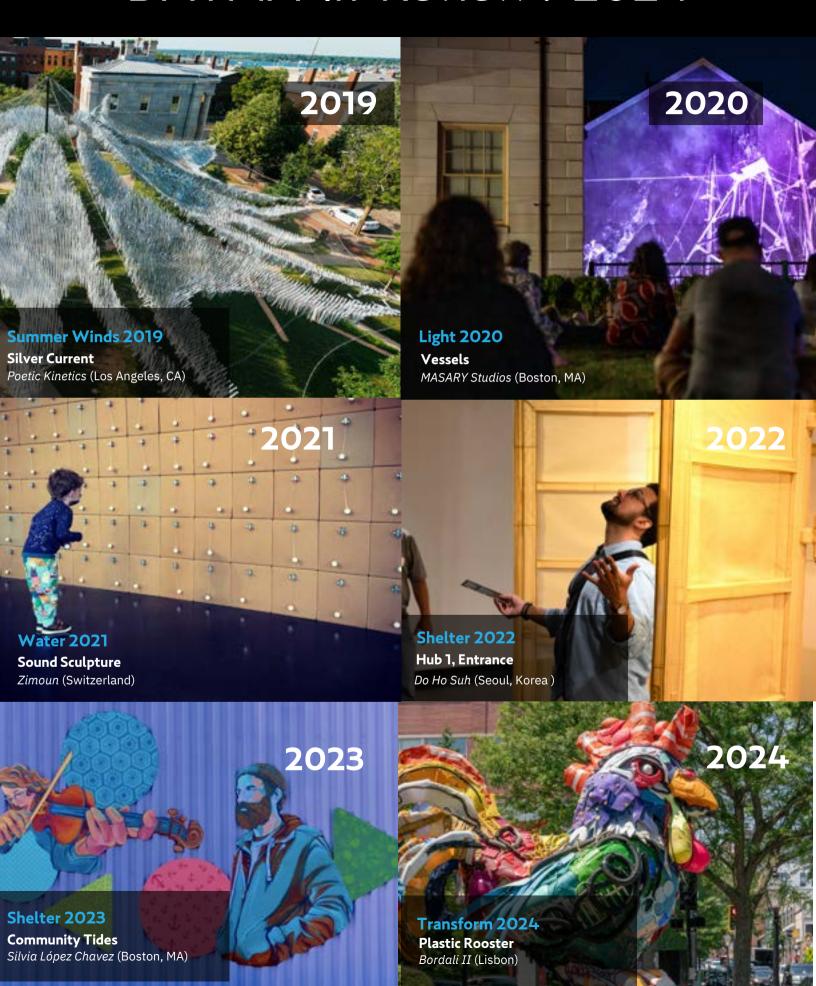
DATMA In Review: 2024



6 YEARS OF PUBLIC ART

100% free exhibitions & programs

17 unique public art exhibitions

41+ commissioned artists

3 semi-permanent artworks

16 In-the-classroom deep-dive workshops

4,100+ served with free public programs

20% increased visitorship for small businesses

Established in 2016, the Massachusetts Design Art & Technology Institute (DATMA) derived from an innovative idea to create an "institute without walls" that would bring free, accessible, arts programming to all ages, backgrounds, and socioeconomic levels of the SouthCoast region. DATMA is committed to bringing world-renowned design, art, and technology exhibitions, programs, and initiatives to the visitors and citizens of New Bedford and the region, identified as one of the Commonwealth's most creative economies by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Consistent news-media reach in Providence δ Boston

DATMA's Board δ Staff thank you for all the support we receive from our community.

BOARD CHAIR LETTER MAKE ART PUBLIC

Niko Sullivan
Chair & Founding Board Member

Six years ago, we envisioned DATMA as a "non-collecting" museum, open and accessible to everyone. As it happened, after the initial success of Silver Current in 2019, we decided to focus on curating our art outside. Our public art installations and gallery exhibitions have connected with our community in amazing ways, and we're thrilled to embrace our focus on outdoor exhibits.

Evolution of Exhibitions. For the first four years, we installed temporary exhibitions, from June to October. In 2023, we installed two "semi-permanent" pieces, "Threshold" in Custom House Square and the "Community Tides" mural on the New Bedford/ Fairhaven Bridge. This year, we installed "Plastic Rooster" outside the YMCA, where it is expected to remain for many years to come.

