety (approx 45 min)

This session is ideally hands-on, covering one or more topics related to safety. We probably only have time for a single training session (and a short one at that); alternatively we could accommodate a few topics/perspectives if this were structured more like a site tour or a series of mini-conversations/sessions.

Possible topics (to discuss, additions/variations welcome!):

- Permitting and planning processes
- Creating a basic emergency kit/plan
- Tour identifying site safety considerations/features
- Mini-workshop on identifying an overdose and administering naran
- Mini-workshop on basic medical response

Potential presenters:

- Nancy Smith
- Mayor's office
- Hank Perkins, Community Liaison for Boston Fire Department: henry.perkins@boston.gov (617) 343-2172
- Berklee's Public Safety
- Who else do you know?

Accessibility (approx 45 min)

Most likely this will be a highly interactive session co-led by at least 2-3 facilitators. It will involve touring the festival, responding to site features, pointing out accessibility roses and thorns, and inviting conversation from participants about their own experiences and expertise related to accessibility.

Potential presenters:

- [Heather Watkins](#) (Latifa Knows Heather and highly recommends)
- [Keith Jones](#)
- [Ellice Patterson](#)
- Anyone else we cannot miss reaching out to?
- [Josh Crary](#)
- [Elbert Joseph](#) - Deaf arts advocate
- [Spectrum Theatre Ensemble](#)
 - A colleague just joined their board and was sharing their plans with me. Also, they have been on-site for performances @ Trinity Rep this season

Sustainability (approx 45 min)

You voted and we heard you! Waste reduction and management is a big priority for this group. It would be great to have some hands-on demonstrations (e.g. three-stream recycling) and/or show-and-tell from local experts and service providers.

Action items:

Potential presenters:

- Ideas welcome!! Please add them to this list. We'll also be fielding ideas from Jen Mergel from the Emerald Necklace Conservancy.
- [Boston Water Truck](#): has a drinking water truck that they can bring on site fill your own container
 - Potential also education/outreach about the quality of Boston tap water
- Sustainable Fashion, demo, presentation, show? Mela: suggested table/models/demo
- [GHP Powered](#) (solar power sound) working in Franklin park for years
- *Non-local*: OVRDRV Energy/Footprint Project

- *Non-local*: Zero-Waste Events (Tyler) - three-stream recycling and composting demo
- [Maggie Owens](#), Planner in Boston Parks & Recreation
- From Tom Claerson: If there is interest, I know that some of the staff at the Museum of Fine Arts are working on Green Initiatives for the Museum and I could reach out to them.
- Providing info about hydration stations and public health connection
- [ACE](#) doing lots of work on air quality, community / environment (e.g. diesel emissions reduction ordinance) - collaborating also with some community-owned solar companies

Asset Mapping (approx 60 min)

An Arts & Cultural Resilience Asset (ACRA) Map documents the physical infrastructure, capacities, and knowledge stewarded by local arts, culture, and event industries. [Learn more here!](#)

Majestic Collaborations will facilitate this interactive session, but we like to kick off each pillar by inviting a local luminary (whom we have prepped in advance) to give an example of what kind of assets to include... usually that means providing a quick intro about themselves or their organization, and then sticking it on the map! This is meant to clarify the activity that participants will then complete themselves, so intros should only be 1-2 minutes. This session doesn't require any prep work besides meeting with our team in advance so we can walk through the session structure/goal.

Potential guest intros:

Please add ideas in the appropriate column!

Safety	Accessibility	Sustainability	Community Engagement

Accessibility: Spectrum Theatre Ensemble, <https://www.stensemble.org/> (Lizzie is on the board)
Tina Pederson, RAMP (accessibility)

Safety: Clara Decerbo, PEMA Director (emergency planning), Allison Barry, ACT Cultural Affairs Manager

Community Engagement: Lizzie Araujo-Haller (community engagement - municipal relationships (permitting) / operations + production), Stephanie Fortunato (community engagement - municipal relationships, permitting), Stay Silent PVD -- Jason Almeida and Sabrina Chadhary

Sustainability: Does anyone know the Newport Folk Festival people? They do an awesome job on sustainability -- I think Lizzie has a contact.

