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PANORAMA

The Official Guide to BOSTON

March 8–21, 2010

IRISH BOSTON

PLUS:

Boston Winter Restaurant Week

The Paramount Theatre Re-opens

The Harlem Globetrotters at the Garden

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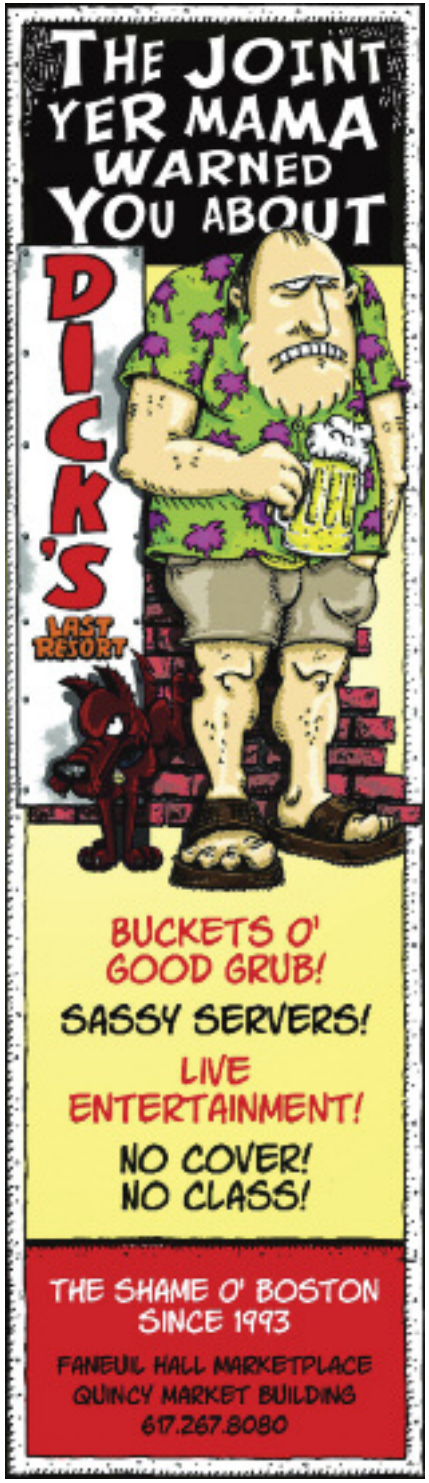
STRINGS ATTACHED: Enjoy live Irish music at such Celtic watering holes as The Black Rose (160 State St., 617-742-2286), where traditional Irish bands regularly perform. *Refer to story, page 10.*

PHOTO BY
KELLY DAVIDSON

on the cover:
Riley, Carly and Maddy (left to right) of the Woods School of Irish Dance in South Boston show off their step dancing skills.
Photo: Jonathan Daisy



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HUBBUB

by Josh B. Wardrop

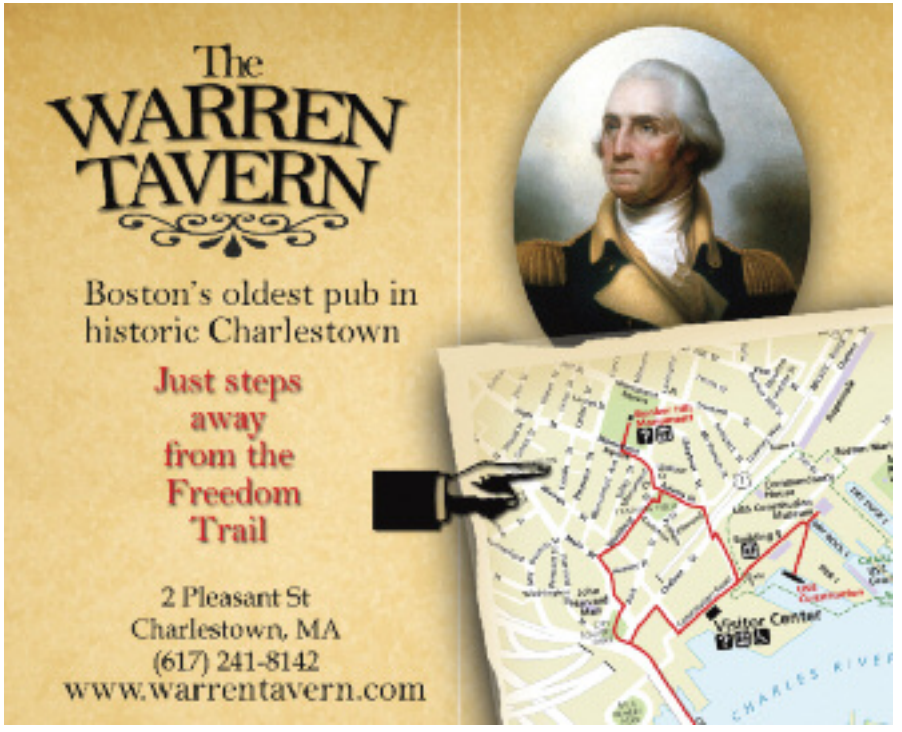
Boston Restaurant Week Offers Hot Dining Deals

There are a few telltale signs in Boston that the long cold winter is coming to an end, and that the warm, sunny days of springtime are dead ahead: among them are the Red Sox returning to Florida for pre-season spring training and the gathering of the green in Southie for the St. Patrick's Day parade (*refer to page 11 for more information on that*).

But there's no more delicious harbinger of spring than **Boston Winter Restaurant Week**—two weeks, actually (**March 14–19 & 21–26**), during which nearly 100 of the city's top restaurants allow diners to sample their fare for fantastic prices. Fine eateries of every variety like B&G Oysters, Bistro du Midi (pictured above), Cantina Italiana, Clink, Davio's, Avila, L'Espalier, No. 9 Park, Antico Forno and many, many more offer three-course prix-fixe lunch menus for $20.10 and/or dinners for $33.10. A complete list of participating restaurants can be found at www.restaurantweekboston.com, and with so many of Boston's finest eateries taking part, chances are good the one you've been dying to try is on the list. *Refer to listing, page 48.*

(cont. on page 8)

ABOVE PHOTO BY JONATHAN DAISY



CURTAINS UP AT THE PARAMOUNT THEATRE

A project five years in the making reached fruition in March as the **Paramount Theatre** (pictured above), a 1932 movie theatre, reopened for business this month after nearly 35 years of dormancy.

In 2005, Emerson College announced plans to renovate and refurbish the Washington Street theater, which was one of the first moviehouses in Boston to show talking pictures, and a stalwart on the entertainment scene until closing in 1976. Emerson (in partnership with the City of Boston and developers Millennium Partners) embarked on an ambitious project that metamorphosed the Paramount, as well as two neighboring parcels of land, into a performing arts complex boasting uses for both the public and Emerson students, including a small 125-seat black box theatre, support and storage spaces, a student dormitory and a restaurant—all centered around a 500-seat main theatre space.

In its first month back on the scene, the Paramount is set to host a number of short engagements by performers like the **Black Grace Dance Company** (**March 12–14**) and **Dee Dee Bridgewater** (**March 27 & 28**). *Refer to listings, pages 45 and 46.*

WHAT IS EVACUATION DAY?

One of the advantages of being one of the oldest cities in America is that Boston gets to celebrate holidays that almost everyone else miss out on—like on **March 17**, when schools and city offices in Boston shut down for Evacuation Day.

Don't panic—nobody needs to worry about running for the exits. The holiday actually commemorates the day in 1776 when the British redcoats ended their occupation of Boston and got the heck out of Dodge (or, in this case, Dorchester). This year, **Evacuation Day** is being celebrated with a special ceremony **March 13** *at 9 a.m.* at Roxbury Heritage State Park, where an interpretive easel is unveiled to accompany Roxbury's trail marker on the Henry Knox Trail—the path from upstate New York to Boston along which Colonel Henry Knox smuggled captured British armaments (known as the "Noble Train of Artillery") into Massachusetts to help fight off the British. At the dedication, children from Roxbury and South Boston join Lexington Minuteman re-enactors in towing a replica cannon symbolizing the British weapons along the Knox Trail. *For more information, visit www.evacuationday.com.*

Go Green

10 fun ways to celebrate Irish culture in Boston

by Josh B. Wardrop

1. EAT A HEARTY BREAKFAST

Any busy day of exploring Irish culture in Boston should start off with the most important meal of the day, and the Irish certainly know a thing or two about that. When you're in the mood for a heaping plate of fried sausages, eggs, bacon, baked beans and the ever-mysterious black pudding (a sausage made from cooked, congealed animal blood) there are plenty of eateries and pubs in the area that do the traditional Irish breakfast deliciously and authentically, such as **The Independent** (75 Union Square, Somerville, 617-440-6022); **The Asgard** (*refer to listing, page 35*); **The Lansdowne** (*refer to listing, page 71*); **The Green Briar** (304 Washington St., Brighton, 617-789-4100); and **Matt Murphy's** (14 Harvard St., Brookline, 617-232-0188).

2. TAKE A STROLL ALONG THE IRISH HERITAGE TRAIL

This three-mile self-guided walking tour through downtown Boston, the North End, Beacon Hill and Back Bay details more than 300 years of Irish history, showcasing the politicians, artists and war heroes who personify the rebellious and triumphant nature of the Boston Irish. View a garden dedicated to Boston's most famous Irish-American matriarch, Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy; see a flag waved by the entirely Irish 9th Regiment of Infantry during the Civil War; and visit a memorial commemorating the tragic Great Famine that claimed a million lives and forced two million others to flee Ireland. *Refer to listing, page 16.*

3. CHECK OUT LOCAL LIBRARIES

March may be the month that everyone's a little Irish, but some of Boston's cultural institutions offer opportunities to learn about Irish culture all year long. Boston College's **John J. Burns Library** (Bapst Library Building on the BC campus) offers one of the finest assemblages of Irish cultural artifacts in the city, including thousands of newspapers, periodicals, land deeds and rare books and manuscripts by prominent Irish names like Brendan Behan, Samuel Beckett and William Butler Yeats; an extensive Irish music collection; and a digital database that includes a photographic retrospective of longtime Speaker of the House Thomas J. "Tip" O'Neill. **Through May 28**, the library hosts the special exhibit A Poet at Work: Brendan Galvin's Papers.

The **Boston Public Library** (*refer to listing, page 14*) houses within its voluminous collections an Irish Studies section with subsections that includes tomes on Irish legal history, modern Irish history and a "literary Dublin" collection. And if exploring general Irish history isn't enough for you, the BPL offers a chance to trace your own family tree to the Auld Sod, hosting an Irish-American Catholic genealogy talk on **March 24** *at 6:30 p.m.* at the library's central branch in Copley Square.

Finally, the **John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum** (*refer to listing, page 51*) honors the personal history of Boston's most famous Irish-American, and celebrates JFK's Celtic heritage and pride in its many exhibits, including one that traces the history of the Kennedy clan all the way back to the Fitzgeralds' and the Kennedys' respective emigration to the U.S. from Ireland.

4. WAVE A FLAG AT THE SOUTH BOSTON ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

The traditionally Irish neighborhood of South Boston is the epicenter of St. Patrick's Day celebrations in Boston, most notably demonstrated by its legendary parade, one of the largest St. Patrick's Day events in the world. Every year, 600,000 Bostonians and visitors pack the streets of "Southie" to experience this festive procession featuring marching and bagpipe bands from America and the Emerald Isle, exciting floats and other Gaelic-inspired treats. The 109th annual parade kicks off *at 1 p.m.* on Sunday, **March 14**, from the Broadway MBTA station on the Red Line.

5. GET FRISKY WITH WHISKEY

When an Irishman raises a glass to toast special occasions ("Beannachtam na Feile Padraig," for example, means "Happy St. Patrick's Day"), more often than not it's filled with that Celtic liquor of choice—a fine malted whiskey. If you've ever wanted to be more educated about this popular libation, the Boston Center for Adult Education (122 Arlington St.) is offering a one-night **Irish Whiskey Tasting** on **March 17** *at 6 p.m.* Master of Scotch Brad Jarvis discusses the major differences in style between the North and South regions of Ireland, while deciphering terms like "pot still style" and "inpeated single malts." *Visit www.bcae.org or call 617-267-4430 for more information.*

RAISE A GLASS: Marie of Model Club Inc. (opposite) toasts the Emerald Isle with a pint of stout at The Kinsale near Government Center.

6. SHOW YOUR CELTIC PRIDE

In the Hub, green isn't just the hue of shamrocks and leprechauns—it's the fighting color of our beloved **Boston Celtics**, who head into the home stretch of their regular season in March and early April. With a third consecutive year of playoff basketball in the offing, there's no better time than this month to cheer on Paul Pierce, Kevin Garnett, Ray Allen and the rest of the Cs as they take on opponents like the New York Knicks (**March 17**), the San Antonio Spurs (**March 28**) and the Cleveland Cavaliers (**April 4**) at TD Garden. *Refer to listing, page 48.*

7. (DROP) KICK OUT THE JAMS

Man cannot get by on "Danny Boy" and "When

OPPOSITE PHOTO BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Irish Eyes Are Smilin'" alone, so when March rolls around in Boston, we're fortunate to have hometown Celtic/punk superstars **The Dropkick Murphys** on hand to rip it up. The band behind hits like "I'm Shipping Up to Boston" and "The State of Massachusetts" plays its traditional six-night March residency at the House of Blues in the shadow of the band's beloved Fenway Park. The hottest ticket in town, the shows take place *at 7 p.m.* on **March 12, 14, 15, 16 & 17**, with two shows on **March 13** *at 1 and 8 p.m. Refer to listing, page 46.*

8. GIVE TWO (GREEN) THUMBS UP

Ireland has appeared on movie screens for generations, serving as the setting for films ranging from classics like "The Quiet Man" to '90s hits like "The Commitments" and "Waking Ned Devine" to the recent "Leap Year." From **March 25–28**, the **Boston Irish Film Festival** screens the next generation of beloved Irish cinema, presenting the cream of the crop of contemporary films detailing the Irish experience. The festival awards prizes for the best film and best documentary, and has annually honored a prominent Irish filmmaker with the Excellence Award (prior winners include directors John Boorman and Jim Sheridan and actors Gabriel Byrne and Aidan Quinn). *For schedule of films and ticket information, visit www.irishfilmfestival.com.*

9. CRAWL AROUND FANEUIL HALL

Celebrating an evening soaking in the Celtic culture of Boston at one of its many exceptional Irish pubs is a guaranteed good time—however, doing it at 13 of the city's best pubs is an adventure. Local party purveyors Boston Party Tours have teamed with travel providers Tenon Tours to present the second annual **Boston St. Patrick's Irish Pub Challenge** on **March 13**. Participants pay $25, split into teams and are given free admission to a baker's dozen of Irish pubs around bustling Faneuil Hall. Over a 13-hour span (pacing yourself is, admittedly, critical), you'll drink in the atmosphere (and other things) at bars like **The Black Rose**, **Kitty O'Shea's**, **The Purple Shamrock**, **The Harp** and others. Best of all, 13 lucky pub crawlers win a free round-trip flight from Boston to Shannon, Ireland for the International Irish Pub Challenge in May. *Visit www.bostonirishpub.com for more information.*

10. . . .OR JUST CHOOSE ONE PUB, AND SAY "SLAINTE!"

