





Thank you to all our supporters who made possible the many successes of 2018-2019, from our board to our funders, to every one of you who have made a contribution or advocated for our work. We have also benefited greatly from the guidance and wisdom of advisors in our exhibition and search committee, the dedication of our volunteers and interns, and our extensive partnerships with the Boston Public Library and the Boston Public Schools. The accomplishments highlighted in this 2018-2019 Annual Report could not have been achieved without you.

Conno

Connie C. Chin *President*

Norman B. Leventhal Map & Education Center

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to report that our most recent fiscal year has been an exceptional one, with three major accomplishments that should set the stage for a bright future.

An international search successfully concluded with the hiring of our new Curator of Maps and Director of Geographic Scholarship. Garrett Dash Nelson, Ph. D. combines advanced

skills in geographic information technologies with the ability to connect historical geography to contemporary thinking. With Garrett joining the staff we greatly strengthen our capacity to speak to the present and the future in new ways of interpreting historical maps and creating and utilizing thematic maps.

Our partnership with the Boston Public Library has been renewed with a 10 year agreement that ensures that we work together in deeper collaboration and mutual benefit. We expect this agreement will improve what has already been a productive relationship, and we look forward to working closely with our BPL colleagues.

We have combined fundraising forces with the new Fund for the Boston Public Library. Our first joint Gala was a huge success, raising more than \$1 million for the Map and Education Center and increasing philanthropic awareness of the amazing programs and services of both the Boston Public Library and our organization. Since we provide our resources to the public without charge, our continued economic viability is assured by the funds we raise at our Galas, income from the endowment established by Norman Leventhal and generous contributions from people like you.

Looking forward, I'd like to share breaking news of two major grants awarded to the Center. The Institute for Museum and Library Services will support a yearlong initiative on truth, distortion and deception in maps and data, encompassing an exhibition, public talks, instruction, and K-12 programs. And, a National Endowment for the Humanities grant will enable us to offer for the second time our highly successful teacher workshop on conflict and colonization in 17th century New England. With 72 educators from all over the country participating, just think of how many students will benefit when their teacher returns from one of our trainings.

It is thrilling to see how the Center has developed from Norman Leventhal's founding vision, to the thriving institution it is today. My sincere thanks go to our wonderful staff and our President, Connie Chin, for all that has been accomplished. We celebrate this past year and have every reason to expect great momentum going forward.

Yoyrs,

Robert M. Melzer

Chair, Board of Directors

Norman B. Leventhal Map & Education Center



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Garrett Dash Nelson Curator of Maps & Director of Geographic Scholarship

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Welcoming Our New Curator

Joining the staff in June 2019, Garrett Dash Nelson is primarily a historical geographer whose research unpacks the history of placemaking and planning in New England, with a focus on the role of maps in the creation of civic knowledge. He is also a cartographer and programmer with an extensive portfolio of projects that draws from fields like urban studies, historic preservation, and landscape architecture, in addition to being an active member of the Critical GIS and Geohumanities research communities.

Garrett is responsible for directing acquisition, preservation and access for the Map & Education Center's physical and digital collections, as well as our extensive exhibitions program. He will also direct research and scholarship activities, and work in tandem with the Director of Education to create curriculum-related programs for K-12 schoolchildren and teachers, creating opportunities for a diverse community to be inspired to learn about and learn through maps.

"Garrett's intellectual leadership is grounded in interdisciplinary thinking and a true passion for the stories maps tell."

Connie Chin, President



Staff, board, consultants, volunteers, and interns, representing many others who also worked on America Transformed: Mapping the 19th Century, gathered to celebrate the opening: Rachel Mead, intern; Dennis McCarthy, volunteer; Dr. Allison Lange, consultant; Belle Lipton; Lauren Kennedy; Michelle LeBlanc; Dr. Ron Grim, Exhibition Curator; Connie Chin; Lynn Brown; Dr. Richard Pegg, board member; Dr. Garrett Nelson; Rachel Sharer; Chris Newell, consultant from Akomawt; Alisha Perdue of lead sponsor Iron Mountain; Beth Prindle, Head of Special Collections, Boston Public Library



A Renewed Partnership

We are delighted to announce that in May 2019 the Norman B. Leventhal Map & Education Center and the Boston Public Library signed a ten-year agreement that renews and enriches our partnership.