Boston Art of Mass Gatherings

<https://bit.ly/aomgbosnotes>

2nd host committee meeting

20 March 2023

Attendees: Dan Chonde, Zoe Davis, Paul Willis, Anne Taylor, Scott Towers, Nancy Smith, Stephanie Fortunato, Mela Bush, Andrew Sharpe, Anthony Alami, Kristin Collins, Clara Decerbo, Richard Cadena, Matthew Kowal, Bertrand Evans-Taylor, Jenny Filipetti, Dr. Darlene Flores, Hank Perkins. Melissa Hector joined partway through!

[Slides from today](#)

[Notes from last meeting](#)

Agenda

5 Minutes Overview of the [Art of Mass Gatherings](#)

10 minutes Overview of the [Boston Art & Music Soul Festival](#)

Clarifying host committee commitment/perks

Review Survey of program priorities and outcomes. [Take the survey](#) or [view results](#)!

25 Minutes Program Development & Session Leads

- [Jamboard for speaker and topic brainstorming](#)
- (we will also be porting ideas from the Jamboard into this [speakers brainstorming doc](#)) and make an e-mail intro for us ([sample text you can use](#)).

Notes

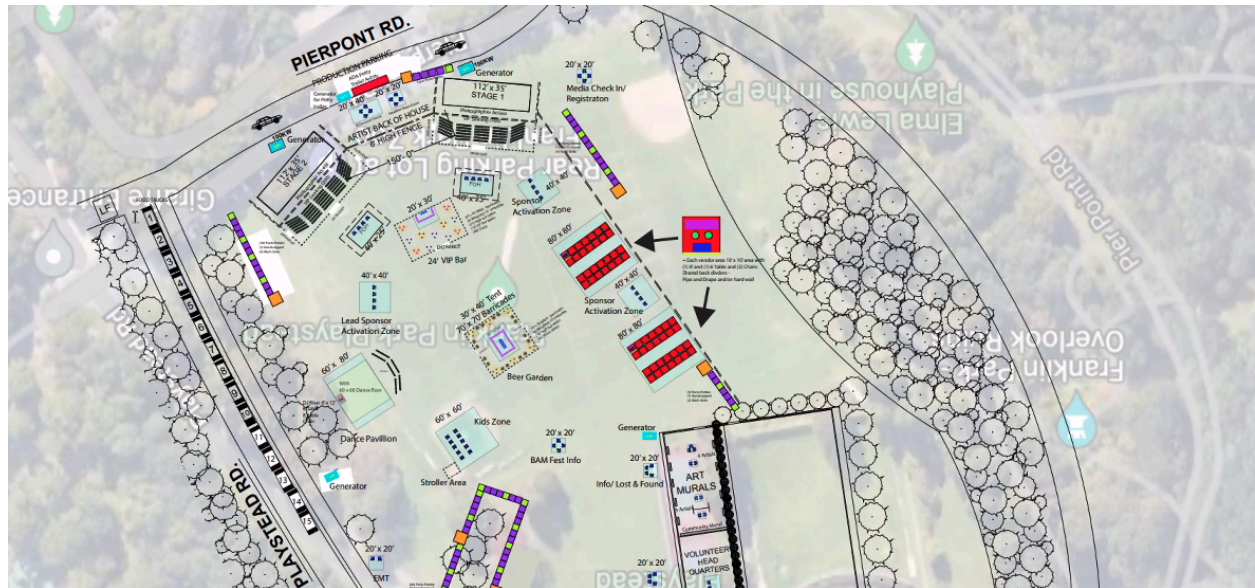
Recap of the Art of Mass Gatherings event structure

- Involvement during the conference on Thursday
- Art of Mass Gathering event on Friday, June 23rd: approx. 10a-4p shifting into the opening concert (about 5000 attendees expected on Friday)
- A community engagement tent throughout BAMS Fest
 - Nine municipalities will be rolling out [CERT](#)
- Interactive site tours in safety, accessibility, sustainability, and community engagement, plus a special topic/certification. Suggested special topics:
 - [You are the Help Until Help Arrives](#) (typically a 3-hour class)
 - CPR / Tourniquet care
 - Accessibility and interacting with the public
 - "CPR Anytime" via Boston OEM / Boston EMS and "Tourniquet care" - Have been able to do short introductions >> And then they could go ahead afterwards with certifications. City will be rolling out the program in the future.
 - Narcan administration as a third one.