If you regard drinking as less of an endurance sport and more of a relaxing way to spend an evening with friends, pick one of the following area Irish pubs and you'll be filled with the spirit of St. Patrick all March long:

- **MCGREEVY'S,** 911 Boylston St., 617-262-0911. Co-owned by Dropkick Murphys founder Ken Casey, this Back Bay watering hole is beloved by rock fans and Boston Irish alike.
- **THE BURREN,** *refer to listing, page 62.* This friendly pub offers Irish set dancing classes every Monday and serves patrons food and drink to live Celtic music nightly.
- **THE KINSALE,** *refer to listing, page 63.* Located in Government Center, just steps from City Hall, this warm and homey pub/restaurant was designed and built in Ireland, with stained glass windows and dark wooden beams evoking an Old World feel.
- **DOYLE'S,** 3484 Washington St., Jamaica Plain, 617-524-2345. Since its inception in 1882, Doyle's has been a popular spot for Irish politicians (Boston's had a few, as you can imagine), and each St. Paddy's Day the pub hosts a battle of the bagpipe bands.
- **PORTER BELLY'S,** *refer to listing, page 65.* Situated in Brighton, a traditionally Irish community on the outskirts of Boston, Porter Belly's offers a varied menu of food and drink and a younger vibe courtesy of its proximity to Boston University and Boston College.
- **WOODY'S L STREET TAVERN,** 658 E. 8th St., South Boston, 617-268-4335. Made famous when it was used as Matt Damon and Ben Affleck's hangout in the film *Good Will Hunting*, this small and unassuming neighborhood bar is a huge draw for out-of-towners, to the resigned bemusement of its clientele of locals. Ⓟ

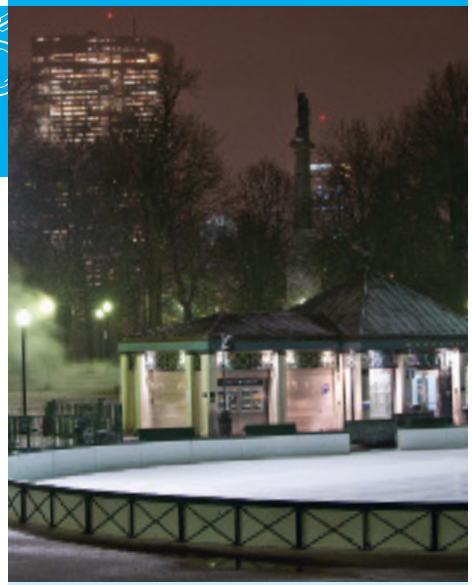


PHOTO BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

FROG POND ICE SKATING RINK: Enjoy the final days of outdoor skating on Boston Common through March 17. **Refer to listing, below.**

AMUSEMENT PARKS

5W!TS, 186 Brookline Ave., 617-375-WITS. *Wed & Thu 11 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m., Sun 'til 7 p.m. Tickets: $20; children (12 and under) $16.* Combining the appeals of theme parks, museums and haunted houses, 5W!ts provides visitors with action-packed interactive game-play and puzzle-solving activities. Current show: Tomb, which allows players to journey to the center of a buried pharaoh's final resting place, facing challenges and obstacles along the way.

ICE SKATING

FROG POND ICE SKATING RINK, Boston Common, 617-635-2197. ***Through Mar 17****: Mon 10 a.m.–4 p.m., Tue–Thu & Sun 'til 9 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 10 p.m. Fees: $4; children (under 13) free; rental skates $8; lockers $1. Seasonal passes available.* Ice skating on Boston Common's Frog Pond has become a staple of wintertime in Boston. The heated skate house offers hot chocolate, snacks and music.

SIGHTS OF INTEREST

ARNOLD ARBORETUM, 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain, 617-524-1718. *Grounds open year-round dawn to dusk. Free admission. Visitor Center open Mon–Fri 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Sat 10 a.m.–4 p.m., Sun noon–4 p.m.* This 265-acre tree sanctuary designed by Emerald Necklace architect Frederick Law Olmsted opened in 1872. Now a National Historic Landmark, the arboretum and its gardens contain more than 7,000 varieties of trees, shrubs and flowers for your perusal.

BOSTON ATHENAEUM, 10½ Beacon St., 617-227-0270. *Mon & Wed 8:30 a.m.–8 p.m., Tue, Thu & Fri 'til 5:30 p.m., Sat 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Art & Architecture tours: Tue & Thu at 3 p.m. Reservations required.* One of the oldest and most distinguished private libraries in the United States, the Athenaeum was founded in 1807. For nearly half a century, it was the unchallenged center of intellectual life in Boston, and by 1851 it had become one of the five largest libraries in the country. Special exhibit: Painter & Poet: George Nama & Charles Simic.

BOSTON PUBLIC GARDEN, bordered by Arlington, Charles, Beacon and Boylston streets. *Open daily dawn to dusk.* Established in 1837, the Public Garden is the nation's first public botanical garden. Its 24 acres are filled with scenic and diverse greenery, as well as sculptures, including one that commemorates the popular children's book *Make Way for Ducklings.* Other fixtures include the Lagoon—home to the famed Swan Boats from April through September—and the world's smallest suspension bridge.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, 700 Boylston St., Copley Square, 617-536-5400. *Mon–Thu 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 5 p.m., Sun 1–5 p.m. Free admission. Art & Architecture tours Mon at 2:30 p.m., Tue & Thu at 6 p.m., Fri & Sat at 11 a.m., Sun at 2 p.m.* The first publicly supported municipal library in the world hosts one million visitors a year, who come to view this architectural masterpiece and its collection of more than five million books. Film festivals, exhibits and children's programs run throughout the year. Special exhibits: Man in the Street: Boston Photographs by Jules Aarons; ***through Mar 31***—The Raven in the Frog Pond: Edgar Allan Poe and the City of Boston; Haiti: Selected Materials from the Norman B. Leventhal Map Center.

CUSTOM HOUSE TOWER, 3 McKinley Square, 617-310-6300. *Observation deck open Sat–Thu at 2 p.m.; tickets: $2. Tours may be cancelled due to weather conditions, call ahead.* Boston's first skyscraper, the Custom House, stands high over Boston Harbor as one of the city's most impressive landmarks. Crowned by its distinctive clock tower and restored with modern luxuries, the building (operated by the Marriott Corporation) epitomizes the preservation of Boston's historic architecture.

THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST SCIENTIST, 210 Massachusetts Ave., 617-450-2000. *Free tours of The Mother Church Tue noon–4 p.m., Wed 1–4 p.m., Thu–Sat noon–5 p.m. and Sun 11 a.m.–3 p.m., every half hour. Services: Sun at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Wed at noon and 7:30 p.m.* The original Mother Church built in 1894 is at the heart of the Christian Science Center, situated on 14 acres in the Back Bay. The Romanesque structure is made from New Hampshire granite with stained glass windows illustrating Biblical events.

FOREST HILLS CEMETERY, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain, 617-524-0128. *Open daily from dawn to dusk.* Created in 1848, this cemetery serves as the final resting place of Eugene O'Neill, Anne Sexton, E.E. Cummings, William Lloyd Garrison and former Boston Celtic Reggie Lewis. The 275 acres of twisting paths also contain sculptural treasures, an arboretum, a "library" of life stories and an open-air museum. Special event: ***Mar 14*** *at 2 p.m.*—Members & Donors Concert: Latin Jazz with Sofia Rei Koutsovitis, *tickets: $20.*

NEW ENGLAND HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL, Carmen Park, Congress Street near Faneuil Hall, 617-457-8755. *Tours available.* This haunting memorial features six luminous glass towers etched with the six million prisoner numbers of those who perished in the Holocaust. Visitors can walk under the towers and read the dramatic stories of the victims and heroes of this tremendous human tragedy.

THE SKYWALK OBSERVATORY AT THE PRUDENTIAL CENTER, 617-859-0648. *Daily 10 a.m.–10 p.m. Skywalk kiosk closes at 6 p.m. Admission (including a headset audio tour of points of interest): $12; seniors & students $10; children (under 12) $8. Observatory may be closed due to weather conditions, please call ahead.* Enjoy spectacular 360-degree panoramic views of Boston and beyond and learn about the city's 380 years of culture and history on the Antennae Audio Tour. Displays include Dreams of Freedom, about the Boston immigrant experience, and a theater showing Wings Over Boston, a spectacular aerial tour of the entire city.

TRINITY CHURCH, 206 Clarendon St., Copley Square, 617-536-0944. *Sun 7 a.m.–7 p.m., Mon–Fri 11 a.m.–5 p.m., Sat 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Tours available for $6; seniors & students $4; children (under 16) free with an adult. Guided tours: Sun at 12:15 p.m. (free), other daily tour times vary. Self-guided tours: Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun 1–6 p.m.* Built in 1877, this house of worship, a combination of Victorian, Gothic and French Romanesque styles, is one of the great masterpieces of American church architecture.

TOURS AND TRAILS

ANTIQUE LIMOUSINE, 617-309-6414. www.Antique-Limousine.com. *Tours by appointment only.* Enjoy historic Freedom Trail tours in a 1939 Cadillac eight-passenger limousine, just like the Godfather's car. Get close to the sights where the trolleys and duck tours can't. The drivers dress, speak and act the part. Just don't mess with them or you might be riding in the trunk. They'll make you an offer you can't refuse. Ask about their specials. Call to schedule a pick up.

BLACK HERITAGE TRAIL, 46 Joy St., 617-725-0022. *Free tours by appointment only. Call at least 24 hours in advance for reservations. Visit www.afroammuseum.org for site descriptions.* A guided tour through the north side of Beacon Hill, including the homes of politicians and entrepreneurs; the African Meeting House, built in 1806; the oldest standing house built by an African-American (1797); and the home of Lewis and Harriet Hayden, who harbored runaway slaves. Maps are available at the Museum of African-American History.

BOSTON CHOCOLATE TROLLEY TOUR, departs from the corner of Boylston and Charles streets, 617-269-7010. *Sat at 11 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Tickets: $80. Reservations required.* Old Town Trolley takes chocoholics on a delicious tour of some of Boston's most decadent chocolate creations, including desserts at the glamorous Top of the Hub restaurant, authentic Boston cream pie at the Omni Parker House and the piece de resistance, the Chocolate Bar buffet at the Langham Hotel.

BOSTON DUCK TOURS, Prudential Center and Museum of Science, www.bostonducktours.com. ***Beginning Mar 22****. Tours: seven days a week, 9 a.m. 'til one hour before sunset. Tickets: $31; seniors, students & military $27; children (3–11) $21; (under 3) $6; special needs $15. Group discounts available.* Experience the city in an amazing vehicle that rides on land and water. The 80-minute tour visits most of Boston's

famous sights. And just when you think you've seen it all, your Duck splashes into the Charles River for a spectacular water view.

BOSTON IRISH HERITAGE TRAIL, various sites Downtown and in the Back Bay, 617-696-9880. Maps available at Boston Common and Prudential Center Visitor Information Centers. www.irishheritagetrail.com. This self-guided, three-mile walking tour covers 300 years of history, taking you through Boston's downtown, North End, Beacon Hill and Back Bay neighborhoods. Learn about famous politicians, artists and war heroes, and the Boston Irish's rich tradition of rebellion, leadership and triumph.

BOSTON UPPER DECK TROLLEY TOURS, 617-742-1440. *Tours depart daily from 9 a.m.–7 p.m.; schedule is subject to change, call ahead for availability or visit www.bostonupperdecktrolleytours.com; tickets can be purchased aboard trolleys or at various locations throughout the city. Tickets: $36; military, seniors & students $32; children (3–11) $18; children (under 3) free.* Boston's newest upper deck "Green" and eco-conscious trolley fleet provides superior views as you tour Boston's historic sights in comfort. This 2.5 hour loop covers more than 100 points of interest, including Fenway Park, the North End, the *USS Constitution*, Back Bay and the Theatre District. As a bonus, you will connect with Super Tours' Cambridge loop, which takes visitors to Harvard Square and Cambridge's historic universities. All of this, plus a free second day on the trolley and your choice of a Boston Harbor or Charles River cruise, make this comprehensive tour one of Boston's very best values for visitors.

CITY VIEW TROLLEY TOURS of Boston, Cambridge & Salem, departing every 20–30 minutes from the New England Aquarium, South Station, North Station, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston Common and other locations, 617-363-7899. *Mon & Fri 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m., Sat & Sun 'til 4 p.m. Tickets: $34; seniors & students $32; children (4–12) $12. Save up to $6 per ticket when you buy online at www.cityviewtrolleys.com.* This year-round trolley company offers Hop On & Off privileges at the most scenic and historic locations, including the New England Aquarium and sites along the Freedom Trail, Faneuil Hall and Quincy Market, the North End, Beacon Hill, the historic waterfront, the *USS Constitution*, Bunker Hill and many more.

FENWAY PARK TOURS, 4 Yawkey Way, 617-226-6666. *Tours leave daily, every hour on the hour, from Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–3 p.m., Sun 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Tickets: $12; seniors $11; children (3–15) & military personnel $10.* Tours originate at the Souvenir Store located on Yawkey Way across from Service Gate D, rain or shine. This tour offers an inside look at America's oldest active Major League ballpark, including a visit to the top of the famed "Green Monster" and stories from Boston Red Sox history.

THE FREEDOM TRAIL FOUNDATION'S FREEDOM TRAIL PLAYERS, 617-357-8300. *Tours depart from the Visitor Center on Boston Common Sun–Wed at 11 a.m., Thu at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Fri at 11 a.m., noon and 1:30 p.m., Sat at 11 a.m. and noon. Tickets: $12; seniors $10; children (12 and under) $6. Call for private tours.* Explore the Freedom Trail with costumed actors portraying famous patriots such as James Otis, Abigail Adams and William Dawes in this 90-minute tour. Stops include the Park Street Church, the Boston Massacre Site, the Old State House and Faneuil Hall. Private tours may be tailored to individual needs and interests.

HISTORIC PUB CRAWL, BosTix Booth, Faneuil Hall, 617-357-8300. *Reservations required. Private tours for groups are available on most days.* ***Mar 9, 16, 23 & 30*** *at 5:30 p.m. Tickets: $43.* The Freedom Trail Foundation's 18th-century costumed guide takes you on a tour of Boston's historic pubs where treasonous events were hatched more than 250 years ago. Enjoy plenty of beer and light fare along the way.

NORTH END MARKET TOUR, 64 Cross St., take the "T" to Haymarket, 617-523-6032. *Three-hour tours: Wed & Sat at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Fri at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Reservations required. Custom tours for groups available. Tickets: $50.* Michele Topor, an authority on Italian cuisine and culture, hosts walking tours through one of the nation's oldest Italian-American communities.

