

COMMUNITY

Students enjoy lunch in light-filled Windgate Gallery

Windgate Gallery, the new, multipurpose gathering space at 150 North Street, has significantly expanded opportunities for the school community to gather and to welcome the public. Students meet informally to share lunch and learning and thousands of individuals have visited the school to attend open house, lectures and exhibits.

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skills for learning

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Rob taught himself to draw with Autocad in the 1990's but recently he has begun experimenting with 3D printers. He showed me a white gold casting of a ship's wheel. Just an inch or so across, the wheel has twelve spokes, each made of .025 inch diameter white gold rods. Last year, it would have taken him a week to build the wheel by hand, forming a perfect circle and soldering the individual spokes. This year he sent a drawing file to a 3D printer and printed a wax model which he then he used to create a lost-wax casting. The wax version was so detailed that it was printed in layers of 30 microns, or half the thickness of a human hair. After the part was cast, he spent about four hours finishing the wheels.

In Rob, I see the positive impact of computers on the life and the work of a craftsman. He doesn't use computers to

I am often asked about the use of computers at North Bennet Street School and the impact of the rapidly emerging technology related to 3D printing. My response has been to say that it is hard enough to cover the skills we want to teach in the time allowed in the full-time programs. I add that North Bennet Street School has been successful because of the unique nature of the skills we teach and the level at which we teach them. An education in computers is available virtually anywhere. An education in craftsmanship is our franchise.

Are these just glib answers to important questions? It seemed so after a recent evening with a friend in Maine.

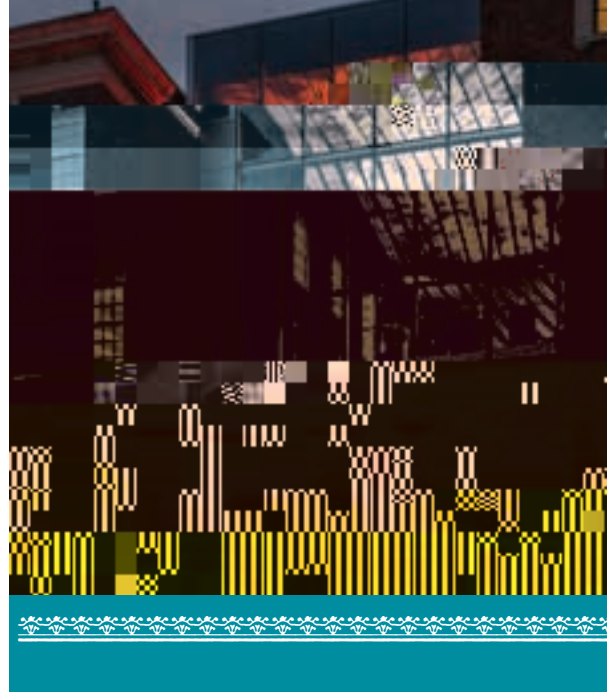
Rob Eddy, a jeweler in Camden Maine, is one of the most skilled craftsmen I know. Over the past 40 years, he has developed a niche market for himself building exquisitely detailed models of yachts commissioned by the owners of some of the most famous yachts in the world. They take up to a year to build and can sell for six figures. The decks are pear wood veneer, constructed so accurately that every plank of the original deck is represented. Tiny ship fittings are made of white gold to simulate stainless steel, yellow gold to simulate bronze and green gold to simulate weathered bronze. One of his signature details is a tiny diamond set into the top of each winch that looks like the star shaped recess for the winch handle.

A WEEK TO REMEMBER

In early November, after the dust had settled from construction and students in the full-time programs were fully-engaged in their programs, the new facility officially opened to the public. A gala for donors, a dedication event and Open House... more than 2,000 came to see and celebrate the new facility.

