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EMERSON COLLEGE

**Institutional Master Plan Notification Form  
Renewal and Extension of the Institutional Master Plan**

**Emerson College**

**Submitted to:**

**Boston Redevelopment Authority  
One City Hall Square  
Boston, MA 02201**

**Submitted by:**

**Emerson College  
Government & Community Relations  
120 Boylston Street  
Boston, MA 02116**

**October 12, 2012**

## **Introduction**

Emerson College submits this Institutional Master Plan Notification Form (“IMP NF”) to the Boston Redevelopment Authority (“BRA”) an application for renewal and extension of the approved Institutional Master Plan, as amended, pursuant to Section 80D (Renewal of Institutional Master Plan) of the Boston Zoning Code (“Code”).

Emerson College filed a proposed Institutional Master Plan (“Original IMP”) with the BRA on October 4, 2002. The BRA approved the Original IMP on December 5, 2002. The Boston Zoning Commission (“Zoning Commission”) approved the Original IMP on December 11, 2002. The Original IMP has been amended by: (i) First Amendment to the Original IMP dated May 25, 2006 and effective July 19, 2006; (ii) Second Amendment to the Original IMP dated June 29, 2007 and effective September 26, 2007. The Original IMP with these two amendments is referred to hereinafter as the “Amended IMP”.

In addition, Emerson College respectfully requests that pursuant to Section 80D-5.2(e) (Waiver of Further Review of Unchanged Plans), the BRA, upon review of this IMP NF and subject to the BRA’s making the determinations specified in Section 80D-5.2(e), waive further review of this renewal application and approve this IMP NF and the approved Amended IMP together as the renewed Emerson College IMP.

This IMP NF seeks approval from the BRA of a renewal and extension of the term of the Amended IMP until December 11, 2014.

## **Mission**

Founded in 1880, Emerson College is committed to excellence in education for communication and the arts. Based originally on the study of oratory and the performing arts, Emerson continues to challenge students to think and express themselves with clarity, substance and insight, instilling the highest professional standards through rigorous academic inquiry and experiential learning. Its specialized major and external programs are integrated with the liberal arts and interdisciplinary study, and are informed by a set of core values that seek to promote civic engagement, encourage ethical practices, foster respect for human diversity, and inspire students to create and communicate with clarity, integrity, and conviction.

Emerson College has approximately 3,400 full-time undergraduate students and 814 graduate students.

Emerson College faculty, staff and students are committed to contributing their time and talents to support worthwhile institutions and programs in the neighborhood surrounding the College and throughout the Boston area. Attached is the most recent community service report which highlights the many ways in which the College has contributed to the community while continuing to forge new partnerships throughout the City.

### **Requested IMP Renewal and Extension**

The requested renewal and extension of the Amended IMP will permit the College to work with the BRA, City agencies, the neighborhood and stakeholders on a comprehensive planning process resulting in a new Institutional Master Plan (“IMP”). The new IMP will provide a long-term strategic plan for Emerson’s next phase of development of its campus environment and facilities.

Emerson College respectfully submits that this IMPNF for the renewal and extension of the Amended IMP meets the requirements of Section 80D-5.2(e) of the Code in that: (i) no new Proposed Institutional Projects are included in this renewal application; (ii) no changes in the Amended IMP are proposed that would constitute a change in the use, dimensional, parking or loading elements of the Amended IMP (other than de minimus dimensional changes); and (iii) no significantly greater impacts would result from continued implementation of the approved Amended IMP than were originally projected. Accordingly, Emerson College respectfully requests that the BRA, upon review of this IMPNF, waive further review of this renewal application and approve this IMPNF and the approved Amended IMP together as the renewed Institutional Master Plan for Emerson College, pursuant to Sections 80D-5.2(e) and 80D of the Code.



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EMERSON COLLEGE

## Contents

- 1 A Message from the President
- 2 Investing in Boston's Neighborhoods
- 4 Contributing Creativity, Expertise, and Resources
- 6 Bringing Town and Gown Together
- 8 Supporting Those Who Help Others
- 10 Service Learning
- 12 Students Reaching Out
- 13 Community Partners

## Mission Statement

Emerson College educates students to assume positions of leadership in communication and the arts and to advance scholarship and creative work that brings innovation, depth, and diversity to these disciplines.