NORTH END SECRET TOURS, North Square (across from The Paul Revere House), 617-720-2283. *Tours: Fri & Sat 10 a.m., 1 and 4 p.m. Reservations required. Tickets: $30.* This two-hour guided walking tour explores some of the hidden courtyards and passageways of the North End, visits the birthplace of Kennedy matriarch Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy and tells tales of Boston's oldest neighborhood, like the disastrous Great Boston Molasses Flood of 1919 that devastated much of the historic city sector.

OLD TOWN TROLLEY TOURS OF BOSTON, 617-269-7010. *Tours depart daily every 20 minutes from 9:30 a.m.–4 p.m.;* ***beginning Apr 1****: 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Tickets: $36; seniors & students $33; children (3–12) $13; children (under 3) free.* With 16 stops throughout the city, including the New England Aquarium, Fenway Park, *USS Constitution* Museum and the Trolley Stop Store on the corner of South Charles and Boylston streets, patrons can enjoy a 110-minute, fully narrated sightseeing tour of more than 100 points of interest aboard the orange-and-green, all-weather trolley.

SAMUEL ADAMS BREWERY TOUR: DRINK IN A LITTLE HISTORY, 30 Germania St., Jamaica Plain, 617-368-5080. *Tours begin approximately every 45 minutes, Mon–Thu & Sat 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Fri 'til 5:30 p.m. One-hour tours include samples (ID required). Tickets: $2 donation to a local charity. Call for special events and closings.* Learn about the art of brewing beer and taste rich malts and spicy hops on this tour of the original Samuel Adams brewery.

SUPER DUCK TOURS, departing from Charlestown Navy Yard, 877-34-DUCKS, www.superducktours.com. ***Beginning Mar 22****. Tours: Daily 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Tickets: $35; seniors & students $31; children (3–11) $23; children (under 3) $12.* This 90-minute tour departs from Charlestown Navy Yard, and offers a free shuttle to and from the New England Aquarium area. Boston's newest amphibious tour takes visitors on a historical narrated waterfront journey through the streets of Boston, which suddenly becomes a nautical adventure when the bus becomes a boat and plunges boldly into Boston Harbor.

VISITOR RESOURCES

PANORAMA WELCOME CENTER AT COPLEY PLACE, Adjacent to the Westin Hotel Skybridge, 617-236-1027. If you lose your copy of *Panorama* magazine while touring Boston, you can stop in at the Welcome Center and replace it, and while you're there, get further information on Boston area attractions and suggestions on "what to do, where to go and what to see."

WILDLIFE

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO, One Franklin Park Road, Franklin Park, 617-541-LION. *Daily 10 a.m.–4 p.m.;* ***beginning Apr 1****: Mon–Fri 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Sat & Sun 'til 6 p.m. Admission: $14; seniors $11; children (2–12) $8; children (under 2) & military personnel free; $8 for all from 10 a.m.–noon the first Sat of each month.* Home to more than 210 species, many of them endangered. Roam the Australian Outback Trail with kangaroos, visit the gorillas in the Tropical Forest, marvel at the lion and tigers at Kalahari Kingdom and see zebras, ostriches and wildebeests at Serengeti Crossing.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM, Central Wharf, 617-973-5200. *Mon–Fri 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sat & Sun 'til 6 p.m. Admission: $20.95; seniors (60+) $18.95; children (3–11) $12.95; children (under 3) free. Refer to Current Events section under Film for IMAX theater listings. Combination ticket prices available.* Dedicated to advancing knowledge of the world of water, this outstanding aquatic zoo features a 187,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank containing a Caribbean coral reef with sharks, sea turtles, moray eels and other aquatic life; a popular penguin habitat; the Northern fur seals in the Marine Mammal Center; and the Simons 3D IMAX Theater.

STONE ZOO, 149 Pond St., Stoneham, 781-438-5100. *Daily 10 a.m.–4 p.m.;* ***beginning Apr 1****: Mon–Fri 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Sat & Sun 'til 6 p.m. Admission: $11; seniors $9; children (2–12) $7; children (under 2) free; $7 for all from 10 a.m.–noon the first Sat of each month.* Highlights include Yukon Creek, Mexican gray wolves, meerkats, snow leopards, jaguars, reindeer, river otters, llamas, black bears and white-cheeked gibbons.

BEYOND BOSTON

ELM BANK RESERVATION, 900 Washington St., Wellesley, 617-933-4900. *Reservation is open dawn to dusk year round, gates open at 8 a.m.* Bordered by the Charles River on three sides, Elm Bank Reservation is 182 acres of woodlands, fields and old estate property. Deer and other wildlife live along the river banks of the reservation, which also contains areas for hiking, playing soccer, canoeing, kayaking and picnicking.

MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, Concord and Lexington (North Bridge Visitor Center, 174 Liberty St., Concord), 978-369-6993. *Park grounds open sunrise to sunset.* Created in 1959 to preserve the sites associated with the opening battles of the American Revolution, Minute Man Park consists of more than 900 acres of land along original segments of the Battles of Lexington and Concord, including Lexington Green and Concord's North Bridge. The park also preserves The Wayside, the 19th-century home of literary greats Nathaniel Hawthorne and Louisa May Alcott.

OLD STURBRIDGE VILLAGE, 1 Old Sturbridge Village Road, 508-347-3362. *Wed–Sun 9:30 a.m.–4 p.m.;* ***beginning Apr 3****: daily 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Tickets: $20; seniors $18; children (3–17) $7; (under 3) free.* Take a trip back in time at this recreation of an early 19th-century New England village where costumed educators give visitors a glimpse of life in America's early days. Visit a tin shop, a cider mill and a blacksmith, ride the old-fashioned yellow stagecoach and tour restorations of period New England homes while marveling at authentic remnants from a long-gone age.

PLIMOTH PLANTATION, 137 Warren Ave., Plymouth, 978-369-6993. ***Beginning Mar 20****: Henry Hornblower II Visitor Center: 9 a.m.–5:30 p.m.; Nye Barn, Hobbamock's (Wampanoag) Homesite, 1627 Pilgrim Village, Crafts Center: 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Tickets: $28; seniors $25; children (6–12) $18.* When the Pilgrims landed in America during the 17th century, they landed at Plymouth Rock. They built their settlement three miles south of the rock and named it Plimoth Plantation. Today, visitors can tour the Plantation and see how the Pilgrims went about their daily lives, hunting, gathering and making crafts.

YANKEE CANDLE FACTORY, 25 Greenfield Rd., South Deerfield, 877-636-7707. *Daily 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Call for additional information.* The Yankee Candle Factory is one part of a larger complex devoted to the company. It also includes a museum, a candle store and the Bavarian Christmas Village. Visitors are able to dip their own creations at this one-of-a-kind must-see for fans of the popular scented candles.

DESTINATIONS

THE BERKSHIRES. These mountains located roughly three hours west of Boston are Massachusetts' answer to New York's Catskills. Part of the Appalachian Trail, the Berkshires are considered a top cultural resort location, home to numerous antique shops, art galleries, spas, spots for boating, scenic biking, skiing and hiking, as well as Tanglewood, the Boston Symphony Orchestra's summer home and a venue for jazz and popular concerts.

BLUE HILLS RESERVATION, Reservation Headquarters, 695 Hillside St., Milton, 617-698-1802. Covering more than 7,000 acres in the suburbs of Boston, Blue Hills Reservation offers a scenic escape from the hustle and bustle of the city. With campgrounds, fishing, hiking and mountain biking among the activities, Blue Hills is a popular destination year-round. The reservation also offers a number of fun winter activities including ice-skating, cross-country skiing and downhill skiing on the 635-foot-high Great Blue Hill. The 22 hills provide scenic views of more than 125 miles of trails for any outdoor enthusiast.

SALEM. This North Shore town will always be known for the Salem Witch Trials of 1692, but Salem also boasts a bustling wharf with many bars, shops and restaurants. Fans of spooky stuff can visit the New England Pirate Museum to see what life was like when Blackbeard roamed the high seas, or tiptoe through the Salem Witch Museum or Witch Dungeon Museum. On Halloween, the city transforms into one giant party for ghosts and ghouls, but 365 days a year, Salem is a charming place to explore and enjoy.

SOUTHERN MAINE. Contrary to its image as a far-flung, moose-filled wilderness, Maine has many points of interest within a couple hours' drive from Boston. Kittery is a mecca for bargain-hunters, boasting 100+ outlet stores ranging from Black & Decker to J Crew. The seaside community of Portland, known for its artsy boutiques, is also home to a burgeoning nightlife scene and the Red Sox AA affiliate, the Portland Sea Dogs. And Maine's coastal communities are renowned for their abundance of fresh lobster and beautiful beaches, including Kennebunk Beach and Ogunquit Beach.

FREEDOM TRAIL

PHOTO BY TIMOTHY RENZI

BOSTON COMMON: America's oldest public park remains a picturesque sight year-round. **Refer to listing, below.**

The Freedom Trail begins at the Boston Common Information Kiosk, where you can obtain a guide map, rent a self-guided audio tour or take a walking tour (in season) with an 18th-century costumed guide. (Ticket sales of Freedom Trail Foundation tours help preserve the historic sites.) Boston National Historical Park (National Park Service) tours begin at State and Devonshire streets. *Please call 617-357-8300 or visit TheFreedomTrail.org for additional information.*

BOSTON COMMON. Set aside in 1634 as a military training field and grazing pasture, the Common is the oldest public park in America. The park served as quarters for British as well as Colonial troops, and later housed Civil War regiments. The British Army set out for the start of the Revolutionary War from what is now Park Square.

THE STATE HOUSE. Beacon Street, top of Beacon Hill facing Boston Common, 617 727-3676. *Mon–Fri 10 a.m.–4 p.m., except holidays. Advance registration is required for guided tours.* The famous golden dome of the State House marks the government seat of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Samuel Adams laid the cornerstone, and the building stands on land bought from John Hancock. The red brick portion was designed by legendary architect Charles Bulfinch.

PARK STREET CHURCH. Corner of Park and Tremont streets, 617-523-3383. *Sunday services at 8:30 and 11 a.m. and 4 and 6 p.m. Morning services are traditional, evening services are contemporary.* Built in 1809, this church was described by Henry James as "the most interesting mass of brick and mortar in America."

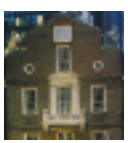
OLD GRANARY BURYING GROUND. Tremont Street next to Park Street Church, 617-635-4505. *Open by appointment only.* This historic cemetery, formerly the town granary, is the final resting place of John Hancock, Paul Revere, Robert Treat Paine, Samuel Adams, Peter Faneuil and the victims of the Boston Massacre. A stone inscribed "Mary Goose" (a.k.a. Elizabeth Goose) allegedly marks the grave of Mother Goose.

KING'S CHAPEL AND BURYING GROUND. Tremont and School streets, 617-227-2155. *Chapel open Sat 10 a.m.–4 p.m., Sun 1:30–4 p.m. Services: Sun at 11 a.m., Wed at 12:15 p.m. Burying Grounds open daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m.* Still an active house of worship, King's Chapel was established in 1687 as the first Anglican congregation in Boston. The second chapel, built in 1754, became the first Unitarian church in America after the Revolution.

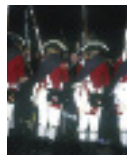
SITE OF THE FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOL AND BEN FRANKLIN'S STATUE. On School Street, marked by a column and commemorative plaque. On April 13, 1635, the town voted to establish the first public school in the country. Nearby is Benjamin Franklin's statue, built in 1856, the first portrait statue erected in the United States.

SITE OF THE OLD CORNER BOOKSTORE. School and Washington streets. Constructed as an apothecary in 1718, the ground floor was later a bookstore and literary center of Boston and a meeting place for notables like Emerson, Hawthorne and Thoreau.

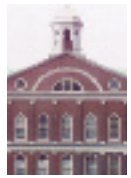
OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE. 310 Washington St., 617-482-6439. *Daily 10 a.m.–4 p.m.; **beginning Apr 1**: 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $5; seniors & students $4; children (6–18) $1.* This building housed many town meetings, the most famous of which saw an outraged Samuel Adams signal the start of the Boston Tea Party.



OLD STATE HOUSE. Corner of Washington and State streets, 617-720-1713. *Daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $7; seniors & students $6; children (6–18) $3; children (under 6) free.* Built in 1713, this seat of Colonial government was the center of activity for such patriots as John Hancock and Samuel and John Adams. It was from the east balcony that the Declaration of Independence was first read in Boston.



BOSTON MASSACRE SITE. State Street in front of the Old State House. At the next intersection below the State House, a ring of cobblestones marks the site of the clash between a jeering Boston crowd and a British guard of nine soldiers on March 5, 1770.



FANEUIL HALL. Merchants Row and Faneuil Hall Square, 617-242-5689. *Daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Historical talks given every half hour from 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., when hall is not in use.* "The Cradle of Liberty" combines a marketplace on the first floor with the town meeting hall upstairs, the site of fiery revolutionary debate.

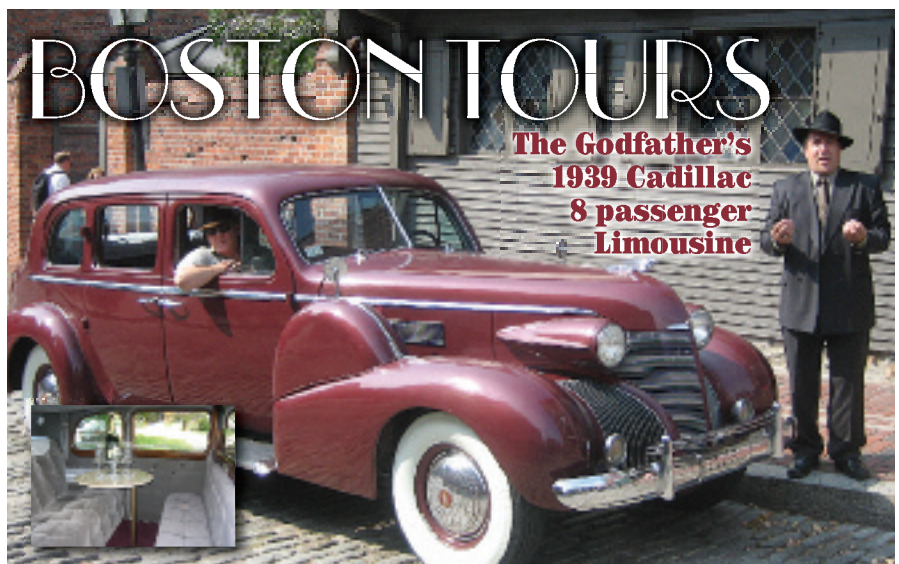
PAUL REVERE HOUSE. 19 North Square, North Street, 617-523-2338. *Tue–Sun 9:30 a.m.–4:15 p.m. Admission: $3.50; seniors & students $3; children (5–17) $1; (under 5) free.* The oldest home in Boston (built c. 1680), occupied by silversmith and patriot Paul Revere from 1770 to 1800.