<https://bit.ly/aomgbosnotes>

>> Nancy mentions they could also lead more in-depth classes (e.g. 2 hours) for BAMS Fest staff/volunteers in advance of event weekend

Site footprint



Notes: live mural painting, kids area, two stages, food vendors

BAMS Fest occupies about 18.5 acres within Franklin Park

Transit FYI from Paul: *Our planning team has talked about a couple of drop off points for The Ride.*

One on Seaver Street by the bus stop, and another either along Pierpont Road or the Artist/Volunteer Drop Off area. We'll work to have a finalized version on our website in the next couple of weeks.

Welcome new host committee members!

Dan Chonde - Physician at community hospital. Works on getting art into hospital and also pushing health/hospital resources out into community

Richard Cadena - Events electrics specialist and instructor

Zoe Davis - Project manager in Climate Ready boston team for city of Boston

Andrew Sharpe - Chairman of Authentic Caribbean Food Foundation - involvement in festivals in MA and RI

Mela Bush - Transit-oriented development director but here representing We Power communication and marketing organization she runs with her daughter.

Melissa Hector - Director of Strategic and Equitable Initiatives at Boston Public Health Commission, formerly at Mayor's Office for capacity building in human health and services. Oversees city's COVID-19 community engagement response.

Hank Perkins - Community liaison for Boston Fire Department including fire safety presentations for Boston Public Schools

Dr. Darlene Flores - On committee for Indigenous People's Day Newton

Nancy Smith Boston Office of Emergency Management	Paul Willis (he/him/his) Managing Director of BAMS CFest	Charles Baldwin (he/him) Massachusetts Cultural Council - Runs Access Programs internally and externally for the council charles.baldwin@mass.gov
Anne Taylor Boch Center (Wang Theatre and Schubert Theatre)	Scott Towers (he/him) Boch Center (Wang Theatre and Schubert Theatre), in particular represents the Folk Americana Roots Hall of Fame (FARHOF)	Anthony Alamia (he/him) - Catastrophic program - City of Boston Office of Emergency Management - In collaboration with city of Providence, goal of enhancing community spaces
Stephanie Fortunato (she/her) New business for arts and cultural strategy, former Director of ACT of Providence	Stefanie Jones (she/her) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Safer Partying</i> - drug education and harm reduction (her own organization)• <i>Fireside Project</i> - psychedelic peer support line for emotional support	Matthew Kearney (he/him) Director of Operations for Boston OEM
Clara Decerbo (she/her) Providence Office of Emergency Management	Mika Jones (she/her) Office of Emergency Management	Lori Caiby (she/her) Employee support for boston public health commission, also a doula. From the Caribbean Lcaiby@bphc.org

Kristin Collins (she/her) Boston OEM - Regional Emergency Managemetrn Planner	Tom Claerson Performing Arts Readiness project director	Jessica Wallach (she/her) Accessibility and documentation lead for Majestic Collaborations.

Interim planning meetings

15 March 2023

Next steps:

- Paul to connect us with Samantha Rose Hale (they/them), Director of Grants and Programs in the City, if cannot reach Kara.
- Collectively will start inroads for first responder training and community health / police / emergency services via Nancy first
- The community health screening van

Concluding notes about topics/program

1. **Special topics that would be useful training for BAMS staff and volunteers:**
 - a. Accessibility and interactions with the public;
 - b. Be the help until the help arrives / first responder training.
2. Potentially BAMS sharing insight into their volunteer onboarding process

Notes

On Thursday conference, sessions start at 10:30 to 3:30, 4 sessions, and lunch

BAMS Fest need: Go live about ticketing fairly soon > need to know estimated attendance for Thursday conference in particular

Food Vendor, potential sponsor: Rhythm N Wraps - <https://www.rhythmnwraps.com/>

Rainy day space options for Friday, June 23rd

- <https://www.instagram.com/nftspaceboston/> and <https://www.nubiangalleryroxbury.com/>

Event will use WARE security - may also be a better fit than Boston PD for talking about security concerns etc during the event

Additional people to invite to host committee and/or speakers (permitting, fire, etc)?

