

# INSTITUTIONAL MASTER PLAN NOTIFICATION FORM RENEWAL & EXTENSION OF THE INSTITUTIONAL MASTER PLAN

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

August 18, 2014

## Introduction

Emerson College submits this Institutional Master Plan Notification Form ("IMPNF") 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; (iii) Third Amendment to the Original IMP dated October 4, 2013 and effective January 8, 2014. The Original IMP with these three 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 IMPNF 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 IMPNF and the approved Amended IMP together as the renewed Emerson College IMP.

This IMPNF seeks approval from the BRA of a renewal and extension of the term of the Amended IMP until December 11, 2017.

# 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 3,700 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.

# Community Service Report 2012–2014

Sharing Common Ground





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# **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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# To Our Friends in the Boston Community

Emerson College is fortunate to be located in the heart of Boston. We benefit every day from this wonderful community, and as we seek to realize our strategic vision for the College—to be the world's hub for higher education in the arts and communication—we have placed our commitment to this city at the heart of our work.

When I was inaugurated as Emerson's president, on September 14, 2012, I identified a series of strategic priorities for the College, one of which was a commitment to advance civic engagement through the establishment of the Elma Lewis Center for Civic Engagement, Learning, and Research, named in honor of Elma Lewis '43, a renowned Boston civic leader and arts educator. In making this commitment, we were motivated by a core conviction: that institutions of higher education have a responsibility to serve their local communities and that partnerships are most meaningful when they are established with an ethic of care, respect, and collaboration. Further, we understand that civic and community engagement go hand in hand with our bedrock commitments to inclusive excellence and social justice.

I am proud to write that the Elma Lewis Center officially launched in Fall 2013, and is fast becoming a vibrant part of campus life, and a vital link between the College and the communities to which we belong. The Center's mission is to "inspire and sustain civic engagement at Emerson College, using our distinct expertise in the arts and communication to serve the common good," and it brings under one administrative umbrella a wide range of civic engagement work already being done at Emerson, including school partnerships, service learning, and faculty and staff community engagement work. It also provides a platform for civic discourse on topics of social consequence.

In closing, I also want to commend our Office of Government and Community Relations for its superb work over the years. This is the office that has produced this fine report, highlighting the many ways our faculty, staff, and students engage with, serve, and are connected to our local, national, and global communities.

Thank you for your interest in Emerson College. I look forward to the work we will do together in the coming years.

Sincerely,

M La Polton

M. Lee Pelton
President



# Investing in Boston's Neighborhoods



# Elma Lewis Center for Civic Engagement, Learning, and Research

President M. Lee Pelton announced the establishment of the Elma Lewis Center for Civic Engagement, Learning, and Research in his inaugural address in September 2012. Elma Lewis '43 attended public school and thrived in the performing arts before being accepted to Emerson College. To finance her education, she acted in local theater productions. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1943, followed by a master's in education from Boston University a year later. After completing her education, Lewis taught speech therapy at Boston-area hospitals and health centers. She also shared her talents in fine and performing arts at the Harriet Tubman House and local community centers.

In 1950, Lewis opened the Elma Lewis School of Fine Arts in Roxbury to promote arts and communication education of Boston's African American youth. In 1966, she founded Playhouse in the Park in Boston's Franklin Park, which offered free summer performances. This program has been revived in recent years, continuing her work and her legacy. In 1968, Lewis founded the National Center of Afro-American Artists, through which students from the Elma Lewis School of Fine Arts toured in stage productions on a national level.

After a lifetime of service, Lewis was the recipient of more than 400 awards and 28 honorary degrees. Elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1976, she was one of the first women to receive a MacArthur Foundation "Genius Grant" in 1981 and was awarded the Presidential Medal for the Arts by President Ronald Reagan in 1983. At the 1988 inaugural National Black Arts Conference, she

was declared and honored as a "Living Legend." Lewis passed away on New Year's Day 2004. Her former students continue in her footsteps all over the United States, many of them working in the performing arts here in the City of Boston.

The Elma Lewis Center is designed to support the growth of civic engagement at Emerson College by creating a culture of civic-mindedness, civic action, and civic education. The role of the Center is to establish meaningful engagement with Boston's urban communities through a robust program of civic engagement that is intentionally integrated into the curriculum and co-curriculum of the College and that further develops our commitment to diversity and inclusion.