Our original agreement was signed in 2007 when the Leventhal Center became an independent nonprofit organization. In the dozen years since then, the partnership has yielded expanded organization of and access to the BPL's cartographic collection of 200,000 maps and 5,000 atlases, over \$1,068,000 raised and expended on the conservation of historic maps, more than 11,500 high resolution digitized maps made easily available to the public and researchers in web portal, 24 acclaimed exhibitions both onsite and touring, tens of thousands of local students inspired with innovative educational programs based on primary resources, and thought-provoking professional development provided to thousands of teachers.

Our renewed commitment to this highly productive partnership underscores our shared intentions to work even more closely together. The agreement also establishes new fundraising collaborations between the Leventhal Center and the new Fund for the Boston Public Library. Our first ever joint Gala on June 7, 2019, led by an outstanding Gala committee, raised over \$3.1 million for the two organizations, and brought together more than 400 philanthropically-minded individuals and corporations to celebrate the educational programs of both the BPL and the Leventhal Center.



"I couldn't be more pleased to confirm our partnership and see it bear fruit immediately in our first Gala together, a harbinger of successes to come."

> David Leonard, President Boston Public Library



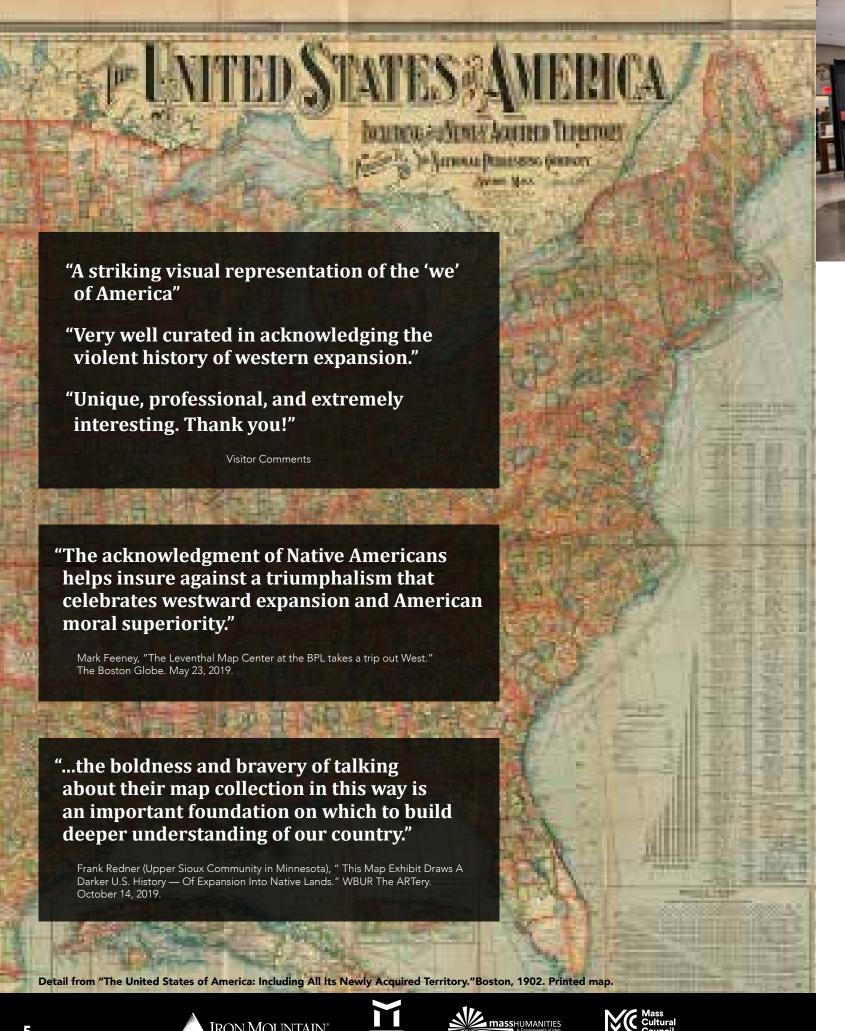
Mayor Marty Walsh (left) receives the Bates Medal from Boston Public Library Trustee Robert Gallery (center) and Leventhal Map and Education Center Board Member Ron O'Hanley (right)