- >> Boston Police / Fire - has Community office but with recently reduced budgets. If someone there is available, we could get them involved but if it is NOT community engagement folks they should not be invited because of ongoing issues of bias, pre-existing issues in relations between the event and their organizations, etc. NB: Commissioner also very much supports the festival. Also these departments are typically understaffed (even more than usual: only 300 officers in the city) and overworked.
 - To get community office, nudges from other offices may be helpful.
- City is currently waiving many of the fees for permitting etc.
- Police need to be paid an extra fee in order to actually be stationed at the event
- May not be able to have emergency responders onsite all day. **It would thus be great to have training around basic first aid, first response, CPR, you are the help until the help arrives for BAMS staff and volunteers.** Paul is working with hospitals and organizations in public health
 - "This event is a public health response to racism" - Bring people together, share resources, etc.

- Let's ask Nancy about providing medical professionals, great chance her office has this and can do it - maybe a few weeks out
- Hope of finding say \$5k for full event onsite medical, a few hundred for weather

Had staffed shaded cooldown stations with water

13 March 2023

Concluding status update: Currently leaning towards Friday AoMG event, with potential involvement at Thurs. Conference via sessions and/or office hours if we find additional budget. This itself might be coverable by separate Performing Arts Readiness arts administration presenting budget.

Ongoing topics to discuss: Community resilience tent during Saturday's festival (logistics of a 20x40' tent on festival footprint, as well as funding/partners thereof). Miriam from BAMS event production team would be a next partner to bring in. It would be key to have hands-on topics and relevant organizations. What will the tent really look and feel like?

Next steps: Paul and Matt to meet against this Wednesday, and next host committee meeting on Monday. See highlighted notes below for individually assigned next steps.

Recap of current status of event structure/dates

- 3 potential sites/venues at the festival
- Rain venue considerations
 - Berklee School of Music as potential rainout backup (but not walkable from park site)*
 - Hospital > nb: this is actively used for recovery services and probably no rooms that are a good fit for our use case
 - Church on Seever's St that is walkable: United House of Prayer 206 Seaver Street Boston Ma 02121 617-442-0105
- With Berklee, can also have a dedicated track within the conference
 - Berklee also has entire classes about event production/support - Some of these students BAMS is inviting to conference and as volunteers during event
 - Would just need to know room capacity etc. (they have a variety of spaces)
 - Senegroove space

* Berklee is potential partner with BAMS on Thursday conference regarding spaces, etc. Toki Wright, Chair of the Professional Music Dept. twright@berklee.edu - Primary point of contact for Paul on conference operations.

General updates

Lewis Elias - former first Black regional FEMA director will join at our next meeting and is a homeowner on Seever's Street. The person looking for original risk assessment docs done in Franklin Park in the 1980s. Privately said he's excited to connect with young folks: city has a history of supporting events until an incident and then permit gets pulled.

Cat - BAMFest Director - now on advisory to the mayor for reimagining Franklin Park

Nancy recaps her visit to the FBI in Boston about chemical threats

- Spoke with 3 people all of whom were excited about AoMG, she will introduce us
- They've been doing "soft target look-throughs"

Finding a Concierge

Emerald Necklace Conservancy - park offering \$2500 for accessibility enhancements

- Paul's contact: Jen Mergel - JMergel@emeraldnecklace.org
- Lia Kahan - lkahan@emeraldnecklace.org - Typically coordinates space, food vendors, etc.
- They want to have presence at festival in some kind of community engagement capacity but weren't sure exactly what role
- NB: Large endowment: VIP Club starts at \$2500 membership(!)
- They are housed in former Mayor's House in Jamaica Plains- have meeting room space big enough for 40-50 people plus office space, etc.
- **Next steps: Majestic to talk with Jen about Lia's involvement**

Franklin Park Coalition

- Should also be part of the host committee. They themselves host many events including vendors, artists, etc.
- Yvonne Jones is Nancy's main contact.
- **Next steps: Paul will be meeting with Ricky so will discuss this then.**

Idea of partnering with a young person doing environmental advocacy in Boston (e.g. as intern, etc).