OLD NORTH CHURCH. 193 Salem St., 617-523-6676. *Daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Services: Sun at 9 and 11 a.m., Thu at 6 p.m.* Known as Christ Church and erected in 1723, this is Boston's oldest standing church. Two lanterns were hung here on April 18, 1775, signaling the Redcoats' departure by sea for Lexington and Concord.

COPP'S HILL BURYING GROUND. Hull Street. *Daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m.* Set out in 1660, Copp's Hill was Boston's second cemetery. Many remarkable people are interred here, including the Mather family of ministers and Edmund Hartt, builder of the *USS Constitution.*

BUNKER HILL MONUMENT. Breed's Hill, Charlestown, 617-242-5641. *Lodge open daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m.; monument open daily 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.* The site of the historic battle of June 17, 1775.

USS CONSTITUTION. Charlestown Navy Yard, Charlestown, 617-242-7511. *Thu–Sun 10 a.m.–4 p.m.; **beginning Apr 1**: Tue–Sun 10 a.m.–5:50 p.m. Tours every half-hour.* This 44-gun frigate is the world's oldest commissioned warship, christened "Old Ironsides" during the War of 1812 when the cannonballs of a British warship literally bounced off her triple hull.



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EXPLORING BOSTON: neighborhoods

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NORTH END 21

THE FENWAY 24

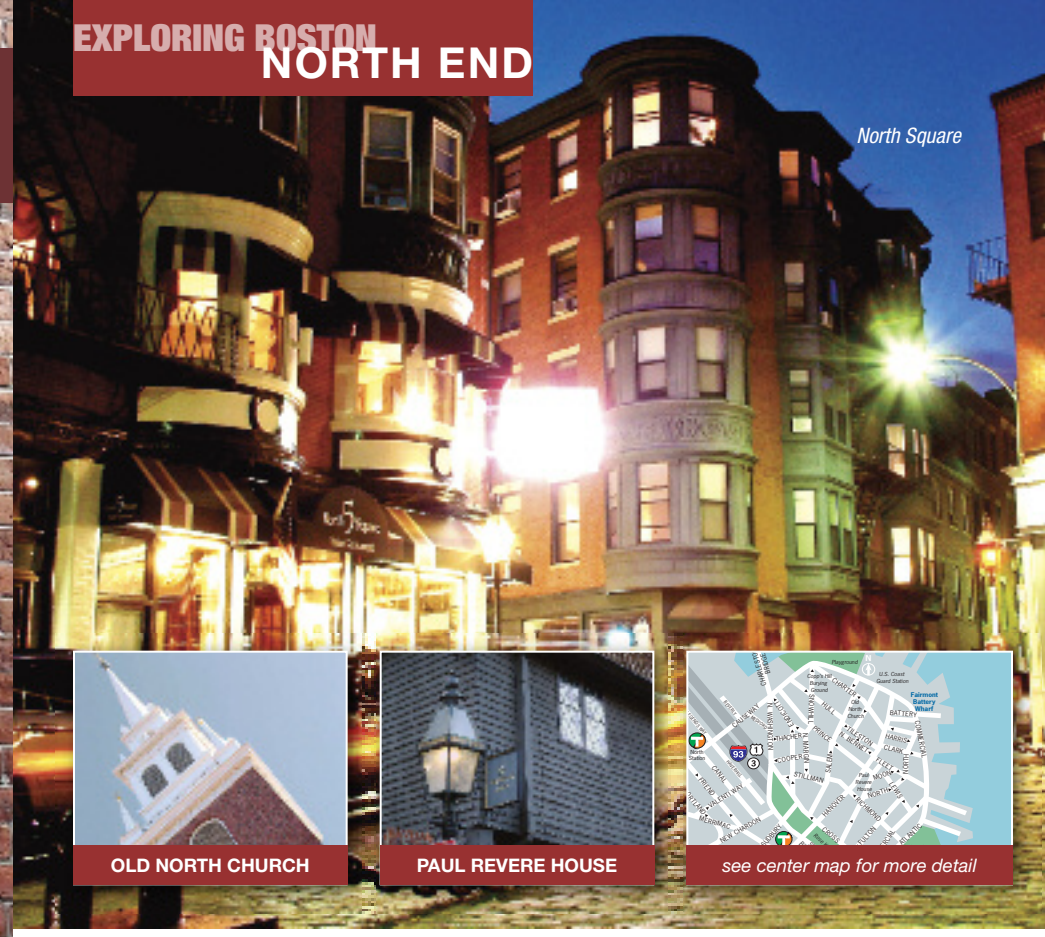
BACK BAY 26

BEACON HILL 29

BRIGHT LIGHT: Gas lamps and brick buildings, such as these in Beacon Hill, are two hallmarks of the city's historic neighborhoods. *Refer to page 29.*

PHOTO BY DELLA HUFF

NORTH END



OLD NORTH CHURCH

PAUL REVERE HOUSE

see center map for more detail

Renowned as Boston's "Little Italy," the North End is Boston's oldest neighborhood, having given birth to the American Revolution from its narrow cobblestone streets. Known today for its abundance of Italian bakeries, cafes and restaurants as well as a growing number of boutiques, visitors should be sure not to miss its Freedom Trail sites: the Paul Revere House, Copp's Hill Burying Ground and the Old North Church. Ⓟ

ATTRACTIONS:

- Paul Revere House
- Old North Church
- Copp's Hill Burying Ground

GET THERE ON THE Ⓣ:

Orange or Green Line to Haymarket

ABOVE PHOTOS BY DELLA HUFF

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ANTICO FORNO—Italian for "old stove"— features brick-oven classics, all cooked in a **double-domed brick oven** custom-built by a native Neapolitan craftsman. **Antico Forno** is an inviting neighborhood trattoria that provides a truly authentic Neapolitan experience.

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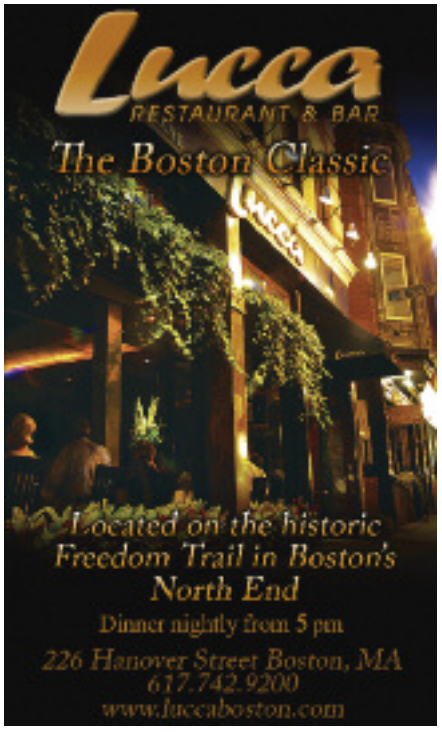

NORTH END SHOPPING

Once known strictly for its assortment of Italian restaurants and bakeries, the North End has leapt boldly into the 21st century as one of the city's up-and-coming retail districts.

A MATTER OF FACE

Forgot your mascara? Your aftershave is in Buffalo? Not to worry! Stop by this tiny shop to pick up products from the Art of Shaving, Paula Dorf, Darphin, Bliss and more (pictured below). **425 Hanover St., 617-742-5874**

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A Matter of Face

PHOTO BY KATHERINE C. COHEN

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THE FENWAY

Fenway Park

see map, page 39, for more detail

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

GARDNER MUSEUM

This neighborhood is best known for Fenway Park, home to our beloved Boston Red Sox, but its name actually comes from the Fens, the green parkland that winds its way through the area and makes up part of the famed Emerald Necklace. Nightclub dwellers should check out Lansdowne Street for dancing, sports bars and even a bowling alley, while Kenmore Square, famous for the Citgo sign, has become a bustling dining destination.

While the roar of the crowd at Red Sox games and the hubbub at nearby restaurants and bars grows louder each year, it doesn't overshadow The Fenway's status as a cultural mecca within Boston. The world-renowned Museum of Fine Arts resides on Huntington Avenue, and is the city's premier destination for viewing works of art from some of the most famous artists of all time. Also, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum displays the collection of the wealthy philanthropist in a beautiful building complete with a garden courtyard. Classical music lovers can take abundant delight in the numerous performing ensembles housed in the Fens, including The Boston Conservatory, New England Conservatory, and most prominently, The Boston Symphony Orchestra and its home performance venue, Symphony Hall. Ⓟ

ATTRACTIONS:

- Fenway Park
- Museum of Fine Arts
- Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

GET THERE ON THE Ⓣ:

Green Line to Kenmore and Fenway, E Line to Symphony, Northeastern and Museum of Fine Arts

ABOVE PHOTO BY DELLA HUFF

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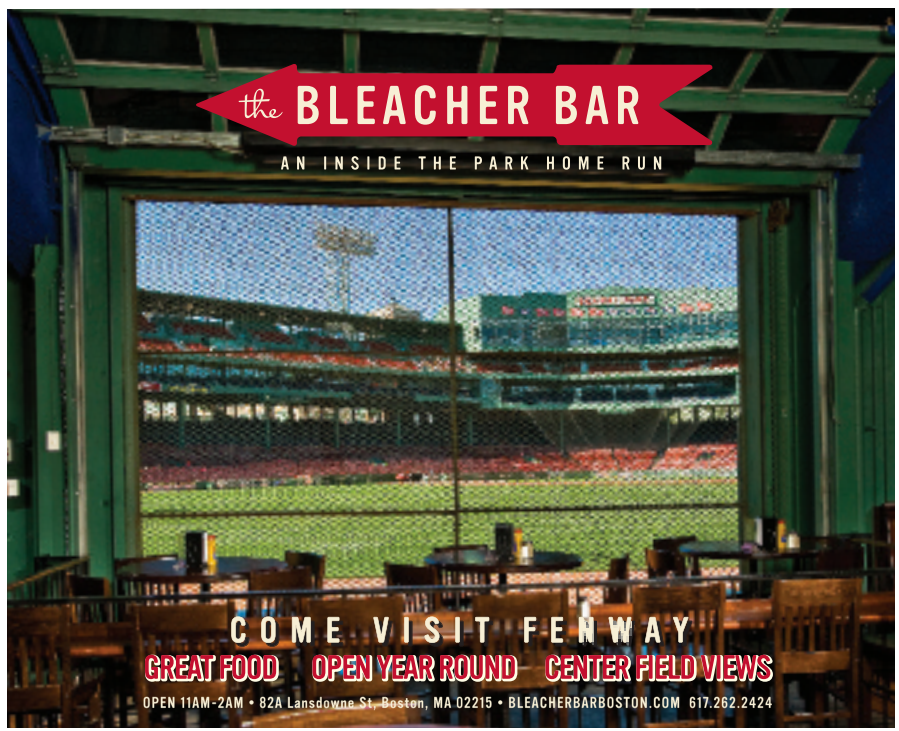
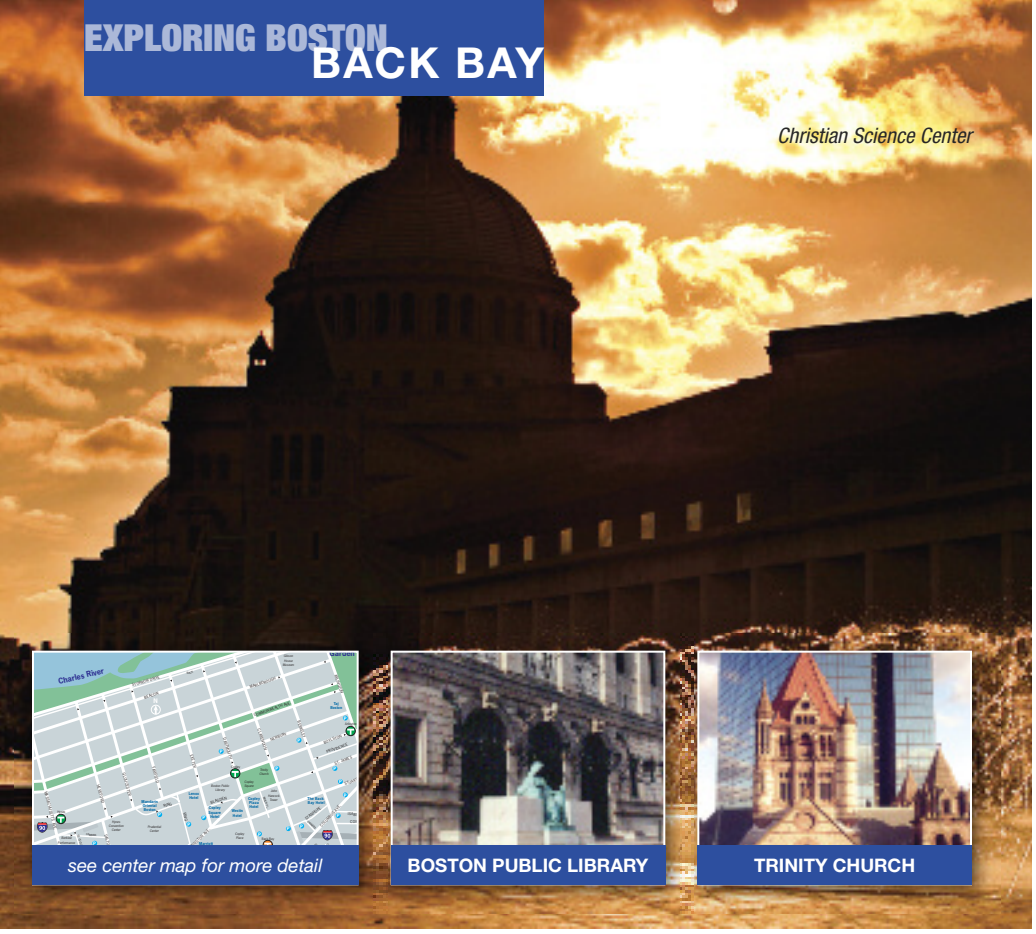


BACK BAY



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Boston's chic Back Bay is home to classically beautiful brownstone residences, glamorous retail space and a plethora of dining options, spa services and nightlife. Its crown jewel is Copley Square, home to the John Hancock Tower as well as historic landmarks like the Boston Public Library and Trinity Church. But its pulse centers primarily around the bustling commercial districts of Boylston and Newbury streets. Ⓟ

ATTRACTIONS:

- Trinity Church
- Boston Public Library
- John Hancock Tower
- Christian Science Center
- Skywalk Observatory
- Commonwealth Ave. Mall

GET THERE ON THE Ⓣ:

Orange Line to Back Bay; Green Line to Arlington, Copley or Hynes Convention Center

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what to see
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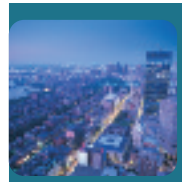
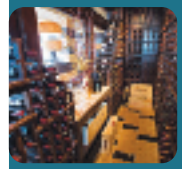
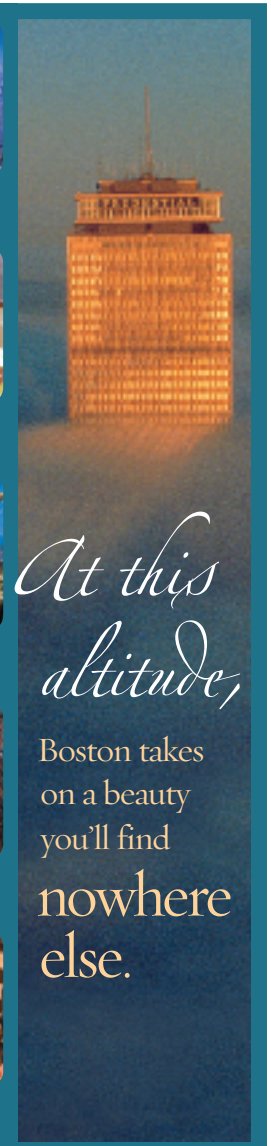

SPECTACULAR VIEWS

EXQUISITE CUISINE

UNSURPASSED SERVICE

ACCLAIMED WINE CELLARS

LIVE JAZZ NIGHTLY

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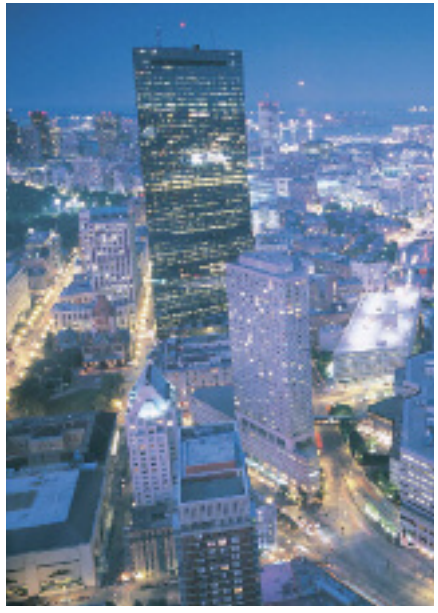
*two hours free parking back bay garage after 5 p.m.