Louisa Stephens, Executive Director of The Associates of the Boston Public Library; Connie Chin, President of the Leventhal Center; Mary Myers, Executive Director of the Fund for the Boston Public Library celebrate



Leventhal Map and Education Center Board Member Ted Landsmark and another guest at the June 7 Gala





America Transformed: Mapping the 19th Century

The largest exhibition ever mounted in our gallery, America Transformed explores the dramatic transformation of land, people and society over an entire century. The show runs a full year until May 2020, and is presented in two parts. With attendance of over 62,000 physical visitors and 1,700 online visitors, America Transformed is well on track to be our best ever attended gallery show.

A core goal of the exhibition and programming is to challenge visitors to look deeper than the traditional heroic myths of the frontier, to explore complex factors that shaped United States' development.

A very important aspect in developing the exhibition was to acknowledge the histories and perspectives of people who were violently displaced, and the enslaved and immigrant people that were exploited. We invited Native American, African American and Chinese American scholars to write Viewpoints that were included in the interpretation. A crucial role was played by the Akomawt Educational Initiative, which consults on learning approaches that further knowledge of Native America. Their work with us was recognized with an Excellence Award from the New England Museums Association.

Leventhal Center educators hosted 120 school groups in the 2018-2019 school year with visits to the exhibition and workshops which used maps and digital mapping to explore content from Boston immigration to world urban centers

Don't miss Part Two of America Transformed, Homesteads to Modern Cities opening November 2019

During 2018-2019 we were hard at work on the exhibition catalog. We are proud to release it in November 2019 in time for holiday giving. The 212 page coffeetable book includes seven commissioned essays, and extended interpretation for all XXX? of the maps and objects from both Parts One and Two of the exhibition.



Akomawt Educational Initiative consultant Chris Newell leads a Native-Perspective tour of the exhibition.



lisitors participated in an activity to mark places of significance and transformation in their lives.



The digital interactive enables visitors to zoom into and play with map overlays.









Teaching America Transformed

A professional development workshop for teachers titled America Transformed: Teaching Westward Expansion Using Primary Sources, was developed in partnership with the Collaborative for Educational Services, a Library of Congress partner and American historian and Boston College professor, Heather Cox Richardson. Leventhal Center educators helped lead the two-day intensive

"I learned so much in two days... information about railroads, mapping included concepts of Native mapping, Native their routes, analyzing the swathes of land that were granted to the companies, and connecting that to the extermination of bison and forced removal of Native Americans."

Teacher Participant

exploration of ways to teach history using maps, images and documents. The topics they explored removal, expansion of slavery and white settler colonialism.

Westward expansion was also the topic studied by the 2018 Carolyn A. Lynch Teacher Fellows. Kim Frederick, from Concord Academy, created the map set and lessons Mid-19th Century Urban America: the Growth of the American City. Christopher

Montero, from the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, created materials on Native American Removal and U.S. Expansion: 1800-1840, including the map and inquiry prompts shown below.

Additional teacher workshops were also developed with the following partners on topics including immigration, STEAM curricula, geography standards, maps and collections in the classroom, as well as westward expansion.