In January 2014, the College held a week-long series of events to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., with faculty, staff, and students participating in various events held on campus. The week included dramatic readings of MLK's works by Emerson community members and culminated with student speakers from the Bird Street Community Center in Dorchester, Massachusetts. Other events included a fundraiser with proceeds being donated to victims of Typhoon Haiyan, and a Community Leaders Breakfast featuring panelists from various nonprofit organizations.

The week ended with a Day of Service for faculty, staff, and students that was organized by the Office of Service Learning and Community Action and the Office of Off-Campus Student Services. With assistance from the City Mission Society of Boston, the day included opportunities to volunteer on campus for a variety of projects, including letter-writing to local legislators in support of immigration

reform, making blankets for St. Mary's Center for Women and Children, and assembling family literacy kits for Jumpstart Family Night. Offsite volunteer opportunities included preparing and serving food at the Boston Rescue Mission's Kingston House and tutoring grade school children at the William E. Russell School in Dorchester, Massachusetts.

In honor of Veterans Day, in November 2013, Emerson faculty, staff, and students participated in Emerson Action Day, an annual community service event sponsored by the Office of Off-Campus Student Services. The Emerson community provided a wide range of services to nonprofits throughout the city, including feeding meals to people experiencing homelessness, preparing materials for a clean energy campaign, and spending time with residents of assisted living facilities.



# Contributing Creativity, Expertise, and Resources

# **Haley House**

In Fall 2012, faculty member Bob Nesson and four of his students in the Documentary for Social Action service learning course produced a documentary for Haley House in Roxbury's Dudley Square. Haley House is a nonprofit bakery and café where patrons eat locally sourced food while supporting their community and enjoying the work of local artists. It is also a workplace for men and women who face significant barriers to employment. The 15-minute documentary showcased the organization's Transitional Employment Program (TEP), which helps men and women find employment as they re-enter the community after incarceration. Since the mid-1990s, TEP has evolved to provide hands-on work experience that develops crucial skills for future employment in a safe and stable environment. The film premiered at Haley House on December 14, 2012.

# St. Anthony Shrine & Ministry Center

In Spring 2013, Emerson Productions, a unit of the Television, Radio, and Film Department, produced a video for St. Anthony Shrine & Ministry Center's development department. The video was made for an annual appeal for donations to support community members in need. The 2013 Franciscan Campaign was launched with a screening of the video at the weekend religious services. The project's goal was to heighten awareness about the many services available to the downtown Boston community in addition to soliciting funds to support these various causes.

### Friends of the Public Garden

For 40 years, the Friends of the Public Garden (FOPG) has played a critical role in partnering with the City of Boston to oversee and manage some of Boston's most visible park space. To this day, the organization plays an integral part in its upkeep for tourists, residents, and business owners who work, visit, or reside in the area. FOPG asked Emerson Productions to videotape the festivities surrounding the grand opening of Brewer Fountain Plaza on May 2, 2012. This part of Boston Common was reopened with a ceremony attended by City officials to commemorate the completion of the renovations of the upper corner of the Common adjacent to the Park Street station.

# **Science Communication Workshop**

Emerson College co-hosted a national workshop on science communication titled "Let's Talk About Water," which was held at the Boston Museum of Science in May 2013. Initiated and designed by faculty member Bob Nesson, along with the Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science, Inc. (CUAHSI), the workshop helped researchers, professors, and students from around the country understand and learn new and better methods for communicating scientific research.



Nesson led a panel discussion along with Emerson Senior Scientist-in-Residence Jon Honea, who described the course that he teaches, in which students interpret scientific language and communicate scientific content. Nesson also led a discussion on his interdisciplinary course, Filmmaking and the Environment, while Emerson alumni Shervin Arya (a science filmmaker) presented his current work on climate change and Heather Hoglund showcased her film on dam removal and its effects on the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe of Washington state.

## **Asian American Civic Association**

Emerson Productions created a public service announcement (PSA) for the Asian American Civic Association (AACA) that aired on Comcast stations. Operating since 1967, AACA provides immigrants and economically disadvantaged people with education, occupational training, and social services that enable them to live economically self-sufficient lives. The promotional PSA was created in November 2013 to showcase AACA and its various programs.

# Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education

The mission of Massachusetts
Continuing Legal Education (MCLE)
is to provide comprehensive and highly
practical continuing legal education
of the highest quality to the broadest
possible audience. Emerson Productions
was commissioned by MCLE to produce
a promotional video titled "Raising the
Bar," which was completed in March
2013. The first of its kind, the video is
shown at the beginning of each course
session to help promote MCLE.