This mission is informed by core liberal arts values that seek to promote civic engagement, encourage ethical practices, foster respect for human diversity, and inspire students to create and communicate with clarity, integrity, and conviction.

## Emerson College Administration and Governance

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Vice President for Information  
Technology

Ms. Christine Hughes  
Vice President and General Counsel

Ms. MJ Knoll-Finn  
Vice President for Enrollment

Dr. Linda Moore  
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Mr. Andrew Tiedemann  
Vice President for Communications  
and Marketing

### President *Emerita*

Dr. Jacqueline W. Liebergott

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## To Our Friends in the Boston Community

As I complete my first year as the 12th President of Emerson College, I feel privileged to lead this institution and to have the opportunity to meet the many neighbors, residents, and stakeholders who work and reside in the Midtown Cultural District. Within the past decade, this neighborhood has experienced an unprecedented transformation in which Emerson has played an integral part in revitalizing the historic Theatre District.

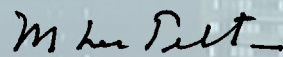
Our mission at Emerson College is to educate students to assume positions of leadership in communication and the arts while promoting civic engagement and fostering respect for human diversity. Part of the faculty's job is to enhance our student's educational experiences, both in and outside the classroom, through service learning, co-curricular coursework, and volunteer opportunities. As Mohandas Gandhi once said, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

Our students' education does not stop at the doors of Emerson's glorious creative laboratories, classrooms, and clinical spaces, but extends into their lives off campus and, ultimately, to the lives they will lead after they graduate. We hope we have instilled in them a lifelong habit of seeking to add value to—rather than extract value from—the organizations and communities to which they will belong.

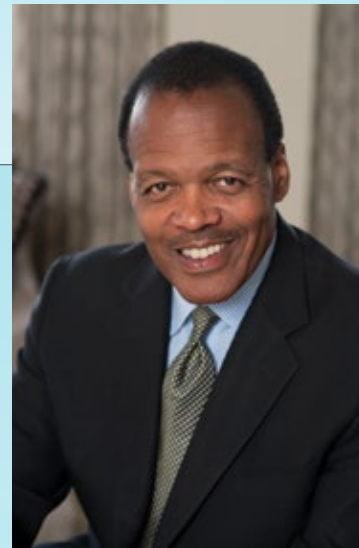
The civic engagement of our faculty and staff set wonderful examples for our students to emulate. We pledge to remain true to the authenticity of Emerson's mission, which has nurtured the College's steady progress toward being a place of distinction and excellence, and to continue our quest for new and exciting collaborations that benefit Boston's neighborhoods and our fellow citizens.

This report highlights many of the ways in which Emerson faculty, staff, and students work to strengthen our shared home, this great City of Boston.

Sincerely,



M. Lee Pelton



# Investing in Boston's Neighborhoods



## **Paramount Center Receives Numerous Awards**

Since the Paramount Center officially opened in March 2010, Emerson College has received numerous awards for its significant restoration and rehabilitation of its grand theater. The Paramount Center, a mixed-use facility, includes the 596-seat renovated Paramount Theatre, the 125-seat Jackie Liebergott Black Box Theatre, the 170-seat Bright Family Screening Room, 9 studios, a soundstage, and office space, in addition to housing 262 students.

### **Boston Preservation Alliance**

In October 2010, the Boston Preservation Alliance presented Emerson College with a Preservation Achievement Award for outstanding achievement in historic preservation and compatible new construction for the Paramount Center. The award, given in the significant rehabilitation and restoration category, was accepted by Jackie Liebergott.

### **National Trust for Historic Preservation**

The National Trust for Historic Preservation was founded in 1949 and provides leadership, education, advocacy, and resources to save America's diverse historic places and assist in revitalizing communities. In 1995, the Paramount Theatre was part of a group of historic Boston theaters on the National Trust for Historic Preservation's list of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places. As a co-recipient, Emerson College received a Preservation Honor Award for the Paramount Center on October 20, 2011, at the National Preservation Conference held in Buffalo, New York.

### **Boston Society of Architects**

Elkus Manfredi Architects received a 2010 Boston Society of Architects Honor Award for Design Excellence for the Paramount Center. The award recognizes outstanding renovation and

adaptive reuse, which entailed transforming a neglected cinema circa 1931, an arcade building, and a vacant lot into a mixed-use performing arts, academic, and residential center. Established in 1867, the Boston Society of Architects is a nonprofit, professional-service organization consisting of more than 4,000 members.