In 2025, we are taking another step forward, with our first traveling exhibition. "Being Seen: Celebrating SouthCoast Pride," a monumental multi-media textile to be designed and constructed by students at the College of Visual α Performing Arts at UMass Dartmouth. This collaborative artwork ensures presence of CVPA students downtown continues and all while creating the city's first large-scale public art piece dedicated to the LGBTQ+ Community. "Being Seen" will first debut on the exterior of New Bedford City Hall, then travel to UMass Dartmouth main campus, followed by the Marion Art Center, and then to a site in Fall River.

Evolution of Educational Programming. Why DATMA? Who needs art? To make creativity part of the everyday experience and to inspire people of all ages—but particularly to inspire young people with the power of design, art, and technology. To that end, we have collaborated with New Bedford High School, New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School, Our Sisters' School, and Nativity Prep, among others. Local youth have helped us to fabricate artworks and had opportunities to create their own at "DATMA Design Days," often as part of AHA nights.

DATMA has brought artists into the schools and has produced artist-run workshops for teachers from all over the South Coast. In an era when art in schools is often an afterthought, DATMA is sparking the 21st century skills of collaboration and creative expression in young people.

DATMA is still a very young and small non-profit organization, but we like to think we punch above our weight and are making a measurable impact. We thank our supporters, our followers, and the City of New Bedford for helping to foster our growth and evolution.

 $\label{eq:Nicholas Sullivan} \mbox{Chair } \& \mbox{ Founding Board Member}$



Picture here are several high school students & faculty from GNBVoc Tech High School

IN COMMUNITY

My letter this year must take the form of a thank you. Our brave and colorful rooster is the city's most talked about sculpture due to the generous trust and dreaming of our local community. This past year has more than solidified New Bedford as a world where anything is possible.

In her poem entitled, "Transform," our city's Poet Laureate Sarah Jane Mulvey wrote, "it starts with one piece, one salvaged and cherished bit, churned through, sanded down or carved up, turned into more than it was." That's exactly how "Plastic Rooster" by Bordalo II came to be. Many partnerships with everyone each contributing "one piece" to our project's success.

- NB Voc -Tech High School: Ask them to partner on a project and suddenly a group of teenagers are welding from the top of a cherry picker.
- YMCA New Bedford: Even when the sculpture grew taller each day, kept saying they loved it!
- Explore New Bedford: Whether it be strategizing pedestrian walking paths or launching marketing campaigns, our city's tourism office is the model "A Team."
- Our beloved DPI & Fleet Management: Nearly all of our projects have received support from the incredibly skilled craftspeople at Department of Public Infrastructure, DPI, who secretly love our bizarre requests for help pouring cement and dumpster access.
- New Bedford Creative δ the NBEDC: Thanks for giving us a new home.



This sense of community is why we asked Mayor Jon Mitchell and MA Lt. Gov. Kimberly Driscoll to provide remarks at this year's annual Fall Ball in October. It says something when elected officials understand and invest with the arts, resulting in more than beautified streetscapes, but also, a healthier city and boosted economy. A community led by the arts reaps remarkable rewards.

And personally, it's why I chose to live in this place that has now become my home.

Lindsay Miś Founding Exec. Director

IN HONOR OF ROGER



Roger Mandle was a beloved mentor to many. He had a special way of listening to people and could identify their spark, then foster their growth. To continue Roger's passion for learning through the arts, DATMA has created 100% free education opportunities that give both youth and educators the chance to work with cutting-edge Designers, Artists, and Technologists who can share their drive for exploration and collaboration. We invite you to join us in continuing Roger's legacy of fostering curious minds with impactful education experiences. Help us foster Roger's dream at www.datma.org/donate.

2024 EDUCATION IMPACTS

Starting in April with our in-depth "In the Classroom" programs to pop-up "Design Days" in the warmer months, this year our hands-on STEAM based projects served from K-12 grades up to SouthCoast educators.