Potential additional host committee members or otherwise outreach:

- Ajaree (name may not be accurate) started a record label at 19, everyone works on both artist and sound engineering side, as well as photography/video and business side, dabble in fashion >> The two men that were at Paul's record event, whom Nancy spoke with (they were interested in doing an internship at OEM). Paul notes they haven't done anything like this event before. **Next steps: Paul has his number so will reach out.**

Other notes and next steps

- Create accessibility sub-group within host committee
 - Jessica will mention these events to Rhoda Bernard at Berklee, director of the Institute for Accessible Arts
- Friday is setup day in Franklin Park followed by single-stage event. DJ at 4pm, concerts from 5-9pm. Lighting and staging company will be there on Friday for load-in and setup. Saturday is main festival day. Nothing planned for Sunday this year (likely to add next year).
 - Arriving around 8-9am
 - Perhaps around 11a/12p tents will be set up, etc
- Call for volunteers will open shortly
 - Trying to do training as early as possible in advance, including off-site
 - Could potentially schedule a Friday walk-through of the site

1st host committee meeting

Wednesday, 22 February 2023

BAMS 2023 on June 22, 23, and 24: conference on Thursday, show on Friday night (5-9p), and all-day Saturday (12-10p)

- Last year over 10k people, this year expecting 15k-18k
- This is the first year of doing a three-day event, typically it's a single day
- Two stages, two trucks, live mural-painting, food vendors
- Has grown quickly over the last 4 years

Goals that surfaced during discussion

- Idea of BAMS as an onboarding location for community to get interested in resilience work throughout the weekend (public interaction space that supports the mission of the larger regional grant).
- Audit of the location: The importance of showing both sunny day and stormy day visions and situations for the park, which is a target for City of Boston infrastructure improvements. Comment during the meeting: "Nancy's right. That plan for the space doesn't exist."

Topics survey: <https://form.jotform.com/majesticcollab/aomg-survey-boston>

Initial survey results: <https://eu.jotform.com/report/23052471934004722>

Getting to know each other

Here's who was on the call today:

Nancy Smith Boston Office of Emergency Management	Paul Willis (he/him/his) Managing Director of BAMS CFest	Charles Baldwin (he/him) Massachusetts Cultural Council - Runs Access Programs internally and externally for the council charles.baldwin@mass.gov
Anne Taylor Boch Center (Wang Theatre and Schubert Theatre)	Scott Towers (he/him) Boch Center (Wang Theatre and Schubert Theatre), in particular represents the Folk	Anthony Alamia (he/him) City of Boston Office of Emergency Management

	Americana Roots Hall of Fame (FARHOF)	
Stephanie Fortunato (she/her) New business for arts and cultural strategy, former Director of ACT of Providence	Stefanie Jones (she/her) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Safer Partying</i> - drug education and harm reduction (her own organization)• <i>Fireside Project</i> - psychedelic peer support line for emotional support	Matthew Kearney (he/him) Director of Operations for Boston OEM
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Kristin Collins (she/her) Boston OEM	Tom Claeson Performing Arts Readiness project director	Jessica Wallach (she/her) Accessibility and documentation lead for Majestic Collaborations.
Kyron Owens Communications Director for Boston OEM		

Other local festivals which got mentioned during the call... making them likely good candidates for outreach to get involved in the AoMG!

- Caribbean Carnival
- Boston Calling

Next steps

- Determining indoor location. Possibility of tents although these all need approval via fire, etc. This might also jive nicely with their coordinations about the conference space on Thursday: e.g. lessons on Thursday, walk-through during setup on Friday, and then see the results on Saturday. Other options might be nearby spaces / community partners.
- BAMS to formally fill out an application (?)

(idea if there is a donor/funds like the FEMA grant) Honoraria to everyone attending, providing documentation

Boston Art of Mass Gatherings

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ACCESSIBILITY NOTES

Charles (add email/title?) has a cohort looking at emergency management and accessibility, they may be good for the subcommittee

Rhoda Banard runs the Institute for Accessible Arts at Berkley