### **Preservation Massachusetts**

Emerson College and Elkus Manfredi Architects were recognized for their exemplary efforts at the Preservation Massachusetts Awards Dinner in May 2011, where they received the Paul E. Tsongas Award. The award honors those who have played an extraordinary role in promoting the preservation of the Commonwealth's past for the benefit of its future. The award recipients demonstrated a commitment to versatility, viability, and the importance of preservation at higher education institutions.





### ArtsEmerson

Other notable awards for the Paramount Center include the following:

2011 Architecture Merit Award from the United States Institute for Theater Technology (USITT)

2011 Design Excellence Award from *Live Design Magazine*

2011 Awards of Merit (exterior and interior lighting) from Illuminating Engineering Society

2010 Design Award from the American Institute of Architects, New England Chapter

Best of 2010 Project of the Year Renovation/Restoration from *New York Construction Magazine*

2010 Building Project of the Year (renovation under \$100 million) from Construction Managers Association of America, New England Chapter

Since the Paramount Center's opening, ArtsEmerson: The World On Stage has provided the community with world-class productions that bring new works in international programming, high-quality family theater, and young artist groups to the city. ArtsEmerson has featured works never before seen in the City of Boston, which is part of the College's mission to strengthen and expand its programming not only for its students, but also for the community at large.

As part of its commitment to the Boston arts community, the College has opened its doors to give nonprofit organizations the opportunity to utilize the state-of-the-art theater designed for small to mid-size performances. One example of this town-gown partnership is with Kwong Kow Chinese School, (KKCS) located in Chinatown. In collaboration with the Office of Government and Community Relations

and the Office of the Arts, KKCS administrators organized a fundraiser to benefit the school. Held at the Paramount Mainstage in April 2011, elementary and high school students performed in a music ensemble for community supporters in the Downtown Crossing and Chinatown neighborhoods.

The College is committed to contributing its time and talent to support worthwhile institutions and programs such as Kwong Kow Chinese School, and we look forward to sharing our unique cultural resources with other organizations throughout the greater Boston area.

# Contributing Creativity, Expertise, and Resources

## Friends of the Public Garden

Friends of the Public Garden (FOPG) is a nonprofit citizen's advocacy group formed in 1970 to preserve and enhance the Boston Public Garden, Boston Common, and Commonwealth Avenue Mall in collaboration with the Mayor and the Parks Department of the City of Boston. The Friends number more than 2,500 members and many volunteers.

As FOPG celebrated its 40th anniversary, Emerson College's Television, Radio, and Film Department produced a video about the history of the organization and its accomplishments over the years. The video explains the origins of the organization and how it has evolved and successfully worked with the City of Boston to transform what was once a run-down decaying park system into what it is today: a vibrant destination point for all those who visit, work, or reside in the City. The video premiered at the Union Club in November 2010 and is used to assist in the organization's educational outreach and fundraising initiatives.

## Lawyer's Clearinghouse

In Spring 2011, Emerson Productions, a unit of the Television, Radio, and Film Department, produced a video for Lawyer's Clearinghouse (LCH) that highlights the organization's work and mission. The Clearinghouse has served as a model for bar-sponsored pro bono groups establishing similar programs throughout the country, including the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Rhode Island.

The mission of LCH is to promote the development of affordable housing, reduce homelessness, and strengthen communities by providing pro bono legal services to nonprofit organizations and to individuals who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. In addition, LCH offers free legal services to nonprofit organizations or those seeking nonprofit status to further their goals. The video premiered at the organization's 23rd Annual Meeting on June 7, 2011, and is used to increase awareness about its programs and services.

## Participatory Chinatown

Participatory Chinatown, a 3-D immersive game created in part by a team from Emerson, was awarded Best Direct Impact Game of 2011 by the Games for Change Festival in New York City. Often referred to as the "Sundance of video games," the festival is an annual gathering of the world's top game designers, scholars, and developers.

A panel of industry professionals recognized Participatory Chinatown as a project whose gameplay produced a profound, direct impact on players. In the case of Participatory Chinatown, residents from Boston's Chinatown community gathered and played the game as part of a 2010 master planning process.