Boston University School of Education

Boston Writing Project

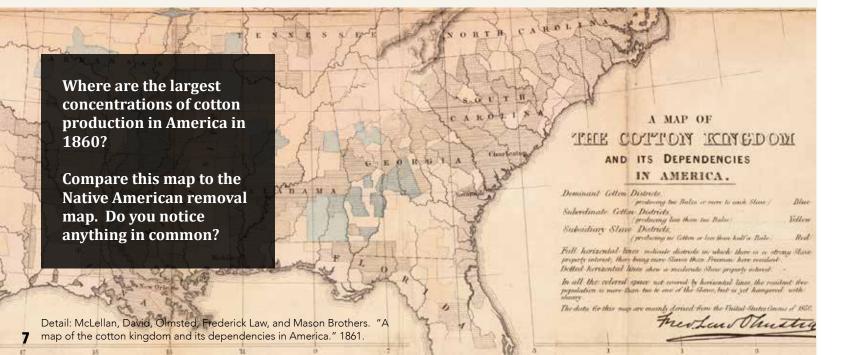
Collaborative for Educational Services

Digital Commonwealth

SEEM Collaborative

SEMAGNET (Southeast MA Geography Network)

Teachers As Scholars





Programming

Crossing Boundaries: Art // Maps

A pairing from Crossing Boundaries: Art // Maps: Naoe Suzuk "Water, is Taught by Thirst (BLUE), Greater Boston," 2015.

Boston (Mass.) Engineering Dept. "Map of Charles River Showing Principal Sources of Pollution" Boston, 1892.

In October 2018, we opened Crossing Boundaries: Art // Maps, guest curated by former Leventhal Map Center Executive Director Janet Spitz. This innovative exhibition juxtaposed maps with contemporary art, creating dialogues that illuminated the crossing of traditional boundaries of art and maps, and stimulated a fresh appreciation of both media.

The public programming for this exhibition included hands-on workshops to encourage creativity as well as direct exposure to some of the artists whose work was in the show.

Opening Talk by exhibition curator Jan Spitz and former curator of maps Ron Grim and reception with the artists, co-sponsored by the Boston Map Society, October 9

"Evenings with the Artists" hands-on art experiences:

Photographer Bruce Myren, November 15, 2018

Mosaic artist Richard Youngstrom, January 15, 2019

Mixed media artist Naoe Suzuki, March 7, 2019

Panel Discussion "How Maps Prompt the Artist's Eye", with artists Joyce Kozloff, Bruce Myren, Naoe Suzuki, moderated by Janet Spitz, Curator, co-sponsored by the Boston Map Society, April 2, 2019

Ongoing Instructional Workshops for the Public

By popular demand, we continue to offer our ongoing workshops in the BPL computer lab, which teach how maps can be made and seen in new ways, and are consistently full to capacity.

Boston By Map is a tour of historic Boston maps, showing how to find them online and compare them by overlaying digital images, as well as an introduction to georeferencing and map set tools.

Mapmaking 101 teaches people how to use QGIS to make their own digital maps from a sample dataset.

"LOVE that you guys are doing this and so **GRATEFUL!**"

Map Making Workshop Participant

Empowering Maptivists

Can maps help students visualize their world differently? Will this help them engage more deeply with both historical and present-day issues in their own communities? Can mapping encourage young adults to feel empowered to access data, communicate their ideas for social justice, and create positive social change? Our Empowering Maptivists pilot program completed its first year, and found the answer to each of these questions is a resounding "Yes!"

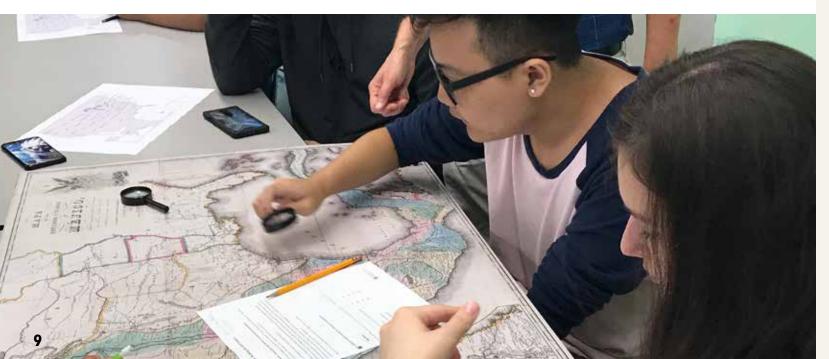
The Maptivists initiative at the Leventhal Map & Education Center is based in the idea that maps and mapping are empowering and can help students be civically engaged. Working in collaboration with two Boston Public Schools, teachers and Map Center educators worked with students over the course of the school year to locate and use a variety of historical and modern maps, geospatial data, and digital map making skills to better understand the past and present of Boston and advocate for change.