A ROOM WITH A VIEW: The Skywalk at the top of the Prudential Tower offers spectacular views of Boston and the surrounding area day or night.

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EXPLORING BOSTON

BEACON HILL

The State House

LOUISBURG SQUARE

AFRICAN MEETING HOUSE

see center map for more detail

The Hub's reputation as one of the most European cities in the U.S. is evidenced by a visit to this neighborhood. Home to the State House and tucked between the Charles River Esplanade, Boston Common and the Public Garden, Beacon Hill's picturesque cobblestone streets are lined by impeccable brownstones and gas-lit street lamps. To experience firsthand what it's like to live in one of our pricier neighborhoods, stroll the shops and restaurants of Charles Street or pass through residential Louisburg Square. Ⓟ

ATTRACTIONS:

- Louisburg Square
- Boston Athenaeum
- Massachusetts State House
- African Meeting House

GET THERE ON THE Ⓣ:

Red Line to Charles or Park streets, Blue Line to Bowdoin.

COWBOY BOOTS
MEN ◆ WOMEN ◆ KIDS
Lucchese ◆ Justin ◆ Nocona ◆ Tony Lama ◆ Dan Post ◆ Frye ◆ Liberty
STETSON HATS
Shirts ◆ Belts ◆ Buckles ◆ Bolo Ties ◆ Navajo Jewelry
HELEN'S LEATHER
110 Charles St., Boston, MA
617.742.2077

ANTONIO'S
CUCINA ITALIANA
288 Cambridge Street Boston (617) 367-3310
(Across from Mass. General Hospital on historic Beacon Hill)

EXPLORING Cambridge

Square Deal

Just across the Charles River from Boston, Cambridge is a diverse and cosmopolitan city abounding with art, culture, fine dining and exceptional shopping. Yet, thanks to its division into "squares," Cambridge retains the feel of several small neighborhoods, each with its individual flair and style.

Central Square is the social center for Cambridge, with great restaurants, bars and music venues such as the Middle East Cafe, T.T. the Bear's Place and The Cantab Lounge.

Harvard Square is home to Harvard University's sprawling campus, including its associated theaters and museums. In addition, visitors flock to the neighborhood for a diverse range of shops, restaurants, coffee shops, bars and clubs that offer something to satisfy every taste.

The quieter, more residential **Inman Square** boasts ethnic food shops, bars and restaurants along with local and national jazz acts at Ryles Jazz Club.

Kendall Square, home to MIT and many bio-tech firms, is also host to foreign and independent films at Kendall Square Cinema.

Just beyond Harvard Square, **Porter Square** is full of eclectic second-hand shops and restaurants, as well as live music at the Lizard Lounge and Toad. Ⓟ

ATTRACTIONS:

- Harvard Yard
- MIT Museum
- Sackler Museum
- American Repertory Theatre
- Harvard Museum of Natural History

GET THERE ON THE Ⓣ:

Red Line to Kendall, Central, Harvard, Porter and Alewife; Green Line to Lechmere.

AMY STEIN, *HOWL*, 2007

HARVARD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY: The work of acclaimed photographer Amy Stein is featured in the exhibit Domesticated: Dioramas of Our New Natural History. **Refer to listing, page 32.**

SIGHTS OF INTEREST

CAMBRIDGE COMMON/OLD BURYING GROUND. A grazing pasture and cemetery for Puritan Newtowne, as well as a favorite meeting spot for public figures and a tent site for the Continental Army. Early college presidents and town residents were buried in "God's Acre" across from the Common.

CHRIST CHURCH, Zero Garden St., 617-876-0200. *Offices open Mon–Fri 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Call for services.* This 1761 Tory house of worship was utilized as a Colonial barracks in the American Revolution.

FIRST CHURCH UNITARIAN/UNIVERSALIST, 3 Church St., Harvard Square, 617–876–7772. *Please call for services.* Harvard College provided the pews for its students in this 1833 building erected for the then newly-founded Unitarian Church.

HARVARD AND RADCLIFFE YARDS. Located within Harvard Campus. The centers of two institutions that have played major educational roles since Harvard's founding in 1636.

HARVARD SQUARE/OLD CAMBRIDGE. *Take the "T" to Harvard on the Red Line.* The center of Cambridge activity since the 17th century, the Square is home to Harvard University, historic buildings, cafes, restaurants and shops.

LONGFELLOW NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, 105 Brattle St., 617-876-4491. *Grounds open daily from dawn to dusk.* This 1759 Georgian mansion was home to Henry Wadsworth Longfellow from 1837 to 1882 and a central gathering place for writers and artists in the 19th century. It also served as George Washington's headquarters during the seige of Boston in 1775–76.

MOUNT AUBURN CEMETERY, 580 Mount Auburn St., 617-547-7105. *Daily 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Closing times may vary.* Founded in 1831 by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, Mount Auburn was the first landscaped cemetery in the country. Many prominent Americans are buried here, including Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Isabella Stewart Gardner and Winslow Homer. The cemetery is also an arboretum, sculpture garden and wildlife sanctuary. Special event: ***Mar 27*** *at 10 a.m.*—Walking Tour: Writing Women Back Into History: Some Remarkable Women at Mount Auburn, *tickets: $10.*

TORY ROW (BRATTLE STREET). One of the nation's most beautiful residential streets, Tory Row is the site of Loyalist mansions and their elegant neighbors from every period of American architecture.

ENTERTAINMENT

THE BRATTLE THEATRE, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-876-6837. *Call for showtimes and complete schedule. Tickets: $9.50; students & matinees $7.50; seniors & children $6.50.* Classic, cutting-edge and world cinema with double features almost every day. Special events: ***Mar 9*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 10*** *at 5 and 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 11*** *at 6:30 and 9:15 p.m.—Red Cliff: Parts 1 & 2;* ***Mar 11*** *at 6:30 and 9:15 p.m.,* ***Mar 12*** *at 4:15 and 7 p.m.,* ***Mar 13 & 14*** *at 1:30, 4:15 and 7 p.m.,* ***Mar 15, 16 & 17*** *at 4:15 and 7 p.m.—The Red Shoes;* ***Mar 18*** *at 8 p.m.—The Verdict;* ***Mar 19*** *at 5:30 and 9:30 p.m.—Freaks;* ***Mar 20*** *at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m.—Big Top Pee-wee.*

CLUB PASSIM, 47 Palmer St., 617-492-7679. *Call for full schedule.* This intimate Harvard Square coffeehouse was a starting place for folk icons like Joan Baez and Bob Dylan. *All shows begin at 8 p.m., unless otherwise noted.* ***Mar 12***—Zoe Lewis, *tickets: $18;* ***Mar 17*** *at 7 p.m.*—Hapa, *tickets: $25;* ***Mar 18***—Alastair Moock's Pastures of Plenty, *tickets: $16;* ***Mar 20***—Les Sampou, *tickets: $20;* ***Mar 27*** *at 7 p.m.*—Carrie Newcomer, *tickets: $25;* ***Mar 31***—Bill Morrissey, *tickets: $25;* ***Apr 1*** *at 7 and 9:30 p.m.*—Jewmongous, *tickets: $20;* ***Apr 2*** *at 7 p.m.*—Mark Erelli, *tickets: $17.*

THE COMEDY STUDIO AT THE HONG KONG, 1238 Massachusetts Ave., Harvard Square, 617-661-6507. *Doors open at 7:30 p.m.; shows begin at 8 p.m. Call for complete schedule. Cover: $8–10.* A place where fresh talent is discovered and headliners experiment. ***Mar 9, 16, 23 & 30***—Mystery Lounge, featuring professional magicians; ***Mar 10, 17, 24 & 31***—Rick Jenkins hosts Fresh Faces; ***Mar 11***—Sean Sullivan, Michael Abramson, Alana Eisner and others; ***Mar 12***—Renata Tutko, Shaun Bedgood, Dan Boulger, Erin Judge and others; ***Mar 18***—Belinda Borrelli, Daniella Capolino, Saraha Heggan and others; ***Mar 20***—Alvin David, Josh Gondelman, Ed Kopesky and others.

DANIEL MCCUSKER DANCE PROJECTS, Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., 617-864-3191. ***Mar 12 & 13*** *at 8 p.m. Tickets: $15.* The acclaimed local modern dance troupe presents *Regrets Only + Some Other Things,* a program of linear and non-narrative dances.

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE, Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge, 617-495-4700. *Call for showtimes, complete schedule and ticket prices.* With more than 300 films shown per year, HFA is one of the most active art cinemas in New England. Special events: Classic Ford: A John Ford Retrospective, featuring: *She Wore a Yellow Ribbon (**Mar 8** at 7 p.m.); My Darling Clementine (**Mar 12** at 7 p.m.); The*

ABOVE PHOTO BY BOB PERACHIO

Prisoner of Shark Island (**Mar 12** *at 9 p.m.); Wagon Master* (**Mar 13** *at 7 p.m.); The Fugitive* (**Mar 13** *at 9 p.m.); The Grapes of Wrath* (**Mar 14** *at 7 p.m.); The Quiet Man* (**Mar 15** *at 7 p.m.); Stagecoach* (**Mar 19** *at 7 p.m.); 3 Godfathers* (**Mar 19** *at 9 p.m.); Drums Along the Mohawk* (**Mar 20** *at 7 p.m.); The Sun Shines Bright* (**Mar 20** *at 9 p.m.); How Green Was My Valley* (**Mar 21** *at 7 p.m.); Airmail* (**Mar 29** *at 7 p.m.).

IMPROVBOSTON, 40 Prospect St., Central Square, 617-576-1253. *Cover: $7–16.* This comedy troupe features sketch comedy, games, original music and audience participation. **Mar 10, 17, 24 & 31** *at 8 p.m.*—The Comedy Lab; **Mar 11** *at 8 p.m.*—Bastards Inc. presents March Fourth: Into the Future; **Mar 11, 18 & 25, Apr 1** *at 10 p.m.*—The 10 Spot; **Mar 12, 19 & 26, Apr 2** *at 9 p.m.*—Harold Night; *at 10 p.m.*—Friday Night Face Off; *at 11:30 p.m.*—Nightcap; **Mar 13 & 20** *at 6 p.m.*—Family Show; *at 8 and 10 p.m.*—Mainstage Show; *at 11:30 p.m.*—Nightcap; **Mar 13, 20 & 27** *at 7 p.m.*—Don't Tell Mimi; **Mar 14 & 21** *at 7 p.m.*—Open Comedy Jam; **Mar 24–28**—Women in Comedy Festival.

JOSE MATEO BALLET THEATRE, Sanctuary Theatre, 400 Harvard St., 617-482-2595. **Mar 11–13, 19, 20, 26 & 27** *at 8 p.m.,* **Mar 14, 21 & 28** *at 4 p.m. Tickets: $35.* One of the region's leading dance companies presents Out of the Dark, a concert of two ballets—Mateo's classic *Mozart Concertos* and a world premiere set to composer Alberto Ginastera's *String Quartet # 2.*

THE MIDDLE EAST, 472 Massachusetts Ave., 617-864-EAST. *Doors open at 8 p.m., shows start at 9 p.m. unless noted. Call for complete schedule.* Whether Upstairs, Downstairs or in the Corner, this club showcases the best in alternative/indie rock bands. **Mar 12**—Bowling for Soup with The Dollyrots, *tickets: $15;* **Mar 13**—AZ with Cormega, *tickets: $20;* **Mar 19**—The Feelies, *tickets: $20;* **Mar 25**—Black Lips with Box Elders, Movers & Shakers, *tickets: $12;* **Mar 26**—Orchestra Morphine with Treat Her Right, *tickets: $12.*

REGATTABAR, 3rd floor of The Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., 617-661-5000. **Mar 9** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Nick Grondin Group and Jazz Orchestra, *tickets: $15;* **Mar 10** *at 7:30 p.m.*—David "Honeyboy" Edwards and Marc Benno, *tickets: $25;* **Mar 11** *at 7:30 and 10 p.m.*—Lionel Loueke, *tickets: $20;* **Mar 13** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Anat Cohen, *tickets: $18;* **Mar 16** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Anita Coelho Brazilian Ensemble, *tickets: $12;* **Mar 17** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Julia and the Zerounian Ensemble, *tickets: $22;* **Mar 19 & 20** *at 7:30 and 10 p.m.*—John Scofield and the New Jazz Quartet, *tickets: $25;* **Mar 23** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Ralph Towner and Paolo Fresu, *tickets: $22;* **Mar 25** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Shemekia Copeland, *tickets: $22;* **Mar 27** *at 7:30 and 10 p.m.*—Rhett Miller, *tickets: $20;* **Mar 31** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Rick Estrin and the Nightcats, *tickets: $16;* **Apr 2 & 3** *at 7:30 and 10 p.m.*—Kenny Barron, *tickets: $25.*

SANDERS THEATER, 45 Quincy St., Harvard University, 617-496-4595. **Mar 17** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Joanna Newsom, *tickets: $22 & 28 (call 617-876-4275);* **Mar 20** *at 8 p.m.*—St. Patrick's Day Celtic Sojourn, *tickets: $25–45;* **Mar 21** *at 3 p.m.*—Natalie MacMaster and Donnell Leahy, *tickets: $28–40 (call 617-876-4275).*

T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE, 10 Brookline St., 617-492-BEAR. *Shows start at 8:30 p.m. Call for complete schedule. Cover: $8–14.* **Mar 19**—Forgetful Jones with I Pistol, Planetoid and Mascara; **Mar 21**—Changing Clocks with Stone Fish; **Mar 26**—Basia Bulat with Marissa Nadler and Lady Lamb the Beekeeper; **Mar 28**—Seabear with Via Tania and Solei; **Mar 30**—Shearwater with Wye Oak and Hospital Ships; **Apr 1**—Killola with Sick of Sarah, Jeddo Stars and The Vivs.