Emerson Productions also produced a second video for MCLE titled "Practicing with Professionalism." This video is shown at the beginning of the sessions for the state—mandated professionalism course that every new lawyer is required to take once he or she passes the Massachusetts Bar Exam.



### **The Boston Home**

Founded in 1881, The Boston Home (TBH) is a residence and center for the care of adults with advanced progressive neurological diseases, primarily multiple sclerosis. It is also a test bed for discovery and development of new technology for adults with disabilities. Healthcare professionals and researchers from MIT and around



the world regularly visit to test their ideas at TBH, which earned McKnight's 2012 Technology Innovator of the Year award.

Emerson Productions produced a fundraising video for TBH that features its partnership with MIT for the development of assistive technologies that benefit TBH residents as well as a broader community of individuals living with disabilities. Small teams of students connect with a "client," learn about his or her challenges, and develop an assistive device or technology that meets his or her needs. As a result of this partnership, residents with multiple sclerosis are able to live a more independent life. The video premiered on October 29, 2013, at a fundraiser titled "Robots and Power Chairs" and is also featured on TBH's website.



# Bringing Town and Gown Together

# **Thayer Lindsley Program**

The Thayer Lindsley Program, housed in Emerson's Robbins Speech, Language, and Hearing Center, is geared toward children who are deaf and hard of hearing. The Decibels Foundation was created by families whose children "graduated" from the Thayer Lindsley Program with the sole purpose to replicate the program in the suburbs west of Boston and heighten awareness of the special needs of this population. In addition, the organization has continued to support the Thayer Lindsley Program through unsolicited donations. For the past six years, the foundation has awarded a scholarship to a graduate student who focuses his or her clinical training in the area of deaf and hard of hearing infants and toddlers and their families.

# emersonTHEATRE

Sponsored and managed by the Office of Enrollment Management and developed by the Theatre Education program, emersonTHEATRE is a free performing arts program for students attending Boston-area public schools. During its pilot year, starting in Fall 2013, emersonTHEATRE has provided an opportunity for students to work with Performing Arts faculty to develop their acting and playwriting skills. It also serves as a pipeline program for high school students to consider continuing on to postsecondary education. The program meets on Saturday mornings during the fall and spring semesters.

### **WERS**

Emerson College's WERS radio station worked with young women from St. Mary's Center for Women and Children through its Grlz Radio program.



Located in Upham's Corner in Dorchester, Massachusetts, St. Mary's Center supports 500 women and children annually with shelter, clinical and educational services, job training, and employment placement. WERS staff taught the teens broadcasting and journalism skills as they broadcast on WERS sister station ETIN. WERS also provided tours to the Boy and Girl Scouts of America and Discover Roxbury, and taught pre-college aged students in the Charles Beard Arts and Communication Exploration Program how to write and produce public service announcements.

# Union Club of Boston Sesquicentennial Anniversary

The Office of Government and Community Relations recruited student volunteers for the Union Club's Sesquicentennial Anniversary held on April 8, 2013. The Union Club of Boston was founded in 1863 to bolster support for the Union cause during the critical days of the American Civil War. Early members included prominent Bostonians whose impact is still felt today: Charles Frances Adams, Ralph Waldo Emerson, John Murray Forbes,





Oliver Wendell Holmes, and Josiah Quincy. Emerson's costume shop provided the Civil War–era costumes for the students who acted as historical messengers at the event while dressed as Clara Barton, Louisa May Alcott, Julia Ward Howe, Susan B. Anthony, Dr. Esther Hill Hawks, and Pauline Cushman.

# Robbins Speech, Language, and Hearing Center

The Robbins Speech, Language, and Hearing Center partners with a variety of programs in the Greater Boston area to provide free hearing and preschool speech-language screenings. The screening program's goal is to identify children who are in need of follow-up assessments for hearing or speech-language deficiencies. This program provides an opportunity for graduate student clinicians to experience the screening process and develop skills in early identification and referral.

## **Boston Private Industry Council**

For the past three years, the Office of Government and Community Relations has partnered with the Boston Private Industry Council (BPIC) to provide classroom and computer lab space for teachers and students participating in the BPIC Classroom at the Workplace program for seven weeks each summer. This program combines academic preparation for the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) or the Standardized Assessment

Test (SAT) with a paid summer job or school–year career exploration experience. Classes are held on campus to emphasize the connection between education and a career, and to provide meaningful motivation to graduate from high school and pursue a postsecondary education.