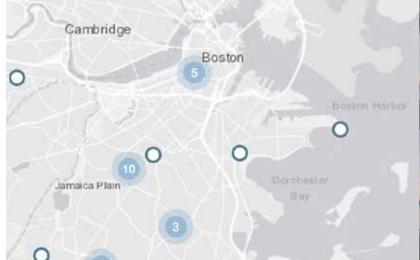
Snowden International High School Copley Square

Leventhal Map Center educators worked with 70 Snowden 10th grade students and their teachers in U.S. History II. They helped them find historical map resources as well as modern demographic maps that the students analyzed to consider how Boston fits in with the larger national history and how it might have diverged from it. As the students explored Boston history and the New Deal policies in the 1930's, they focused on the history of the Homeowners Loan Corporation (HOLC) and the "redlining" maps. The students considered the history of their own neighborhood and the possible continuing impact of the grading of neighborhoods in the 1930's.

Students created Google sites on their neighborhoods and used maps and data to consider the continued impact today of the HOLC maps, urban renewal in the mid-20th century and contemporary gentrification.

Maptivist students from Snowden High School analyze a map during a classroom session.







Storymap produced by the students featuring a range of topics that relate to Boston and the surrounding area.

Margarita Muñiz Academy Jamaica Plain

Seniors at the Muñiz Academy, Boston's only bilingual high school, in their capstone projects, each researched an issue of their interest in their own community and proposed possible solutions.

The Leventhal Map Center helped the 70 Muñiz students explore and narrow down areas of interest (housing, income inequality, immigration, climate resiliency, etc.) by digging into maps and data sets to look at the big picture in Boston. Students used used geospatial data to create maps in ArcGIS online and looked at a variety of maps created by government entities and other organizations to refine their questions and better understand their issue. They interviewed experts in the Boston community and learned from librarians how to use online and physical resources at the Boston Public Library. Topics included the lack of minorities working in Boston hospitals, gender treatment in education, advocating for American Sign Language to be made more available in Boston area schools, and many more.

In a survey of the Muniz students after their capstone work was completed, 66% reported they felt their projects would "Make a Big Difference" or "Make a Difference" in their communities, reflecting their confidence in being able to communicate information about the issues they studied. 78% said they were "Very Likely" or "Likely" to use maps to research something about their communities, and 77% said they were "Very Likely" or "Likely" to use maps to demonstrate a point to people within or outside their community in the future.

"[My project]...is to help immigrant families navigate the Boston Public School system. It's difficult to navigate in a system where all of the important information is, in most of the cases, in English."

Student Participant



High School Senior [Student name] from the Muñiz Academy presents her "Changing Boston" project on [student topic subject]

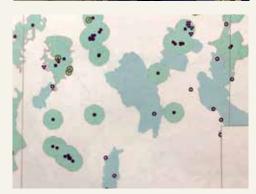


Maptivist students discuss topics such as health, education, and housing with leaders in the Boston community.











Excerpts of maps from the AppGeo collection showing several different cartographic techniques from the 1980s to present.

Acquisitions

While we mostly paused our acquisitions during FY2019 due to the ongoing curatorial search, we did agree to acquire a large archival series of maps that document the computer revolution in cartography. Produced mostly from the 1980s and later, this collection was donated by David Weaver and Rich Grady of AppGeo, a cartography and GIS firm with close institutional relations to the early state agencies involved with spatial data in Massachusetts.

The AppGeo collection includes maps that document various phases of cartographic techniques across a time period during which digital mapping was radically changing the way that cartographers did their work. From rubyliths and pen plotters to mylar sheets and inkjet printers, these maps will offer future historians a window into the types of maps that were being made as computers and information technology took over much of the work that was traditionally portrayed on paper maps produced by hand.