## Ellie Fund

"So often the focus is on the negative aspects of games, but our project demonstrated that, if carefully designed, games can be a compelling vehicle for social change," said Eric Gordon, Associate Professor of Visual and Media Arts and co-principal investigator of the project. The game's development was made possible by a grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and involved collaboration among four local institutions: the Engagement Game Lab at Emerson College, the Asian Community Development Corporation, the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, and Muzzy Lane Software.

Another project of Gordon's was recently adopted by the Boston Public Schools. Community PlanIt, a web-based social network, turns community planning into a game. The school system is testing the game to gain input on designing standards for gauging school performance from students, teachers, parents, and administrators. Gordon won a grant from the Knight Foundation to fund the project. *(Excerpted from Expression Magazine)*

The Ellie Fund, founded in 1995, is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that fights breast cancer and eases its effects on patients and families by providing services such as transportation to medical appointments, childcare, housekeeping, groceries, and prepared/delivered meals free of charge to hundreds of women and family members across Massachusetts each year.

As part of its fundraising initiatives, the Ellie Fund holds an annual Ellie Fund Oscar Party, which is the only Academy Awards party in Boston officially sanctioned by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences. In 2010, Emerson College's Television, Radio, and Film Department donated its resources by providing camera coverage of the event and producing a highlight reel. The Ellie Fund is required to submit the footage to the Academy each year to ensure it has followed the official guidelines for an Academy-sanctioned Oscar party.



# Bringing Town and Gown Together



## **Creative Writing Program**

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Co-sponsored by the Office of Enrollment and the First-Year Writing Program, EmersonWRITES is a free creative writing program for students in the Boston Public Schools. Program participants engage in college-style creative writing classes at Emerson College, where courses are structured to build writing and critical thinking skills. The program began in the fall of 2010 and is taught by volunteer graduate students and alumni who have been trained through the First-Year Writing Program to design and teach in a team environment while pursuing professional development opportunities. The workshop meets every Saturday morning and registration is open to any high school student attending a Boston public or charter school.

## **WERS**

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Emerson College radio station WERS remains active in the community by collaborating with various nonprofit organizations throughout the Boston area. Within the past two years, staff and students volunteered at the Greater Boston Food Bank, the Red Cross Food Pantry, and participated as a radio partner for the Life Is Good Music Festival, a two-day event to benefit the Life Is Good Playmakers charity. The Playmakers' mission is to help children

children of all backgrounds and cultures participate in creative and developmental learning through songs, stories, role-play, and hands-on activities. Acorn's child-centered curriculum serves 81 children ages 15 months through 5 years old.

### **Robbins Speech, Language and Hearing Center**

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The Robbins Speech, Language and Hearing Center provides a supportive environment in which clients and their families learn to manage a variety of communication disorders and differences. Since opening in 1953, the Robbins Center has provided evaluation and treatment for children and adults with communication problems as well as educational programs for family members and caregivers. The center is also the primary clinical training facility associated with the Emerson College Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

The center donates a variety of services to the Boston community. Each year, the center provides speech and language screenings free of charge to a number of preschool programs in the Back Bay, East Boston, North End, and Beacon Hill. Also, every fall, the center provides hearing screenings for the Josiah Quincy School located in Chinatown. Staff and graduate students have also provided free or reduced-fee speech and language therapy services to adults and children residing in Boston, Roxbury, Brighton, Dorchester, Roslindale, and West Roxbury.

### **Holiday Gift Drive**

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Each year, the College selects a nonprofit organization to be the beneficiary of the annual holiday party gift drive. For the past two years, Emerson faculty and staff donated pajamas to the Pajama Program. The Pajama Program is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that provides sleepwear and books to children in underserved communities.

The children who benefit are those currently living in group homes or shelters waiting to be adopted and those living with their families below the poverty line.

### **College Day**

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Representatives from the College's Admission Office presented to more than 175 parents and students attending the first-of-its-kind College Day held in Chinatown in Fall 2011. Sponsored by the Asian American Civic Association (AACA) Youth Council, admission representatives from area colleges had the opportunity to meet with parents and students to discuss topics such as scholarships, financial aid, and the admissions process. The informational event attracted students from grades 7 to 12 with the goal of helping Chinatown students look at higher education possibilities and encouraging parents to be active participants in their children's application processes.