THEATRE

THE DONKEY SHOW, American Repertory Theatre, Oberon, 2 Arrow St., 617-547-8300. *Performances: Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 8 and 10:30 p.m. Tickets: $25–75.* Bringing the ultimate disco experience to Boston, this crazy circus of mirror balls, feathered divas, roller skaters and hustle queens tells the story of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* through great '70s anthems like "We are Family," "I Love the Nightlife," "Car Wash," "Ring My Bell" and "Last Dance."

FROM ORCHIDS TO OCTOPI, Underground Railway Theater and Catalyst Collaborative@MIT, Central Square Theater, 450 Massachusetts Ave., 866-811-4111. *Performances* ***beginning Mar 31****: Wed & Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri & Sat at 8 p.m., Sun at 2 p.m. Tickets: $35.* In this world premiere by award-winning local playwright Melinda Lopez celebrating the 150th anniversary of *On the Origin of Species,* surprises erupt as a muralist's work is derailed by hallucinations, pregnancy and dinosaurs. Charles Darwin comments on it all in this witty take on how we understand—or do not—his theory of evolution.

PARADISE LOST, American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., 617-547-8300. *Performances* ***through Mar 20****: Tue–Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 2 and 8 p.m., Sun at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets: $25–75.* The American economy is on the edge of catastrophe and futures are at risk. The Gordon family, losing all they have worked for, strive to preserve their trust in each other and in the promise of their nation. Clifford Odets' play is a poetic, humane and distinctly American drama that examines the impact of money and greed on family, business and love.

MUSEUMS & GALLERIES

CARPENTER CENTER FOR THE VISUAL ARTS, Harvard University, 24 Quincy St., 617-495-3251. *Main Gallery: Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–11 p.m., Sun 1–11 p.m.; Sert Gallery: Tue–Sun 1–5 p.m. Free admission.* Housed in the only building in North America designed by famed French architect Le Corbusier, the Carpenter Center hosts a lecture series with working artists and exhibits contemporary works on paper, in sculpture and mixed media, video and film. Special exhibits: Andrea Fraser: Boxed Set; Cristobal Lehyt: If Organizing is the Answer, What's the Question?

HARVARD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 26 Oxford St., 617-495-3045. *Daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $9; seniors & students $7; children (3–18) $6.* Among the museum's 17 galleries is the internationally acclaimed Ware Collection of Blaschka Glass Models of Plants, a unique collection of more than 3,000 glass flower models created between 1886 and 1936. Special exhibits: Climate Change: Our Global Experiment; Arthropods: Creatures that Rule; Evolution; The Language of Color; Domesticated: Modern Dioramas of Our New Natural History. Special event: **Mar 26** *from 7–9:30 p.m.*—Bizarre Animals: An Evening of Contemporary Art Interventions, *tickets: $6.*

MIT LIST VISUAL ARTS CENTER, 20 Ames St., 617-253-4680. *Tue, Wed & Fri–Sun noon–6 p.m., Thu 'til 8 p.m. Free admission.* One of the area's premier showcases for contemporary art, the List Center reflects MIT's position as a cutting-edge research institution by presenting works from the world's leading contemporary artists. Special exhibits: Photographs from the Andy Warhol Photographic Legacy Program; ***through Apr 4***—Virtuoso Illusion: Cross-Dressing and the New Media Avant-Garde.

THE MIT MUSEUM, 265 Massachusetts Ave., 617-253-5927. *Daily 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $7.50; children, seniors & stu-*

Harvard Square

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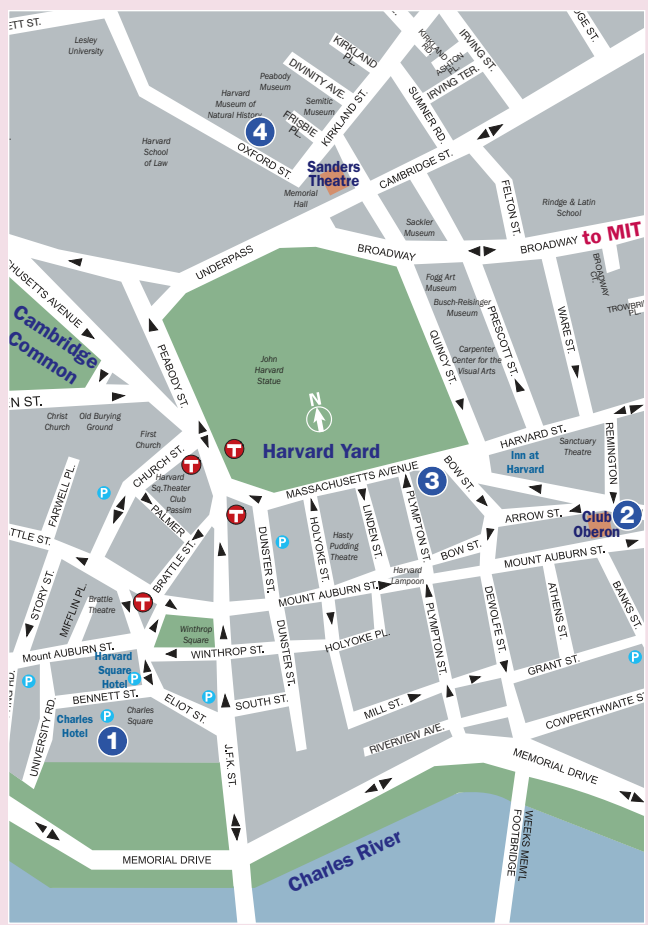

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dents $3; children (under 5) free. Exhibits interpret themes and ideas related to MIT research and activities. Ongoing exhibits: Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers; Holography: The Light Fantastic; Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT; Gestural Engineering: The Sculpture of Arthur Ganson; Learning Lab: The Cell; Sampling MIT; Luminous Windows 2010.

SACKLER MUSEUM, 485 Broadway, 617-495-9400. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun 1–5 p.m. Admission: $9; seniors $7; students $6; children (18 and under) free.* Designed by James Stirling, Britain's famous post-modernist architect, the Sackler boasts pieces from Harvard's extensive art collection spanning centuries and encompassing one end of the globe to the other. Special exhibit: Re-View, a collection of highlights from the Harvard Art Museum.

CLUBS AND BARS

THE CANTAB LOUNGE, 738 Massachusetts Ave., 617-354-2685. *Mon–Wed 8 a.m.–1 a.m., Thu–Sat 'til 2 a.m., Sun noon–1 a.m.* The crowd at The Cantab Lounge is just as diverse as its Central Square location's residents. The enduring dive features an eclectic offering of live jazz, soul and rock, and a large selection of domestic and imported beers. *Tue*—Bluegrass Night; *Wed*—Poetry Slam downstairs in the Underground.

THE DRUID, 1357 Cambridge St., 617-497-0965. *Daily 11 a.m.–1 a.m.* The Druid, a classic Irish pub with a modern twist, has something for every taste. Housed in Cambridge's oldest wooden mercantile building in the heart of Inman Square, the pub's hearty Irish meals and English soccer on the big screen cater to locals and old-timers by day. But on *Thu*, a live DJ, local bands and the selection of draft beers bring in a crowd of stylish 20- and 30-somethings. *Wed*—Pub Quiz.

ENORMOUS ROOM, 567 Massachusetts Ave., 617-491-5550. *Nightly 5:30 p.m.–1 a.m.* Don't let the name fool you—the bar's intimate and relaxed atmosphere will make you feel as if you invited the DJ or band into your living room. A hip, young crowd flocks nightly to this Central Square spot to enjoy the Middle Eastern decor, plush furniture, cutting-edge music and excellent food and drink menu.

LIZARD LOUNGE, 1667 Massachusetts Ave., 617-547-0759. *Sun–Wed 7:30 p.m.–1 a.m., Thu–Sat 'til 2 a.m.* With everything from poetry slams to open-mic comedy, this funky hangout attracts a mix of young intellectuals and professionals. Live entertainment is featured most nights, and can be enjoyed from one of the many intimate two-person tables. Pre- or post-show you can head upstairs to the Cambridge Common and enjoy a beer and an appetizer.

REDLINE, 59 JFK St., 617-491-9851. *Kitchen: Mon–Sat 5–11 p.m. Bar: Mon–Wed 'til 1 a.m., Thu–Sat 'til 2 a.m.* A bustling bar scene is housed within this fashionable lounge/restaurant, which serves delicious and creative cocktails and cuisine. Local and international DJs keep the energetic and mature crowds shaking their bodies on the dancefloor well into the night.

DINING

Refer to Dining, page 65, for key to restaurant symbols.

THE ASGARD IRISH PUB & RESTAURANT, 350 Massachusetts Ave., 617-577-9100. The Asgard was designed in Ireland, with local artists putting the finishing touches on a truly one-of-a-kind bar. Communal tables and a variety of cool, comfortable places to sit—along with an extensive menu, a large craft beer selection, outdoor patio, live music, trivia nights, DJs and no cover charge—make the Asgard a perfect spot for a pint and a meal. Mon–Wed 11 a.m.–1 a.m., Thu & Fri 'til 2 a.m., Sat 10 a.m.–2 a.m., Sun 'til 1 a.m. www.classicirish.com. $

THE BLUE ROOM, 1 Kendall Square, 617-494-9034. Described as "casually upscale" by the 2006 *Zagat Guide*, The Blue Room works with local, organic farmers to ensure diners enjoy the freshest ingredients. Stop by on Sundays for a taste of their acclaimed buffet brunch or check out the dinner menu, which boasts everything from cassoulet to braised oxtail to grilled tuna. D Sun–Thu 5:30–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m.; SB 11 a.m.–2:30 p.m. $$$

DANTE, Royal Sonesta, 40 Edwin H. Land Blvd., 617-497-4200. Chef Dante de Magistris dishes out playful, rich fare with Italian, French and Spanish influences. The sophisticated eatery boasts a seasonal patio and gorgeous views of the Charles River and the Boston skyline. B Mon–Fri 6:30–10:30 a.m., Sat & Sun 7–11 a.m.; L Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.; D Mon–Thu 5:30–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m.; Sat & SB 11 a.m.–2 p.m. $$$$

EAST COAST GRILL, 1271 Cambridge St., 617-491-6568. If you're looking for hot and spicy barbecue and seafood, then Chris Schlesinger's eatery is not to be missed. Fresh seafood, grilled fish and meats are served with traditional sides like coleslaw, beans, cornbread and watermelon. An oyster bar, cabana-like cocktails and a funky atmosphere prove fine dining can be fun. D, SB. $$$

HARVEST, 44 Brattle St., 617-868-2255. In keeping with its name, Harvest—located in the heart of Harvard Square—specializes in dishes that incorporate only the freshest local ingredients. Chef Mary Dumont adjusts her expansive menu of classic American cuisine seasonally, taking full advantage of the bounty available from New England farms and greenhouses. Diners can treat themselves to delicious dishes like roasted chestnut and hazelnut soup, roasted local beet salad, grilled line-caught swordfish, as well as selections from Harvest's raw bar. $$$$

HENRIETTA'S TABLE, The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., 617-661-5005. Nothing but locally grown and organic produce is used to create a lively, textured menu of reinterpreted New England classics. Private dining room available. B Mon–Fri 6:30–11 a.m., Sat 7–11 a.m., Sun 7–10:30 a.m.; Sat and SB noon–3 p.m.; L Mon–Fri noon–3 p.m.; D daily 5:30–10 p.m. $

HONG KONG, 1238 Massachusetts Ave., 617-864-5311. A local favorite for more than five decades, this Harvard Square fixture serves a full array of classic Chinese dishes and exotic drinks, including its world-renowned scorpion bowl. Perfect for a meal with friends, including lunch, dinner

or late-night snacks, or for checking out the latest sports action in the bar. Sun–Wed 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m., Thu 'til 2:30 a.m., Fri & Sat 'til 3 a.m. $

INDIA PAVILION, 17 Central Square, 617-547-7463. One of the best traditional Northern Indian restaurants in the area, India Pavilion has been a Cambridge staple for more than 25 years. A menu of lamb, chicken and vegetarian specialties is complemented by a selection of fine Indian wines and beer. L buffet daily noon–3 p.m.; D daily 3–11 p.m. $

OM, 92 Winthrop St., 617-576-2800. OM Restaurant & Lounge in Harvard Square offers globally influenced modern American cuisine, drawing foodies and neighborhood patrons alike. A popular nightlife destination, OM's lounge boasts sleek leather sofas, a hypnotic water wall and signature aromatherapy cocktails. D, C. $$$

RIALTO, The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., 617-661-5050. One of Greater Boston's top restaurants, Rialto specializes in fine wines and delectable Italian cuisine. Chef Jody Adams showcases her creative talents on a brand-new menu. Reservations recommended. D. $$$$

SHERATON COMMANDER RESTAURANT, 16 Garden St., Harvard Square, 617-547-4800. New England-style cuisine in a relaxed, elegant setting with a casual atmosphere. B, L, D, SB. $$

TORY ROW, 3 Brattle St., Harvard Square, 617-876-TROW. Located at the heart of Harvard Square, Tory Row takes its name from the 1770s term for Brattle Street, once populated by British loyalists. Serving up an eclectic mix of Euro-American dishes at affordable prices, this neighborhood bar and restaurant has shed the conservative roots of its name and replaced them with a diverse and creative culinary aesthetic. L, D. $$

UPSTAIRS ON THE SQUARE, 91 Winthrop St., 617-864-1933. Boasting an eclectic decor, this lush urban oasis features everything from gourmet pizza to Colorado rack of lamb. A charming blend of eccentricity and culinary luxury. L, D, C, LS. $$$$

WAGAMAMA, 57 JFK St., 617-499-0930; Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market, Boston, 617-742-9242; The Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston, 617-778-2344. This international chain, modeled on the classic Japanese ramen noodle bar, has three locations in the Boston area. Offering affordable prices, speedy service and authentic food, Wagamama is a hip rendition of an old favorite, perfect for the modern globe-trotting food enthusiast. L, D. $$

ZEPHYR ON THE CHARLES, Hyatt Regency Cambridge, 575 Memorial Drive, 617-441-6510. This restaurant serves a traditional menu of appetizers and entrees—including jumbo lump blue crab cakes and Maine lobster—bursting with flavor and flair. The setting features spectacular views of the Boston skyline. B, L, D, C. $$

ZOE'S, 1105 Massachusetts Ave., 617-495-0055. Offering a menu of delicious homemade Greek and American food in a fun atmosphere, this retro establishment serves breakfast all day, and take-out and catering are available. A popular destination for the weekend brunch crowd, Zoe's is also a great place for dinner, boasting an affordable selection of beer and wine. For dessert, try the delicious cheesecake frappe or the famous frozen hot chocolate. B, L, D, SB. Mon–Wed 7:30 a.m.–9 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 10 p.m., Sun 8 a.m.–9 p.m. $

SHOPPING

BLACK INK, 5 Brattle St., 617-497-1221; 101 Charles St., Boston, 617-723-3883. *Mon–Sat 11 a.m.–7 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* Trendy knick-knacks, from silk change purses to sensual candles to sushi-eating accessories, and nostalgic memorabilia, such as tin lunch boxes, can be found at this quirky, fun gift shop.