# **Community Plantings on Boston Common**

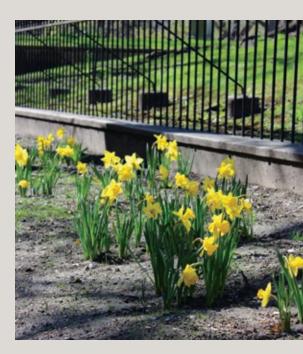
In collaboration with the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, the Office of Government and Community Relations organized a community planting day in Fall 2012 as part of the Boston Blooms program, a City-wide initiative throughout Boston's public ways, including sidewalks, medians, and paths. More than 40 faculty, staff, and students volunteered to beautify Boston Common by planting 1,100 daffodil bulbs along the edge of the park on Boylston Street.

# **Emerson College Los Angeles**

Emerson College opened its permanent facility for its Los Angeles internship program in January 2014. Now in its 27th year, the Los Angeles Program enrolls approximately 200 students each semester who gain knowledge and hands-on experience to pursue their chosen crafts before launching their post-graduate careers.

As part of their internship coursework, all students must complete a service requirement. Students have served with nonprofits including: A Better LA, City Year, Food Forward, LA Gay and Lesbian Center, Rape Treatment Foundation, and Reading to Kids.

In addition, the College is a member of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, and the Office of Government and Community Relations has supported a variety of community organizations such as Arts for LA, Friends of the Hollywood Central Park, the L.A.C.E.R. Afterschool Programs, and the Lemon Grove Recreation Center.



# Supporting Those Who Help Others

# **Emerson College Athletics**

Members of the Emerson Men's Basketball team mentored students at the Josiah Quincy School in Boston in conjunction with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Massachusetts Bay. The Josiah Quincy School, located in Chinatown, has a large percentage of children from low-income, non-native-Englishspeaking families. This partnership enables children to bond with college athletes who volunteer to spend time one-on-one with them while providing an opportunity to learn life skills such as teamwork, commitment, and leadership, which are essential both on and off the basketball court. Emerson athletes continue to provide sports clinics to various community organizations.

# **Bird Street Community Center**

Emerson Associate Professor Dr. Gregory Payne and Scholar-in-Residence Spencer Kimball worked with students and faculty on a collaborative civic engagement project with the Bird Street Community Center (BSCC) located in Dorchester, Massachusetts. The BSCC is a nonprofit organization that provides high-quality afterschool programs for children ages 5-9 and youth ages 10-22 who primarily reside in Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan, Hyde Park, and Jamaica Plain. Courts, social service agencies, and schools work with BSCC to help the community's low-income/high-risk children achieve important life goals.



In May and June 2013, four youth participants of the BSCC convened with a group of Emerson faculty and students to dialogue about their experiences of violence, followed by a group discussion to reflect on their personal stories. After the students developed story boards, they were given video cameras to document their natural environments. These "day in the life" documentaries inspired a series of public service announcements (PSAs) for their peer group focused on nonviolent dialogue to resolve conflict.

The BSCC students traveled to Washington, D.C., to present their PSAs to Congressman Michael Capuano and other members of Congress and their staff. The PSAs were also presented at a special reception for Emerson alumni and students at the Washington Center in November 2013.

In addition, Emerson College offered a series of workshops for BSCC students and a group from Donald McKay School in East Boston teaching negotiation, public speaking, and presentation skills. The Emerson Men's Basketball team also conducted a basketball workshop. These students were also hosted at an Emerson alumna's studio in Boston's South of Washington Street (SOWA) cultural district, where they participated in a collaborative painting featuring artists from Baja, Mexico. The finished painting was auctioned for \$800 as a fundraiser for the Emerson/Bird Street Civic Engagement Project.



# **Public Opinion Advocacy**

The Emerson College Polling Society conducted polls to provide comprehensive public opinion research to affect policy. Based on polling results, former City Council President Michael Ross formulated a waste removal policy in Boston's Back Bay, and the Office of Representative Jason Lewis wrote legislation on animal confinement. Several polls, including topics on anonymous treatment for returning soldiers with post-traumatic stress disorder and gun violence, received local and national press coverage.