### **Community Outreach at Emerson College Los Angeles**

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Emerson College has reached out to the greater Hollywood, California, community as it begins construction on a permanent facility for the College's internship program. Part of the College's neighborhood outreach includes providing a full four-year scholarship each year to a student from Helen Bernstein High School located in Hollywood. In addition, the Office of Government and Community Relations provided items for the Friends of Hollywood Studio District Neighborhood Council holiday gift drive in 2010.



overcome life-threatening challenges such as violence, illness, and extreme poverty.

WERS also participated in the Charles Beard Arts and Communication Exploration program, providing Boston-area middle and high school students a behind-the-scenes tour of radio broadcasting. It also hosted the MathPOWER Summer Academy.

### **Campus-Wide Book Drive**

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In Fall 2010, the Office of Government and Community Relations sponsored a campus-wide book drive to benefit Acorn Center for Early Education and Care. Faculty and staff donated new books for the preschool's library.

Located in Chinatown, Acorn Center is part of Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center, whose mission is to ensure that the children it serves have the resources and support to achieve greater economic success and social well-being.

Opened in 1972, Acorn was the first bilingual (Chinese-English) child care program in Massachusetts. Today,



# Supporting Those Who Help Others

## Massachusetts Commission for the Blind

Jane Pikor, production manager in the Television, Radio, and Film (TRF) Department, and Mary Higgins, associate director of government and community relations, were awarded Certificates of Recognition by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Commission for the Blind. The ceremony took place on October 15, 2010, at the State House to coincide with International White Cane Day. The project involved sponsorship and production of an instructional video for Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialists (COMS) from collaborating agencies. The video focused on adaptive sighted guide techniques used when working with individuals who have intellectual disabilities and vision loss. The video was distributed to social service agencies, family members, and caretakers to educate them on effective guiding techniques within various environments.



## Documentary for Social Action

In this class, students take an interdisciplinary approach to the study and storytelling aspects of social action. In the past two years, students produced videos for several nonprofit organizations in the Boston area that distributed their videos to stakeholders, funders, potential supporters, board members, and other nonprofits with whom they collaborate. Examples of these videos are below:

### Bikes Not Bombs

For 25 years, Bikes Not Bombs (BNB) has been a nexus of bike recycling and community empowerment in lower-income neighborhoods in Boston. BNB promotes bicycle technology as a concrete alternative to war and environmental destruction. Its programs involve young people and adults in leadership development and environmental stewardship, while recycling thousands of bicycles.

### The Mystic Unseen

The Mystic River Watershed Association seeks to protect and restore the Mystic River, its tributaries, and watershed lands for present and future generations. The Mystic River Watershed covers 76 square miles or roughly 1 percent of the land area of Massachusetts. The organization celebrates the value, importance, and beauty of these natural resources.

### The Home for Little Wanderers

Originally founded as an orphanage in 1799, The Home for Little Wanderers plays a leadership role in delivering vital services to thousands of children and families living in at-risk circumstances through residential, community-based, and prevention programs; direct care services; and advocacy.

### Boston Living Center

The Boston Living Center (BLC) provides free programs and services to members in a safe and confidential environment. The BLC is New England's largest community and resource center for people living with HIV/AIDS. Members come to the center for education, treatment information, and support services with the goal of empowering them to live productive lives.

### Alternative Spring Break

The 2011 Alternative Spring Break (ASB) program involved three groups of students taking on community service projects in Boston, New York City, and Florida. Spring Break takes on a different meaning for those students who are committed to helping the less fortunate.

The student participants organized the entire trip, from partnering with various nonprofits to planning fundraisers to cover travel expenses. This ASB trip was the first to be documented by film students in Emerson's Visual and Media Arts Department. The film premiered at the Bright Family Screening Room in Fall 2011.



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**Boston, MA**

Students volunteered at after-school programs at the South Boston Boys and Girls Club and 826 Boston, assisting students with homework, playing games, and engaging children in a variety of mentoring activities. Other student-planned events that week included guest speakers and a movie screening.

**New York, NY**

Students and chaperones worked with Youth Service Opportunities Project in soup kitchens and assisted in teaching elementary school students about environmental practices through Green Apple Core.