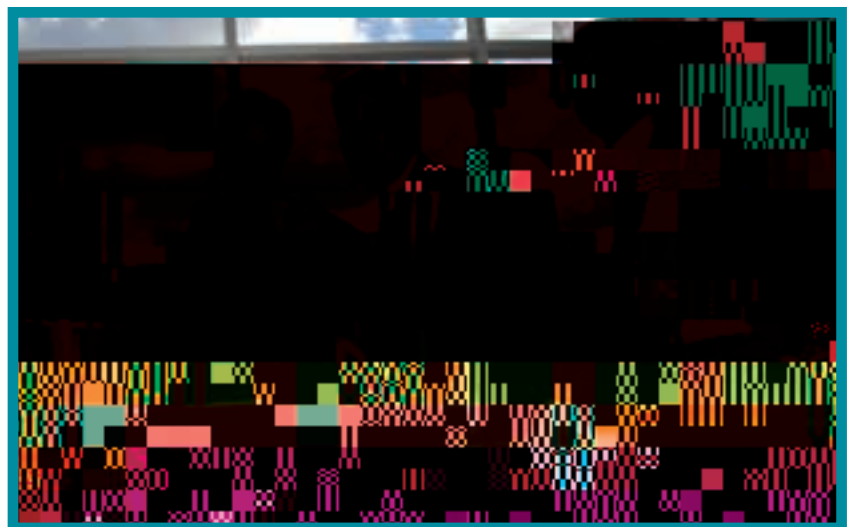
11/8/2013

The new building dedication and ribbon cutting.



CELEBRATIONS

On November 6 and 7, a celebration for faculty and staff members and their families and a gala event for donors to the *Under One Roof* campaign included tours of the building by student guides in addition to food and libations. The building glowed with special lighting and resonated with the sound of piano music played by students on NBSS-restored pianos.