# **Alternative Spring Break**

The Office of Service Learning and Community Action's Alternative Spring Break (ASB) helps students develop opportunities to learn about and from communities as they realize their own potential to contribute to community-based projects. The program emphasizes the school's core values of moral courage; celebration of diversity of thought and people; and commitment to ethical engagement, collaboration, and meaningful interaction with local and national communities.

Many participants name ASB as one of the most transformative experiences not only of their Emerson career, but also of their lives. Following are descriptions of the 2013 ASB trips.

# Biloxi, Mississippi

Through Community Collaborations International, students partnered to landscape, paint, and construct furniture at a rural women's shelter; tutor at a local Boys and Girls Club; and assist in building an artificial reef with oyster shells to combat coastal erosion. Participants gained a better understanding of urban and rural homelessness while engaging in discussion of how to address this issue and its impact on various types of communities.

## Boston, Massachusetts

Emerson students provided critical volunteer support to local organizations including 826 Boston, the Boys and Girls Club of Chelsea, and Cradles to Crayons. They tutored and played games with children, and sorted and packed essential goods for children in need. Speakers from Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center and Stand for Children assisted students in developing a better understanding of the public policy framework around education in Massachusetts and Boston.



# **Bryson City, North Carolina**

In Nantahala National Park, students cut back growth to clear trails, fixed abutments into hillsides to slow erosion, and hauled logs to create trail boundaries—all guided by the help and expertise of members of the Nantahala Appalachian Trail Club. Students learned about the importance and process of preserving America's national parks. Students also spent a day assisting in the relocation of a local nonprofit called R.E.A.C.H that provides shelter and services for survivors of domestic abuse.

### El Paso, Texas

Located in southwest Texas, El Paso is the nation's largest border city with Mexico, possessing a large population of immigrants who are undocumented. The many organizations that support these individuals and their families rely on volunteers, and Emerson students provided support through volunteering at an afterschool youth program, serving meals, gardening, and assisting at a women's shelter. This team was awarded Emerson's Diversity Advancement Award for its advocacy work on campus and for creating consciousness at Emerson about what it means to be "American."



# Service Learning

Housed in the Elma Lewis Center for Civic Engagement, Learning, and Research, the 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. To date, more than 40 unique service learning courses have been taught by more than 40 faculty members working with 300-500 students throughout the academic year.

Community service as part of coursework is an essential part of Emerson College's mission, reinforcing for students how easy it is to incorporate service into everyday life. The College offers a wide range of academic programs that encourage students to channel their skills, talents, and classroom learning into meaningful engagement and community building.

# **Filmmaking and the Environment**

This course provides students with an introduction to urban environmental issues such as land use, transportation, air quality, water, food, waste, and others, and the tools to create strong documentaries about them. Students learn ways to use the documentary camera as a tool for communicating issues in the urban environment by gathering, evaluating, shaping, and disseminating information.

# Boston in Focus: Immigration and Public Policy

Through a focus on the Boston area, this course investigates ways in which immigration policy plays out on the ground: in workplaces, schools, and communities. Students volunteer with local organizations to gain hands-on knowlege of how immigration policies function in practice. Students in this class volunteered at Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts, ¿Oíste?, Coalition for New American Voters, Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition, Catholic Charities Teen Center at St. Peter's, and the Irish International Immigration Center.

# **Energy and Sustainability**

This course allows students to examine the ways in which we use energy as individuals and as a society and discusses available and future energy technologies in terms of their environmental impact and technical, economic, and political viability. To accomplish this examination, students explore various energy sources,

beginning with traditional fossil fuel-based technologies, and then focus on emerging technologies, such as hydropower, wind, biomass, solar, geothermal, oceanic, fuel cell, and nuclear. Students served with Clean Water Action and the Boston Climate Action Network, making videos and doing research and advocacy work.

## Race, Space, and Power

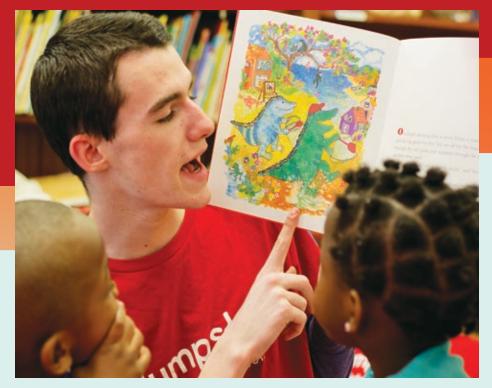
Students examine the intersection between race and space in a global context. By examining case studies from different locations, namely France, the United States, South Africa, England, and the Mexican–U.S. border, students explore the complex and multidimensional relationship between space, race, and power. Students in this class volunteered at St. Francis House and City Life/Vida Urbana.