**Niceville, FL**

Partnering with Community Collaboration International, students worked on an on-going sustainability project: helping to restore shorelines from damage that resulted from the April 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

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**Emerson College Athletics**

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Emerson coaches and student-athletes are committed to assisting Boston neighborhoods by participating in a variety of community initiatives. Each student selects a nonprofit organization of his or her choice and works on a specific program. Within the past two years, athletes volunteered or participated in the Walk for Hunger, YMCA Healthy Kids Day in Chinatown, Cradles to Crayons, Boston Common Clean-up, Little House Preschool in Dorchester, and conducted clinics for the Charlestown Youth Lacrosse League.



# Service Learning

Housed in the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning (CITL), Emerson's Office of Service Learning and Community Action (SLCA) focuses on the design, execution, and assessment of discipline-specific academic service learning projects. Together with nonprofits and faculty members from all eight of our academic units (Communication Sciences and Disorders, Communication Studies, Journalism, Marketing Communication, Performing Arts, Visual and Media Arts, Writing, Literature and Publishing [including the First-Year Writing Program], and Liberal Arts and Interdisciplinary Studies), the College partners to advance scholarship and creative work that brings innovation, depth, and diversity to these disciplines.

Community service in conjunction with coursework is an essential part of Emerson College's mission, and one that many of those who study on campus incorporate into their everyday lives. The College offers a wide range of academic programs that encourage students to channel their skills, talents, and classroom learning into meaningful engagement in community building. These programs comprise what is known as "service learning."

SLCA also oversees several high-level co-curricular leadership programs for students. Emerson boasts a robust Jumpstart program that focuses on early childhood literacy as well as a Student Leaders in Service program that offers educational grants to students who contribute 300 hours of service to community organizations. Additionally, SLCA oversees the College's Alternative Spring Break program, through which students spend their spring break performing community service locally and nationally.

## Citizenship and Civic Engagement

This philosophy course allows students to serve with local agencies that support immigrants through the naturalization process and helps them engage in civic, political, and social action. These students served at the following organizations: *¿Oiste?*; The Somali Development Center; Asian American Civic Association; The Haitian Coalition of Somerville; The Irish International Immigration Center; Chinese Progressive Association; and the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition.

## Writing for Research

This course involves students who worked with Mayor Thomas M. Menino's ONEin3, a program serving the one-third of Boston's population that is between the ages of 20 and 34, to make public service announcements intended to connect Boston's young adults with resources related to professional networking and civic engagement.

## Interpersonal Communication Skills

Students partner with local nonprofits serving elderly populations to focus on intergenerational communication. The students served at: Ethos; Rogerson Communities; Hale House; Ellis Memorial; Boston Living Center; and Jewish Vocational Services.

## Documentary for Social Action

This course involves students creating documentaries for various nonprofits in the Boston area. Students collaborated with Bikes Not Bombs, The Home for Little Wanderers, Boston Living Center, and the Mystic River Watershed Association.

## American Philosophy and Civic Engagement

Students volunteer with nonprofit organizations that work with youth or with immigrants and refugees and study those organizations and experiences in relation to readings for class.

Other service learning courses include: Conflict and Negotiation; Language Acquisition; Local Action/Global Change; Moving Out/Moving In; Principles of Public Relations; What's Cooking; Women, Media, and Globalization; Writing for Marketing; Community Involvement; and Playwriting for and with Youth. Together, students in these courses served the following nonprofits:

ABCD  
Acorn Preschool  
Alternatives for Community and Environment  
Bikes Not Bombs  
Boston Cares  
Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center  
Boston Living Center  
Cacique Afterschool Program at Villa Victoria  
Cambridge Family and Children's Service  
Cambridge Forum  
Cradles to Crayons  
Dorchester Place  
Elizabeth Peabody House  
Ellen Jackson Community Center





Federation for Children with Special Needs  
The Home for Little Wanderers  
Jumpstart  
Little House  
On the Rise  
Peace First  
Red Oak Afterschool Program  
Stonewall Communities Lifelong Learning Institute  
The Esplanade Association  
The Hurley School  
The Mystic River Watershed Association  
Transition House

More than 22 classes had either a service-learning or community-based project component involving more than 400 students, which resulted in more than 8,000 hours of community service.

Emerson College was named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for the 2010–2011 academic year, an annual recognition program that celebrates exemplary commitment to service and volunteering from institutions of higher education. The program is administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service and the U.S. Departments of Education and Housing and Urban Development, which pay tribute to the work of students, faculty, staff, and alumni who support local communities through service.