CAMBRIDGESIDE GALLERIA, 100 CambridgeSide Place, 617-621-8666. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun noon–7 p.m.* This three-level mall features department stores such as Sears and Best Buy, as well as more than 100 other stores and specialty shops including the largest Gap in Boston, J. Crew, Old Navy, Borders, Victoria's Secret and more.

CURIOUS GEORGE GOES TO WORDSWORTH, 1 JFK St., Harvard Square, 617-498-0062. *Daily 10 a.m.–7 p.m.* The mischievous monkey isn't the only curious youngster you'll find scampering around this Harvard Square bookstore. The bi-level store boasts more than 25,000 items for encouraging reading and creativity.

THE GARMENT DISTRICT, 200 Broadway, 617-876-5230. *Sun–Fri 11 a.m.–8 p.m., Sat 9 a.m.–8 p.m.* A vintage lover's paradise, this two-level thrift warehouse sells everything from vintage Levi's to knock-off designer dresses and '70s go-go boots. The ambitious (or desperate) can sift through the heaping piles of the downstairs Dollar-A-Pound. The Garment District also incorporates Boston Costume, an excellent resource for all your Halloween needs.

GROLIER POETRY BOOK SHOP, 6 Plympton St., 617-547-4648. *Tue & Wed 11 a.m.–7 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 6 p.m.* This is the oldest poetry bookshop in the U.S. still operating today. With an extensive stock of more than 15,000 current volumes of trade, small press and university publications, Grolier is well-versed in verse. You can even find guidebooks on prose, information on poetry markets and spoken word CDs.

THE HARVARD COOP, 1400 Massachusetts Ave., 617-499-2000, www.thecoop.com. *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–10 p.m., Sun 10 a.m.–9 p.m.* Founded in 1882, The Harvard Cooperative Society—better known as The Coop—has grown into America's largest college bookstore. Located in the heart of Harvard Square, The Coop offers the largest selection of officially licensed Harvard insignia sportswear, gifts and souvenirs. Explore a vast array of books, fine art prints, posters, frames, stationery and greeting cards. Custom book orders are available, and the Coop hosts frequent author events.

MUSEUM OF USEFUL THINGS, 49 Brattle St., Harvard Square, 617-576-3322. *Mon–Sat 11 a.m.–8 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* This store sells a bevy of useful tools for organization, personal and household use, such as hampers, pencil holders and mousetraps.

TISTIK, 54 Church St., 617-661-0900, www.shoptistik.com. *Mon–Wed 10:30 a.m.–8 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* This Harvard Square retailer specializes in handmade, unique and fashionable jewelry, accessories and home decorating products made by artisans in developing countries who work independently or in partnership with socially responsible organizations that help them improve their living standards through the sale of their work.

URBAN OUTFITTERS, 11 JFK St., Harvard Square, 617-864-0070; 361 Newbury St., Boston, 617-236-0088. *Mon–Fri 9 a.m.–10 p.m., Sat 'til 11 p.m., Sun 10 a.m.–9 p.m.* Where urban hipsters turn for funky men's and women's fashions. The store also features a wide array of housewares, shoes, accessories, gifts, books, cards and other bric-a-brac.

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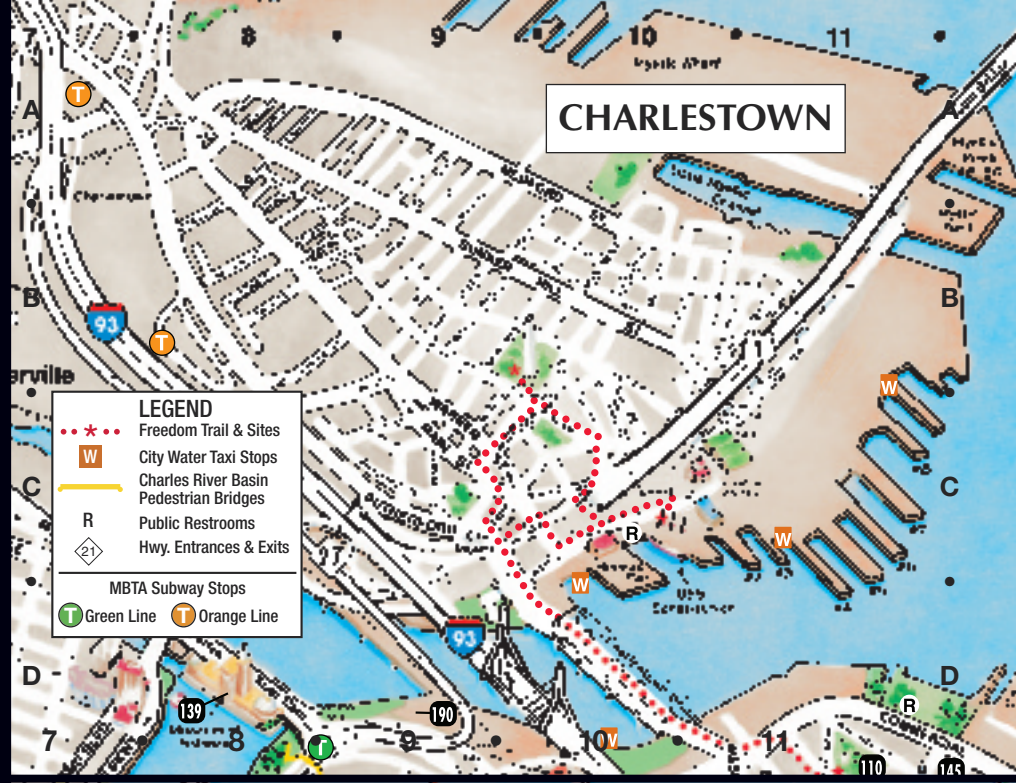
*closed for renovations

LEGEND
Charles River Basin Pedestrian Bridges
Public Restrooms
MBTA Subway Stops
Red Line
Orange Line
Charles River
Cambridge
Somerville
CAMBRIDGE & SOMERVILLE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LEGEND
Freedom Trail & Sites
City Water Taxi Stops
Charles River Basin Pedestrian Bridges
Public Restrooms
Hwy. Entrances & Exits
MBTA Subway Stops
Green Line
Orange Line

LEGEND
Charles River Basin Pedestrian Bridges
MBTA Subway Stops
Red Line
Orange Line
Blue Line
Green Line
Silver Line
FENWAY/ KENMORE SQUARE

LEGEND
Freedom Trail & Sites
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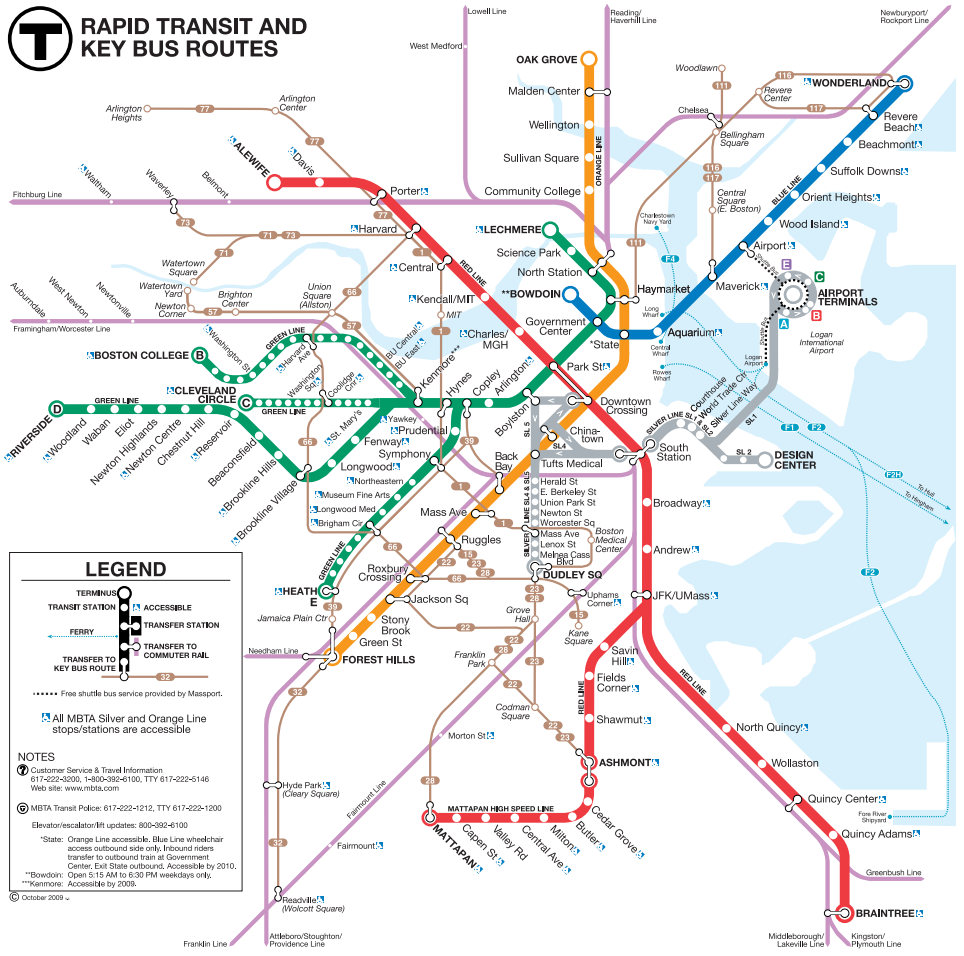
RAPID TRANSIT AND KEY BUS ROUTES



FARES & PASSES

The MBTA offers a reusable "Charlie Card" on which riders can store value by using cash or a debit/credit card through kiosks available in all MBTA stations. Use of a Charlie Card, which presently can only be used on the Subway and Bus lines, offers a discounted fare. Riders may also purchase single-ride Charlie Tickets and Day/Week Link Passes at these same kiosks.

SUBWAY FARES
$1.70 Charlie Card
$2 Charlie Ticket
Plus FREE subway and local bus transfers

BUS FARES
$1.25 Charlie Card
Plus FREE bus transfers
$2.80 Inner Express
$4 Outer Express

$1.50 Charlie Ticket
$3.50 Inner Express
$5 Outer Express

COMMUTER RAIL
$1.70–7.75
Price depends on distance traveled. When purchasing a ticket on a train you may be subject to a $2 surcharge during peak hours, if that station has a ticket office or contracted vendor.

BOAT FARES
$1.70 Inner harbor ferry
$6 Commuter boat
$12 Quincy/Hull–Logan

DAY/WEEK LINKPASS
$9 for 1 day
$15 for 7 days
Unlimited travel on Subway, Local Bus, Inner Harbor Ferry and Commuter Rail Zone 1A. 7-Day Pass valid for 7 days from the date and time of purchase.

MBTA Customer Support: 617-222-3200 or visit www.mbta.com

Have a Ball

THE HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS
TD Garden
March 27 at 7:30 p.m., March 28 at 1 p.m.

If you find yourself with the urge to whistle "Sweet Georgia Brown" while in Boston, it's with good reason—the weekend of **March 27 & 28** sees the return of basketball's premiere showmen, the Harlem Globetrotters, to the Hub as part of their 2010 "Magical Memories" World Tour. The current high-flying Globetrotters lineup features veterans like Special K Daley, Handles Franklin and the dynamic duo of Flight Time Lang and Big Easy Lofton (the breakout stars of last season's "The Amazing Race" on CBS), along with a host of other basketball-dribbling, crowd-pleasing athletes. If you're looking for a fun activity for the whole family, checking out the Globetrotters is a definite slam dunk. *Refer to listing, page 48.* *—Meredith Wilson*

A Glorious Day

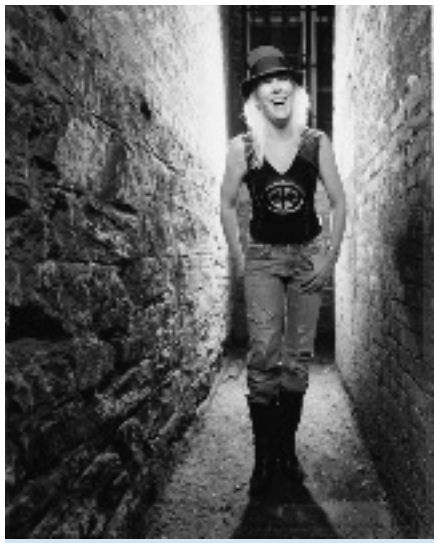
LADY DAY AT EMERSON'S BAR AND GRILLE
Lyric Stage Company
Beginning March 26

Like so many gifted artists gone too soon, Billie Holiday left behind not only a legacy of great performances, but also an aura of mystique and curiosity about the demons that plagued her. It's those two sides of Holiday that are explored in Lyric Stage Company's production of Lanie Roberston's *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grille*. Acclaimed local actress and vocalist Jacqui Parker brings the beloved chanteuse to life in this adaptation of the off-Broadway hit built around the soulful and emotional music of "Lady Day." Set in a Philadelphia nightclub just months before her death, *Lady Day* explores Holiday's tumultuous life and struggle with drugs interspersed with Parker's renditions of songs like "God Bless the Child" and "Strange Fruit," offering a compelling portrait of a songbird as tormented as she was talented. *Refer to listing, page 49.* *—Sofia Constantin*

SATIRIZING SCOTT

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, SCOTT BROWN
Improv Asylum
March 21 & 28 at 7 p.m., March 24 & 31 at 8 p.m.