# **Writing for Research**

Many students participate in service learning through the required Writing for Research classes. They have served with Proyecto Boston-Medellín and the Office of the Mayor's ONEin3 program.

Other service learning courses include: Argumentation and Advocacy; Conflict and Negotiation; Documentary for Social Action; Global Protests; Interpersonal Communication Skills;





Intro to Women's and Gender Studies; Media Ethics and Cultural Diversity; Playwriting for and with Youth; Power and Privilege; Theater and Community Conversations; and Women, Media, and Globalization.

Students in these courses served the following nonprofits:

Daughters of Legacy and Leadership Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project Hale House Haley House The Hurley School MassEquality MissionSafe

Mystic River Watershed Association ¿Oíste?
On with Living and Learning
Red Oak Afterschool Program
Rosie's Place
St. Francis House Women's Center
Transition House
Transportation Children's Center
Women's Lunch Place

# **Leadership Programs**

Jumpstart is an early childhood literacy program that pairs Emerson students in low ratios with preschoolers in underserved communities to focus on literacy skills. Students are eligible to earn Federal Work-Study funds by serving with this AmeriCorps program. Fifty Emerson students participate annually at four partner sites: College Bound Dorchester, Project Hope Community Center Family Child Care, South Boston Neighborhood House, and the James Condon Elementary School in South Boston.

Alternative Spring Break is a program in which students organize fundraisers and educational activities throughout the year in order to fund the program and raise awareness about community needs. More than 50 Emerson students and at least a dozen staff and faculty members participate annually.

Proyecto Boston-Medellín, directed by Dr. Tamera Marko in the Writing, Literature and Publishing Department, is a multimedia transnational art exhibition program produced and hosted by Emerson students, faculty, and staff in partnership with La Universidad Nacional de Colombia, sede Medellín and the Aula Internacional community classroom in Medellín, Colombia. More than 300 students and dozens of faculty and staff members at Emerson have been involved in the program, which merges curricular and co-curricular offerings.



# Students Reaching Out

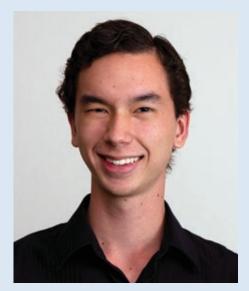
# **Outstanding Students**

# Ryan Catalani '15

Catalani, a Film Production major, works with Mobility, a series of multimedia transnational art and writing projects, to reframe history through the stories of people who are otherwise overlooked. Through Mobility, he has worked on Proyecto Boston-Medellín, Medellín Mi Hogar (My Home Medellín), and Proyecto Carrito. Additionally, Catalani films short documentaries of families telling their stories in their own words in Medellín, Colombia. Catalani contributes to these projects through his role as global citizenship coordinator for the Office of Service Learning and Community Action. In this capacity, he also built an accessible and interactive website for Ability Bikes, a cooperative micro-enterprise in Ghana that is owned and operated by people who are physically challenged.

# Andrea Gordillo '14

Gordillo, a Theatre Studies: Acting major, volunteers for 826 Boston, MataHari, Women's Lunch Place, and MassEquality with her Kappa Gamma Chi sisters. She provides support to local immigrant communities through service with Resist the Raids and the Student Immigrant Movement's Dare to Dream campaign. Gordillo's Alternative Spring Break group that served in El Paso, Texas, was inspired to start **Understanding National Immigration** Through Education (UNITE). UNITE volunteers with Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition's citizenship clinics to provide assistance in completing and filing

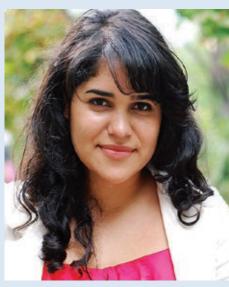


citizenship applications. Additionally, Gordillo has been accepted to the Border Servant Corps in New Mexico, where she will serve members of border communities beginning in August 2014. Before leaving for New Mexico, she will spend the summer working with Mobility in Medellín, Colombia.