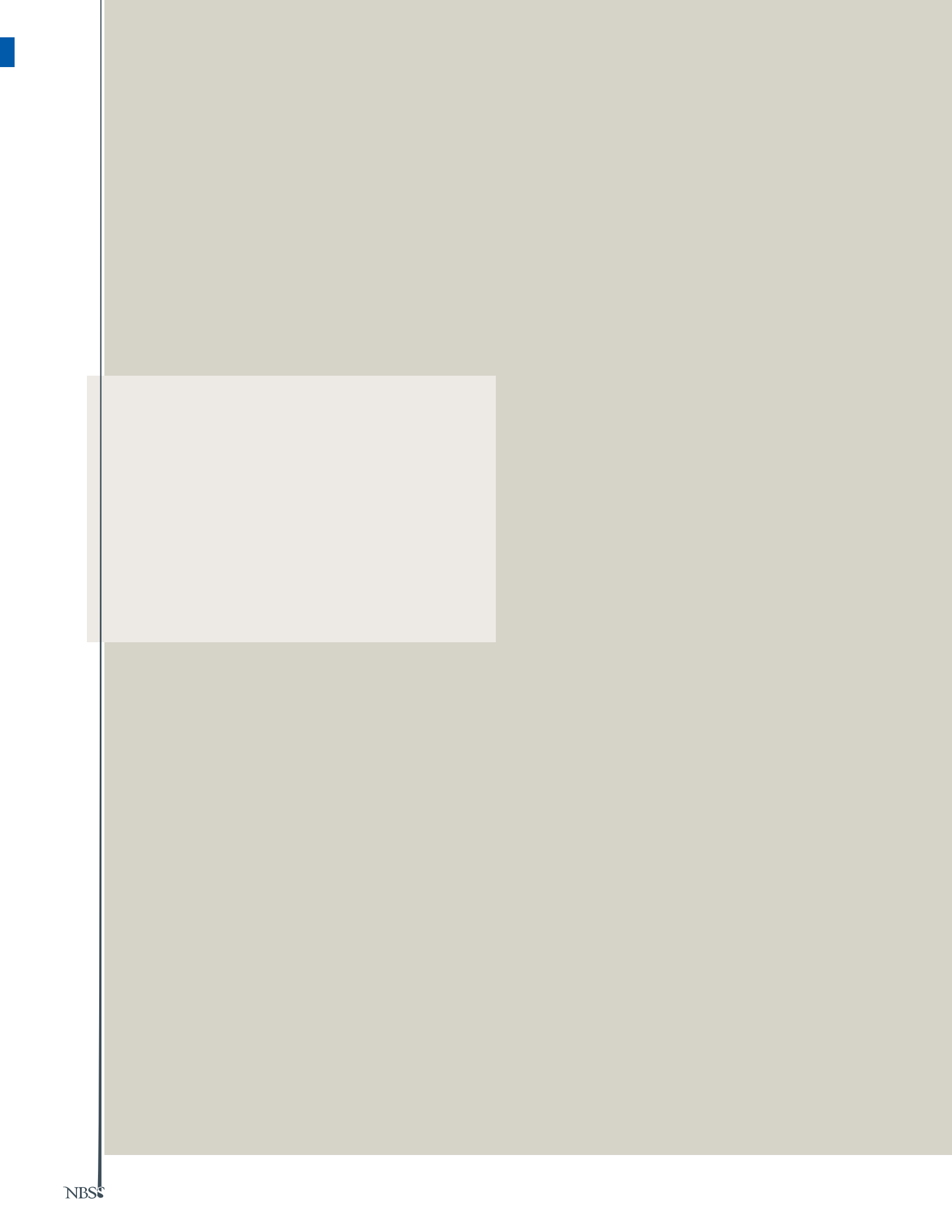
AN OFFICIAL MOMENT

Mayor Thomas M. Menino joined NBSS Chairman of the Board Charlie Kline and NBSS President Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez for the dedication event. As the ribbon was cut, balloons fell on the crowd signaling the beginning of Open House.

RECORD-BREAKING ATTENDANCE

During the two-day open house on November 8 – 9, more than 1,800 visitors streamed into the building for self-guided tours, demonstrations and informal





With the addition of the two-level Windgate Gallery, NBSS has, for the first time, a large and welcoming space to hold programs both for the school community and for the public.

Within weeks of opening, NBSS and the New England Guild of Book Workers hosted an event with bookbinder Edgard Claes—widely regarded as one of Europe's most technically proficient and stylistically progressive bookbinders. Originally from Achel, Belgium, Claes has been a monk of the Crosier Order since 1976. More than 80 bookbinding enthusiasts attended the event.

Beginning in December, a free monthly lecture series has introduced new individuals to the school, generated media coverage and enriched the NBSS experience for students, supporters, staff and faculty. Presentations covered collecting contemporary craft with Emily Zilber, the Curator of Contemporary Decorative Arts at the Museum of Fine Arts Boston; the history

of early American musical instrument making with Darcy Kuronen, the curator of Musical Instruments at the Museum of Fine Arts Boston; and the refurbishing of the Council Chamber at the Old State House with historian Nat Sheidley and NBSS trained furniture makers Dan Faia, CF '94 and Matt Wajda, CF '01.

As part of the series, NBSS hosted the second Make/Speak event in April. These fast-paced craft-focused events feature 7 takes on craft by 7 presenters in 7 minutes each. The events are choreographed by the Commonwealth of Craft, a consortium of craft-oriented education and cultural organizations in Eastern Massachusetts (see sidebar).

Upcoming events include *A Lantern Restored* a presentation by NBSS preservation carpentry instructor Rich Friberg on the restoration of the lantern for the First Parish Church in Dorchester. The Thursday, May 1 event begins at 6:00 pm. 📍

To learn more about upcoming and past events and to RSVP for the May 1 program, go to nbss.edu/windgate.



workshops

May – August

bookbinding

Fundamentals of bookbinding I
Fundamentals of bookbinding II
Single-signature binding
Secret Belgian binding **NEW**
Paste paper
Bookbinding open workshop
Traditional Ethiopian bookbinding **NEW**
Introduction to book structures for conservators
Family workshop—make a book **NEW**

woodworking

Three-month furniture making intensive
Fundamentals of fine woodworking
Intermediate fine woodworking
Fundamentals of machine woodworking
Fundamentals of chip carving
Decorative inlay **NEW**
Woodcarving intensives **NEW**
Summer upholstery intensive

lathe studio

Introduction to bowl turning
Intermediate bowl turning: lidded vessels
Turning skills: make a peppermill

jewelry

Fundamentals of jewelry making I
Fundamentals of jewelry making II
Tube setting **NEW**
Cold connections
Stringing and re-stringing pearls **NEW**

calligraphy

Copperplate script
Versal caps and gilding
Italic calligraphy & accordion book **NEW**