# Students Reaching Out

## Kappa Gamma Chi

The Kappa Gamma Chi student organization has been very active in the community through both community outreach and fundraising to help local nonprofit organizations.

### Casa Myrna Vazquez

Every year during the spring semester, Take Back the Night (TBN) is one of Kappa Gamma Chi's biggest events. TBN involves a week-long series of events to raise awareness about a particular cause. Last year's beneficiary was Casa Myrna Vazquez, a nonprofit located in the South End. This agency is New England's leading provider of shelter and comprehensive services to victims and survivors of domestic violence. The amount of funds raised by Kappa Gamma Chi covered funding for day-to-day operations such as access to court-based bilingual support, client housing for two weeks, and an awareness-building campaign on 40 buses, in addition to 24-hour staffing for one of its SafeLink hotlines for two weeks.

### American Cancer Society

On October 2, 2011, Kappa Gamma Chi, along with more than 40,000 walkers, participated in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk in Boston. On the day before the walk, a group of volunteers helped prepare snack bags for the participants. Kappa Gamma Chi raised more than \$3,000 for cancer research and improved its fundraising goal from the previous year.



### American Red Cross

Every semester, Kappa Gamma Chi partners with the Red Cross to hold a blood drive, which is marketed campus-wide and held in the Multipurpose Room at the Max Mutchnick Campus Center.

## Outstanding Students

### Matthew Durham '12

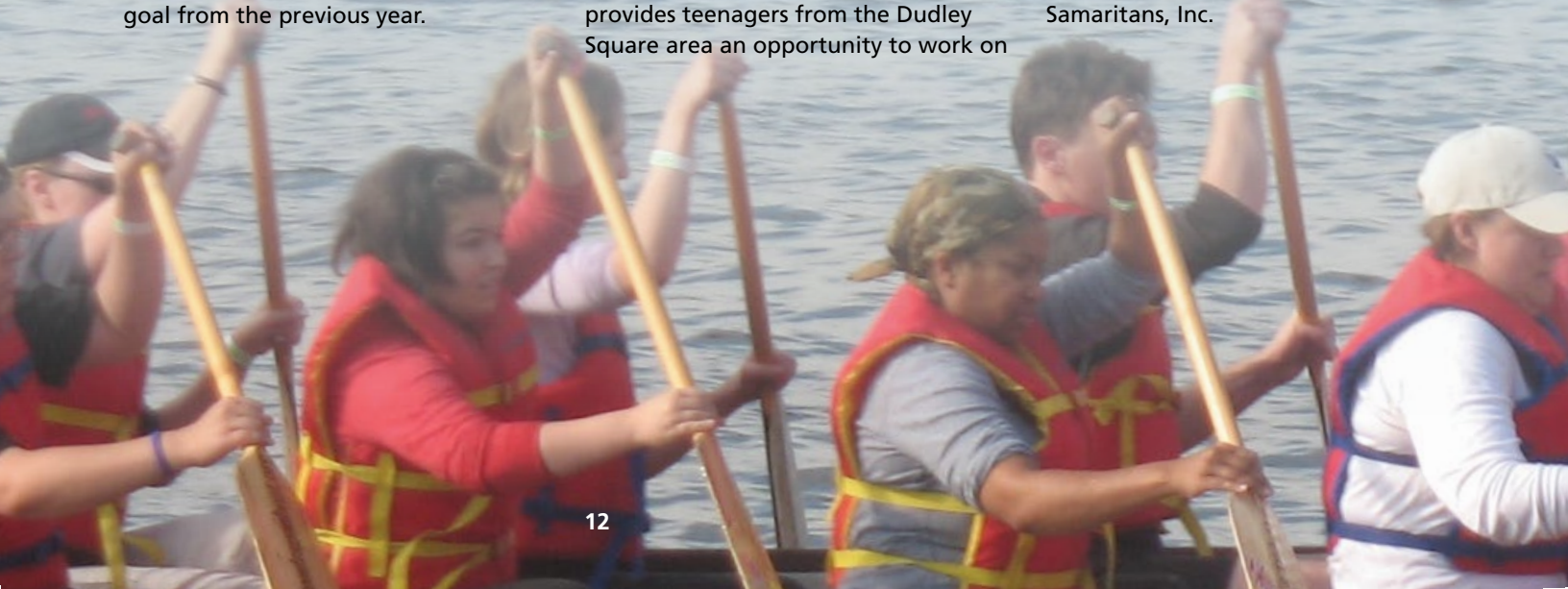
Matthew is a student leader of the President's Committee on Sustainability and serves on the Alternative Spring Break leadership team. He is also treasurer for Emerson Peace and Social Justice, and is a recipient of a Student Leaders in Service AmeriCorps scholarship. As a Writing, Literature and Publishing major, Matthew's volunteer activities include serving as an after-school tutor for 826 Boston. The nonprofit, located in Roxbury, Massachusetts, is dedicated to supporting students ages 6 to 18 with their writing skills. Matthew also volunteers with the Food Project, an urban farm located in Dorchester, Massachusetts. The Food Project provides teenagers from the Dudley Square area an opportunity to work on