# **Emerson Peace and Social Justice**

Each year, Emerson Peace and Social Justice (EPSJ) members choose causes and organizations to support through direct service, advocacy, and fundraising, resulting in a wide array of partnerships.

EPSJ volunteers regularly with several local organizations to combat poverty, homelessness, and hunger, including New England Center for Homeless Veterans, Prison Book Program, Cradles to Crayons, and The Greater Boston Food Bank. Under the leadership of Dylan Manderlink '14, an Investigative



Theatre for Social Change major, EPSJ members also volunteer at Christopher's Haven, Rosie's Place, Boston Rescue Mission, ReVision Urban Farm, Haley House, and St. Francis House. While volunteering, EPSJ members serve warm meals, sort clothing and school supplies, select books for adults who are incarcerated, and spend time with families in need.

Every semester, EPSJ invites Liberty in North Korea (LiNK) to screen a documentary about the political oppression in North Korea. Proceeds support LiNK's advocacy efforts and refugee rescue and resettlement programs. In 2013, EPSJ sponsored the production of *Extremities*, a play about sexual assault, to raise funds for Boston Area Rape Crisis Center. EPSJ also hosts Emerson's Aim to End Violence Week, Arts for Social Change Week, and co-sponsors Emerald Empowerment events with Kappa Gamma Chi and RecycleMania with Earth Emerson and the Sustainability Committee.

# Community Partners

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

826 Boston A Better LA **Ability Bikes Action for Boston Community** Development **Annunciation House** Arts for LA Asian American Civic Association Aula Internacional de Medellín Beacon Hill Civic Association Big Brothers Big Sisters of Massachusetts Bay Bird Street Community Center **Border Servant Corps** Boston Area Rape Crisis Center Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center Inc. **Boston Climate Action Network Boston Dragon Boat Festival** 

The Boston Home **Boston Preservation Alliance Boston Private Industry Council Boston Public Schools Boston Rescue Mission** Boy Scouts of America Boys and Girls Club of Chelsea **Bridge Over Troubled Waters** Catholic Charities Teen Center at St. Peter's Chinatown Adventure Camp Chinatown Safety Committee

Christopher's Haven City Life/Vida Urbana City Mission Society of Boston City Year

Clean Water Action

Coalition for New American Voters

College Bound Dorchester **Community Collaborations** 

International

Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of

Hydrologic Science,Inc.

Cradles to Crayons

Daughters of Legacy and Leadership

The Decibels Foundation

**Discover Roxbury** 

**Donald McKay School** 

**Duke University** 

Food Forward

Friends of the Hollywood Central Park

Friends of the Public Garden

Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project

Girl Scouts of America Greater Boston Chinese Golden

Age Center

The Greater Boston Food Bank

Habitat for Humanity

Hale House

Haley House

Helen Bernstein High School

Hollywood Chamber of Commerce

The Hurley School

Irish International Immigration Center James Condon Elementary School

Josiah Quincy Elementary School Jumpstart

Kingston House

L.A.C.E.R Afterschool Programs (Literacy, Arts, Culture, Education, and

Recreation)

LA Gay and Lesbian Center

La Universidad Nacional de Colombia

Lemon Grove Recreation Center

Liberty in North Korea

Light Boston, Inc.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts

Massachusetts Continuing Legal

Education

Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee

Advocacy Coalition

MassEquality

MataHari

Midtown Park Plaza Neighborhood

Association

MissionSafe

Mobility

Museum of Science, Boston

Mystic River Watershed Association Nantahala Appalachian Trail Club

National Center of Afro-American

**Artists** 

New England Center for

**Homeless Veterans** 

¿Oíste?

On with Living and Learning

ONEin3

The Partnership, Inc.

Prison Book Program

**Project Destiny** 

**Project Hope** 

**Rape Treatment Foundation** 

R.E.A.C.H. of Macon County Inc.

(Resources, Education, Assistance, Counseling, and Housing)

Reading to Kids

Red Oak Afterschool Program

Resist the Raids

ReVision Urban Farm

Rosie's Place

South Boston Neighborhood House

Stand for Children

St. Anthony Shrine & Ministry Center

St. Francis House

St. Mary's Center for Women and Children Student Immigrant Movement Transition House Transportation Children's Center

The Union Club of Boston Universidad de Colombia, sede Medellín

**Urban College of Boston** 

Wang YMCA of Chinatown William E. Russell School

Women's Lunch Place

# 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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