400 served in DATMA Design Days

235 served in general public programs

135 served in K-12 students in "DATMA in the Classroom"

8 Grants at \$75,000+ towards education outreach

2024 EDUCATION FISCAL SUPPORTERS

To allow DATMA education initiatives to remain 100% free to participants, our education programs are generously supported by the Hope Foundation, Bank Five, Mass Cultural Council-New Bedford LCC, Mass Cultural Council-Dartmouth LCC, Bristol County Savings Bank, The William and Bertha Schrafft Charitable Trust, BayCoast Bank, Servedwell Hospitality, Alexander & Tamara Pendleton, Frances Levin, David & Hobby Jeffrey, the Mandle Family, and through the many individuals who have donated to The Roger Mandle Legacy Campaign which directly supports our educational outreach.

EDUCATION HIGHLIGHT

DESIGNING, UPCYCLING, AND MAKING PUBLIC ART WITH LOCAL YOUTH

From March to May, thirty 11th & 12th grade Metal Fabrication & Welding students at Greater NB Vocational Technical High School (GNBVT) joined Bordalo II (Lisbon) and DATMA in the creation of a new site-specific sculpture in downtown New Bedford. Working directly under the guidance of the artist and his team, students learned new fabrication processes, engineering techniques and design skills, while gaining hands-on experience in creating community-centered public art now installed at the YMCA New Bedford.

In addition, DATMA embarked on new education partnerships this season including The Audubon Society, Vineyard Wind, and the YMCA Southcoast.

"The DATMA project is more than just a project, it's a symbol. It symbolizes unification and how people can come together, not only to work on a project, but to come together to do something good for our community. The one thing I can't stop thinking about is how both teams were able to collaborate and work together on this project despite being from different parts of the world. And we're all from different backgrounds but fate brought us together to do something that's bigger than all of us.

I hope when people walk by and see the work we've done they'll see more than just the art, but the message and what it means. I hope it brings people together the same way it brought us together."

11th grader at NB Voc Tech High, June 2024



GNBVT High School students joined by Bordalo in their classroom in June 2024.

The past six years have been made possible by many individuals who believe that art has the power to uplift a community.

Victoria & Neilson Abeel Melinda Ailes Lisa Aldrich

Lisa Schmid Alvord & Joel Alvord Margot Hand & Robert Anderson

loev Andrade Jeffrey Apfel

Rebecca Eaton & Steven Ashley

Frances Atkeson

Dr. Robert and Susan Bahr Paulo Baptista

Tracy Silva Barbosa Travis Brown & Teresa Barger

Maria Barlow Rehecca Barnes Christina Bascom Gale and Thomas Beaton Philip Beauregard Michael Benevides John & Shelley Benjamin Jean & Arthur Bennett Benjamin Berke

Terese Bernert Leonard A Bernheimer Wally & Roz Bernheimer Peter & Sally Bohlin

William & Nannette Braucher

Stephen Brayton Janet Brown & Michael Brewer

Marlissa Briggett Iva Brito Denell Brodeur Christina Connett Brophy Irene & Norm Buck Laurie & John Bullard

Bernard Buonanno Amy and Andy Burnes

Don Burton Stephen Canessa **Beverly Carter** Peter Cerilli Rachel Charrier Elizabeth Chase Sharon Cherry Caroline Conzatti Crystal Cousins Campbell

Keri & John Cox Joshua Croke Victoria Cunningham

Sue Curran

Katherine & Frederick Dabney

Luiza deCamargo Hadley Desmeules Amy DesRosiers Elizabeth DiMaggio Elizabeth DiPaolo

Allan & Priscilla Ditchfield

Ed Dolman Janet Egan Tobey Eugenio James & Mary Faughnan Kate & David Fentress

Fabio Fernandez Gabrielle Ferreira

Ruth Furman & Ernest Fisher

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Michael & Marty Keating Nick & Bicky Kelby Nicholas Kelley

Brian Adams & Edwina Klünder

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Ann Ogilvy & Demarest Lloyd Macdonald

Peggy Ann Loar Joseph Lopes Jeannine Louro Anne Louro

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Celeste S. Penney Susan Perry

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Betty & Ronald Rosbottom

Sarah Rose

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Sarah Ruch

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Dawn Salerno

Scott Bishop & Margo Saulnier Christine & Paul Schmid Paul & Tina Schmid

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Frederick Witczak Emese Wood

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