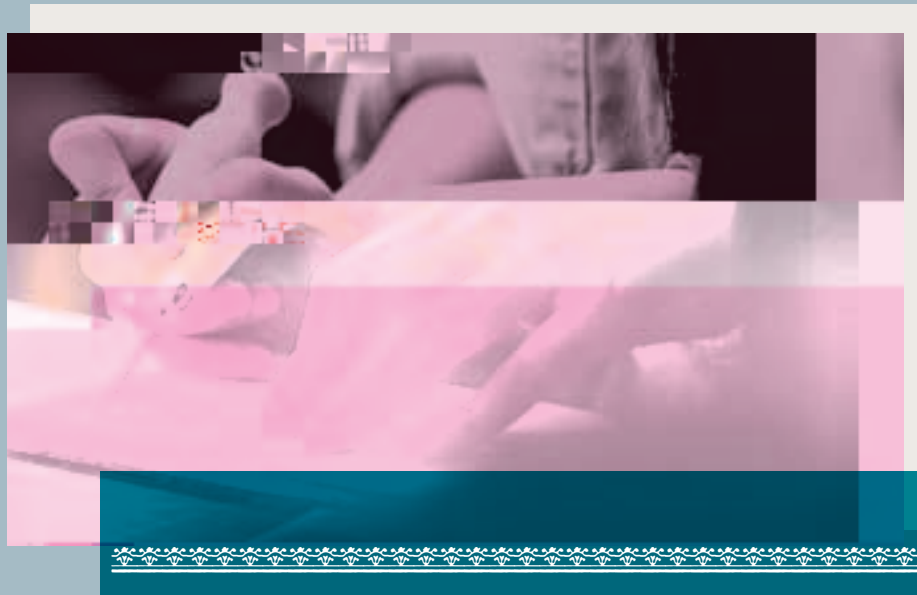
carpentry and preservation carpentry

Sawhorse workshop **NEW**
Historic Timber Framing
Window sash workshop

Workshop details are online at
www.nbss.edu/workshop

SKILLS LEARNED AND MASTERED

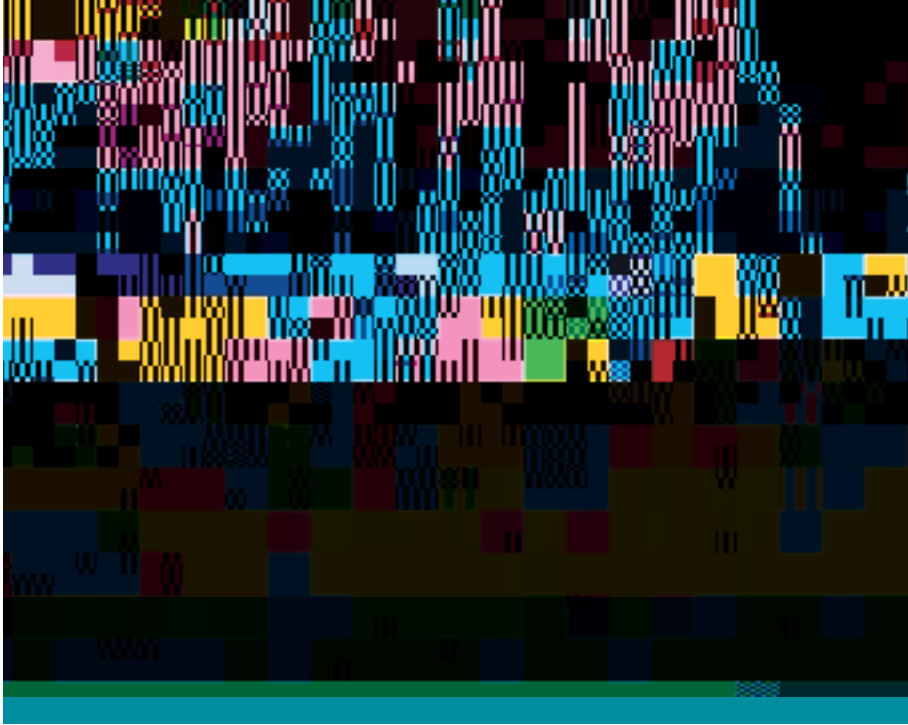
The workshops and master classes offered through the continuing education program at North Bennet Street School are designed for amateurs and professionals who seek to strengthen their technical understanding and develop new skills. Often the fundamental workshops provide an introduction to what becomes a lifelong passion for students who complete several workshops and/or enroll in the full-time program. NBSS alumni return to take master classes and to share what they know through teaching.