a farm and lead volunteer sessions that help to build a sustainable food community. In addition to his various leadership roles and volunteer activities, Matthew has recently been selected for the City Year program starting in July 2012.

### Isabel Thottam '13

Isabel has been involved with the Alternative Spring Break organization for the past three years and has led two trips to Pensacola, Florida, and Taos, New Mexico. Isabel is a two-year recipient of a Student Leaders in Service AmeriCorps scholarship, which provides educational grants to students who contribute 300 hours of service to community organizations. Isabel's community outreach includes assisting at Samaritans, Inc., a nonprofit whose mission is to reduce the incidence of suicide and educate the public about suicide prevention. Isabel also volunteers in the kitchen at Saint Francis House, preparing food for clients. In addition to her volunteer activities, Isabel serves as a resident assistant and also ran the 2012 Boston Marathon to help raise funds for Samaritans, Inc.



# Community Partners

Emerson College partners with a variety of local, regional, and national nonprofit organizations, including:

826 Boston  
ABCD  
Acorn Preschool  
Alternatives for the Community and the Environment  
American Cancer Society  
American Red Cross  
Asian American Civic Association  
Asian Community Development Corporation  
Bikes Not Bombs  
Boston Cares  
Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center  
Boston Dragon Boat Festival  
Boston Living Center  
Boston Preservation Alliance  
Boston Parks and Recreation Department  
Boston Public Schools  
Boys & Girls Club  
Cacique Afterschool Program  
Cambridge Family and Children's Service  
Cambridge Forum  
Casa Myrna Vazquez  
Chinatown Adventure Camp  
Chinatown Safety Committee  
Chinese Progressive Association  
Commission on Affairs of the Elderly  
Commission for the Blind  
Cradles to Crayons  
Elizabeth Peabody House  
Ellen Jackson Community Center  
Ellis Memorial  
Emergency Shelter Commission  
Ethos

Federation for Children with Special Needs  
Friends of the Public Garden  
Greater Boston Chinese Golden Age Center  
Greater Boston Food Bank  
Hale House  
Historic Boston, Inc.  
The Home for Little Wanderers  
Jewish Vocational Services  
Josiah Quincy Elementary School  
Jumpstart  
Kwong Kow Chinese School  
Lawyer's Clearinghouse  
Light Boston, Inc.  
Little House Preschool  
Metropolitan Area Planning Council  
Midtown Park Plaza Neighborhood Association  
On the Rise  
Park Plaza Civic Advisory Committee  
Peace First  
Project Destiny  
Red Oak Afterschool Program  
Rogerson Communities  
Stonewall Communities Lifelong Learning Institute  
The Carroll Center for the Blind  
The Ellie Fund  
The Esplanade Association  
The Haitian Coalition of Somerville  
The Hurley School  
The Irish International Immigration Center  
The Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition  
The Mystic River Watershed Association  
The Pajama Program

The Somali Development Center  
Transition House  
Urban Land Institute  
Wang YMCA of Chinatown

## Office of Government and Community Relations

Emerson College's Office of Government and Community Relations acts as a liaison between the College and the Boston community. Working closely with the College's surrounding neighborhoods, city agencies, and other area institutions, the office is committed to partnering with neighborhood associations to improve the safety and quality of life for all residents and visitors who frequent the Midtown Cultural District. Individuals or groups who would like to work with Emerson students, faculty, or staff are guided along the most effective route by this office.

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