This collection strengthens our commitment to interpreting maps and geography across a large sweep of time, from the medieval period to the present. It also represents one prong of a strategy to connect the Leventhal Map & Education Center more closely with contemporary practices in mapmaking and geographic information. The AppGeo collection is currently undergoing processing and cataloging—and it will be one of the first Leventhal Map & Education Center acquisitions to be treated as an archival series rather than as individually-filed maps.

Discovering Urban Atlases in the Digital Age

One of the most important sets of maps in our collections are our fire insurance atlases. These volumes, produced primarily from around the Civil War to the middle of the 20th century, are an invaluable source of micro-level information about urban change. Since they were originally made for the purpose of pricing fire insurance, they capture incredible detail about buildings' ownership and structural composition.

Up until now, patrons who wanted to look at urban atlases would have to identify which volume, year, and page number corresponds with an area of interest, and then browse these pages individually. Through funding provided by the Council on Library and Information Resources, we are taking approximately 100 urban atlases volumes and transforming them into seamless layered maps that can be explored just like a modern digital map. Behind the scenes, there's a complicated process which our talented interns have been perfecting, involving georeferencing, mosaicing, and tiling the maps for display in a web app.



The ultimate goal is to create an easy-to-use window into urban history all across metropolitan Boston, so that students, researchers, and even ordinary people walking around the city can discover what things were like in the past—and then get absorbed into the thrill of exploring past Boston on the web. The initial release of the urban atlases web app is expected in Winter 2019–2020.









Views of the Boston Public Library from different sources that will be available through the web app when it is released.

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Annual Fund Support

We are grateful to all those who have made our work possible this past year.

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July 1 2018 - June 30, 2019

2019 Joint Gala with the Fund for the Boston Public Library

Many thanks for the generosity of all the donors to our first joint gala with The Fund for the Boston Public Library. A portion of all the gala proceeds supports the Norman B. Leventhal Map & Education Center.

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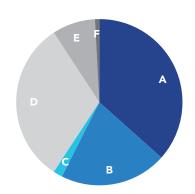
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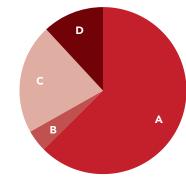
July I, 2018 – June 30, 2019



Revenues* \$1,909,964

Gala Revenues

Endowment Income Acquisition Grants Other Grants and Contributions **Donated Services** F Program Revenues/Other



Expenses \$1,471,041

Education & Outreach Collections Administrative D Advancement





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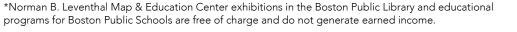






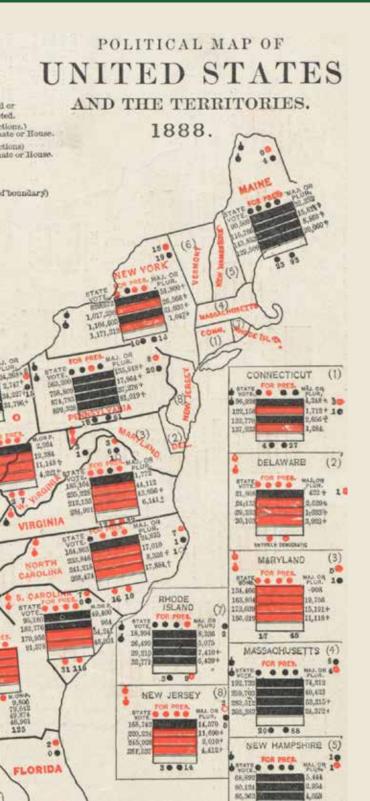
SUFFOLK**CARES**







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Don't Miss

Part Two of America Transformed: Mapping the 19th Century, Homesteads to Modern Cities 1862-1900. Open now through April 2020

Upcoming Public Programs

December 2 and 16, 2019
Map Making 101 (ongoing)

January 14, 2020: Witness

Margaret Pearce on Native American
Cartography

March 23, 2020

Daniel Immerwahr, Lowell Series

Coming in May 2020

Bending Lines: Maps and Data from
Distortion to Deception
An exhibition and education initiative
investigating the range of "truth" in maps.



1862-1900
HOMESTEADS TO
MODERN CITIES
November 2019 - May 2020