The new facility offers opportunities to expand learning beyond the full-time programs especially in the summer in the new air-conditioned department spaces. As the school considers how best to expand continuing education workshops, we welcome suggestions. If there is a master craftsman with whom you'd like to study, or a skill you'd like to learn, or if you have teaching experience you'd like to share with others, write to jmorris@nbss.edu.

Meanwhile, sign up for a workshop this summer... and spread the word to your craft-loving friends, family and neighbors. 🌐

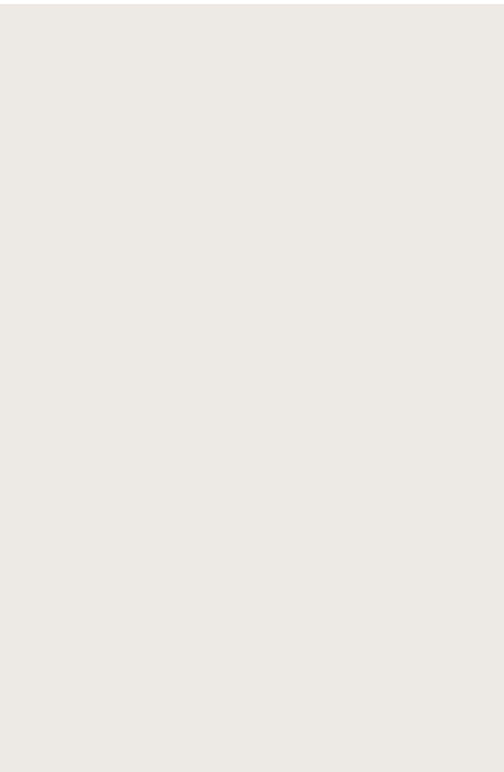
Director of Continuing Education



Skills for learning

The middle-school partnership program grows to accommodate two new schools and the addition of book arts.

With the successful completion of the three-year middle school woodworking pilot in June 2013, the Eliot K-8 Innovation School began offering the program as part of their extended day enrichment curriculum. To participate in the program, students take a short walk from their new campus on Commercial Street to NBSS for classes in dedicated space in the new building. This year, the program expanded to include middle school students from the St. John School in the North End and the Clarence Edwards Middle School in Charlestown.



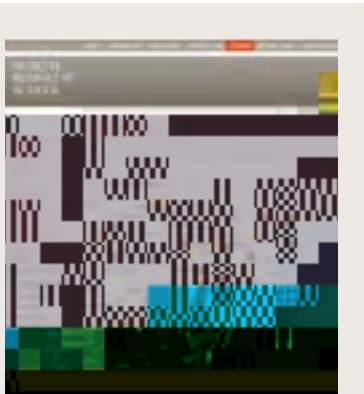
North Bennet Street School was added to the Military Friendly Schools® list that honors the top percent of colleges, universities and trade schools in the country that are doing the most to embrace America's military service members, veterans, and spouses as students and ensure their success on campus. There are students of full-time enrollment, who are receiving veterans benefits this year. Go to nbss.edu/veterans for



Louise Burgin was elected as a new member of the Board of Directors at the December Annual Meeting. Prior to joining the Board,

she served as an active Overseer and member of the Events Committee. Louise has a life-long appreciation for craft and admiration and respect for artisans. Until retiring a number of years ago, Louise had an interior design business and was very active in design, arts and antiques communities. In addition, she has completed a number of furniture ref nishing projects and even the "brightwork" on a boat. Louise and her husband,





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Send news and comments to newsletter@nbss.edu

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