The idea of a Republican taking over the late Ted Kennedy's Senate seat might have elicited chuckles a few months ago, but now that it's a reality, the comedians at Improv Asylum are hoping more for side-splitting laughter. This month, the North End improv theater unveils its new musical, *You're a Good Man, Scott Brown*, poking fun at the historic race that resulted in Massachusetts' first Republican senator in close to 40 years through outrageous song and dance numbers. No candidate remains off limits—Brown's former opponents Martha Coakley and Joe Kennedy are roasted, as well as our state's new centerfold…err… statesman. *Refer to listing, page 44.* *—Emma Snider*



MINUS 32 MILLION WORDS: **Boston native and former sitcom star Sue Costello returns to town to perform her one-woman show at the Boston Center for the Arts. Refer to listing, page 49.**

CLASSICAL

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., 617-266-1200. *Tickets: $29–115, unless otherwise noted. Visit www.bso.org for a complete schedule of events.* Renowned throughout the world for its distinctive sound, impressive range and virtuosity, the Boston Symphony Orchestra—led by Music Director James Levine—celebrates its 129th year of performing the world's most beloved and stirring classical music. ***Mar 11, 13 & 16*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 12*** *at 1:30 p.m.*—The BSO, guest conductor Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos and guest violinist Hilary Hahn perform works by Prokofiev and Rimsky-Korsakov; ***Mar 18 & 20*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 19*** *at 1:30 p.m.*—The BSO and guest conductor Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos are joined by the Tanglewood Festival Chorus to perform Mendelssohn's overture and incidental music to *A Midsummer Night's Dream;* ***Mar 25, 27 & 30*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 26*** *at 1:30 p.m.*—The BSO and guest baritone Gerald Finley present works by Debussy and Schubert; ***Apr 1–3*** *at 8 p.m.*—The Tanglewood Festival Chorus joins the BSO to perform Mendelssohn's *Elijah,* sung in German.

CHAMELEON ARTS ENSEMBLE, Goethe-Institut, 170 Beacon St., 617-427-8200. ***Mar 27*** *at 8 p.m. Tickets: $18–38.* The chamber ensemble presents Of Melody Yet Unknown, a concert featuring works by Beethoven, Brahms and others.

EMMANUEL MUSIC, Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., 617-536-3356. *Admission: free will offering for weekly cantatas.* ***Mar 14*** *at 10 a.m.*—The Emmanuel orchestra and chorus present the weekly Sunday Cantata, performing music by Schoenberg; ***Mar 21*** *at 10 a.m.*—Buxtehude's *Jesu meine Freude;* ***Mar 28*** *at 10 a.m.*—Bach's *BWV 159;* ***Apr 4*** *at 10 a.m.*—Bach's *BWV 67.*

HANDEL AND HAYDN SOCIETY, Jordan Hall at New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., 617-266-3605. ***Mar 19*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 21*** *at 3 p.m. Tickets: $35–72.* The H&H Society—joined by soprano Susan Consoli and bass Robert Nairn—bring back the days of the 18th century and its artistic "salons" with an evening of music by Mozart, Schubert, Novello and others.

YO-YO MA, Celebrity Series of Boston, Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., 617-482-2595. ***Mar 26*** *at 8 p.m. Tickets: $38–87.* The legendary cellist returns to Boston, accompanied by pianist Kathryn Stott, for a virtuoso performance of works by Schubert, Shostakovich and others.

COMEDY

THE COMEDY CLUB AT CHEERS, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 877-548-3237. *Shows Fri & Sat at 9 p.m.* Come to the place "where everybody knows your name" to indulge in delectable food and drink while enjoying some of Boston's best stand-up comedy. ***Mar 19 & 20***—Kevin Downey Jr., *tickets: $20;* ***Mar 26 & 27***—Dwight Slade, *tickets: $20.*

THE COMEDY CONNECTION AT THE WILBUR THEATRE, 246 Tremont St., 617-248-9700. ***Mar 12*** *at 10 p.m.*—John Valby, *tickets: $15 & 20;* ***Mar 13*** *at 7 and 9:45 p.m.*—Norm MacDonald, *tickets: $25 & 35;* ***Mar 20*** *at 7 p.m.*—Susie Essman, *tickets: $29 & 39;* ***Mar 25*** *at 7 and 9:45 p.m.*—Gabriel Iglesias, *tickets: $25 & 35;* ***Mar 26*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Gilbert Gottfried, *tickets: $29 & 32;* ***Mar 27*** *at 7 and 9:45 p.m.*—Lily Tomlin, *tickets: $54 & 77;* ***Apr 2*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Doug Benson, *tickets: $20 & 25;* ***Apr 3*** *at 7 p.m.*—Bruce Bruce, *tickets: $25 & 35.*

IMPROV ASYLUM, 216 Hanover St., 617-263-6887. *Tickets: $10–25, dinner packages available. Visit www.improvasylum.com for complete show schedules. Please arrive 30 minutes prior to showtime.* Some of Boston's top improvisational comics perform uproarious and creative shows at this theater in the heart of Boston's North End. ***Mar 10 & 17*** *at 8 p.m.*—Vanity Project; ***Mar 11, 14, 18 & 25*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 12, 19 & 26*** *at 8 and 10 p.m.,* ***Mar 13, 20 & 27*** *at 7 and 9 p.m.*—Main Stage Show; ***Mar 13, 20 & 27*** *at 11 p.m.*—Unhinged; ***Mar 16, 23 & 30*** *at 8 p.m.*—House Teams; ***Mar 21 & 28*** *at 7 p.m.,* ***Mar 24 & 31*** *at 8 p.m.*—You're A Good Man, Scott Brown.

NICK'S COMEDY STOP, 100 Warrenton St., 617-423-2900. *Fri & Sat at 8:30 p.m. Cover: $20.* Nick's is the city's longest-running comedy club. ***Mar 12 & 13***—Dan Crohn; ***Mar 19 & 20***—Chris Tabb; ***Mar 26 & 27***—Corey Manning; ***Apr 2 & 3***—Steve Sweeney.

TOMMY'S COMEDY LOUNGE, The Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., 800-745-3000. *Shows Thu & Fri at 8:30 p.m., Sat at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted; shows are 21+.* ***Mar 11 & 18, Apr 1***—Comedy Showcase; ***Mar 12 & 13***—P.J. Thibodeau; ***Mar 19 & 20*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Rich Ceisler; ***Mar 25***—Mehran's Deviant Show; ***Mar 26 & 27*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Tim Kaelin; ***Apr 2 & 3*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Colorstruck.

CONVENTIONS & EXPOS

BAYSIDE EXPO CENTER, 200 Mount Vernon St., Columbia Point, 617-474-6000. ***Mar 12*** *from 5–10 p.m.,* ***Mar 13*** *from 10 a.m.–10 p.m.,* ***Mar 14*** *'til 7 p.m.*—World of Wheels, *tickets: $15, children $5;* ***Mar 20*** *from 10 a.m.–5 p.m.,* ***Mar 21*** *from 11 a.m.–5 p.m.*—It's a Baby and Family Expo, *tickets: $8, children (under 12) free.*

BOSTON CONVENTION & EXHIBITION CENTER, 415 Summer St., 617-954-2000. ***Mar 14–16***—New England Food Show; ***Mar 14 & 15*** *from 10 a.m.–5 p.m.,* ***Mar 16*** *'til 3 p.m.*—International Boston Seafood Show; ***Mar 21–23*** *from 10 a.m.–6 p.m.,* ***Mar 24*** *'til 2 p.m.*—Boston Gift Show.

HYNES CONVENTION CENTER, 900 Boylston St., 617-954-2000. ***Mar 13*** *from 9 a.m.–5:30 p.m.*—Berklee College of Music's 42nd Annual High School Jazz Festival, *free;* ***Mar 26–28***—Penny Arcade Expo; ***Apr 2*** *from 8 a.m.–10 p.m.,* ***Apr 3*** *'til 8 p.m.,* ***Apr 4*** *'til noon*—Anime Boston 2010, *daily passes $30, weekend passes $50.*

DANCE

BLACK GRACE DANCE COMPANY, Celebrity Series of Boston, Paramount Theatre, 560 Washington St., 617-482-2595. ***Mar 12*** *at 7:30 p.m.,* ***Mar 13*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 14*** *at 3 p.m. Tickets: $44 & 54.* This dynamic dance troupe presents a high-energy melding of Samoan and Maori dance forms, lending a modern feel to raw and kinetic tribal choreography.

FILM

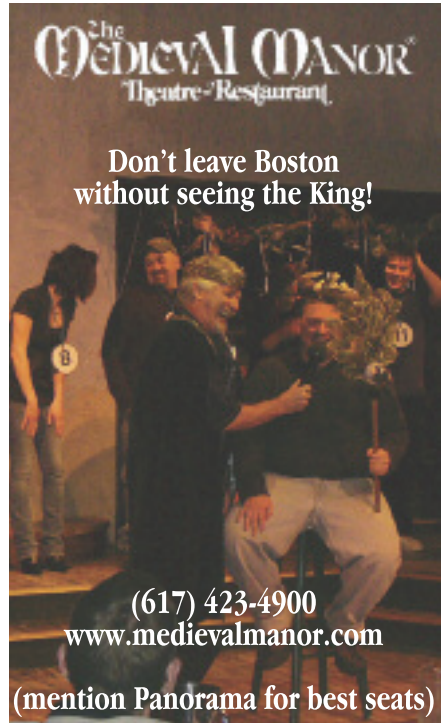
BOSTON UNDERGROUND FILM FESTIVAL, various locations. *Call or visit www.bostonunderground.org for showtimes and complete festival schedule.* ***Mar 25–Apr 1.*** For the 12th year running, Boston celebrates the best in underground and fringe filmmaking. Area theaters including the Brattle and Kendall Square screen films, while BUFF hosts lectures/workshops by filmmakers and various parties with filmmakers and actors.

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE, 290 Harvard St., Brookline, 617-734-2500. *Call for showtimes and complete schedule. Tickets: $9.75; members, seniors & children (Mon–Thu) $6.75 and (Fri–Sun) $7.75.* This independent movie house screens recent indie films, as well as the classics. Now showing: *Shutter Island;* ***beginning Mar 12***—Akira Kurosawa's *Ran;* ***beginning Mar 19***—*The Runaways.* Special events: ***Mar 9*** *at 7 p.m.—Something Wild;* ***Mar 15*** *at 7 p.m.—Best in Show;* ***Mar 16*** *at 7 p.m.—Rachel Getting Married;* ***Mar 20*** *at 10:30 a.m.—The Black Stallion;* ***Mar 27*** *at midnight—The Life of the World to Come.*

MUGAR OMNI THEATER, Museum of Science, 617-723-2500 or 617-333-FILM. *Call for showtimes and complete schedule. Tickets: $9; seniors $8; children (3–11) $7. Discounted admission for showtimes after 6 p.m.* This IMAX theater presents larger-than-life images on a five-story high domed screen. Now showing*: The Greatest Places; Adrenaline Rush: The Science of Risk; Antarctica; Arabia; Dinosaurs Alive!*

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, 465 Huntington Ave., 617-267-9300. *Screenings Thu–Sun, call for showtimes and complete schedule. Tickets: $6–9.* The Museum of Fine Arts' Film Program has grown to become one of the nation's finest exhibitors of contemporary international cinema, restored classics and premieres of American independent films. Special events: ***Mar 12*** *at 6 p.m.—Double Indemnity;* ***Mar 19*** *at 6 p.m.—Shoot the Piano Player;* ***beginning Mar 25***—Boston Turkish Film Festival; ***Apr 1*** *at 6 p.m.—Five Easy Pieces.*

SIMONS IMAX THEATER, New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, 617-973-5200. *Sun–Wed 9:30 a.m.–9:30 p.m.; Thu–Sat 10 a.m.–9:30 p.m. Call for showtimes and complete schedule. Tickets: $9.95; seniors & children (3–11) $7.95.* The Simons is the



first large-format theater in Boston to have 3D viewing capability. Now showing: *The Ultimate Wave Tahiti 3D; Under the Sea 3D.*

KIDS CORNER

BOSTON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM, Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., 617-426-6500. *Refer to listing in Museums.* Daily organized activities in the Art Studio and Play Space such as music and movement, finger puppet making and kitchen science. ***Daily***—Japanese House: Origami; Playspace: Messy Activity; Art Studio: Play with Clay; ***Mar 11, 18 & 25*** *at 10:30 a.m.*—Meet the Creatures; ***Mar 12, 19 & 26*** *from 6–8:30 p.m.*—Operation: Game On Spy Challenge; ***Mar 17*** *from 11 a.m.–3 p.m.*—Celebrate St. Patrick's Day; ***Mar 20*** *from 10 a.m.–2 p.m.*—Go Kids: Children and Healthcare Day; ***Mar 20*** *from 2–4 p.m.*—Critter Day: BugWorks; ***Mar 26*** *from 6–7 p.m.*—GoKids: Fit Friday.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, 700 Boylston St., Copley Square, 617-536-5400. *Refer to listing in Sightseeing.* The first publicly supported municipal library in the world hosts many activities and special programs for children, including live performances, storytelling, interactive computer activities and films. Special exhibit: Literacise, an interactive bilingual exhibit for children. Special events: ***Mar 10*** *at 2:30 p.m.*—Reading Readiness; ***Mar 12*** *at 10 a.m.*—Infant/toddler singalong; ***Apr 2*** *at 10:15 a.m.*—Kids Cinema.

CELEBRATE! SERIES, John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, Columbia Point, next to UMass Boston, 617-514-1644. ***Mar 13*** *at 10:30 a.m.* This free performing arts program (for children ages 5 and up) presents *Themselves,* a young 19th-century Irish woman's story about her journey to America and the struggle to begin a new life while keeping her Irish heritage alive, shown through interactive storytelling as well as traditional Celtic music and dance.

PUPPET SHOWPLACE THEATRE, 32 Station St., Brookline, 617-731-6400. *Tickets: $10.* The first puppetry center in New England presents the magical world of puppet theater, enlightening audiences of all ages. ***Mar 10 & 11*** *at 10:30 a.m.—Old Favorites;* ***Mar 13 & 14*** *at 1 and 3 p.m.—Castlemania;* ***Mar 17 & 18*** *at 10:30 a.m.—The Three Pigs and Other Tales;* ***Mar 20 & 21*** *at 1 and 3 p.m.—The Three Billy Goats Gruff;* ***Mar 24 & 25*** *at 10:30 a.m.—The Reluctant Dragon;* ***Mar 27 & 28*** *at 1 and 3 p.m.—A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing;* ***Mar 31 & Apr 1*** *at 10:30 a.m.—Tricksters and Noodleheads.*

THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR AND OTHER ERIC CARLE FAVOURITES, Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia, The Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., 617-931-2787. *Performances:* ***Mar 20*** *at 11 a.m., 2 and 5 p.m. Tickets: $12.50–27.50.* Children's author Eric Carle's stories *The Very Hungry Caterpillar, Little Cloud* and *The Mixed-Up Chameleon* spring to life on stage through black light puppetry in this colorful show full of imaginative language and memorable imagery.

LIVE MUSIC

AGGANIS ARENA, Boston University, 925 Commonwealth Ave., 617-931-2000. This venue on the BU campus is a state-of-the-art, multipurpose entertainment center with more than 7,200 seats for concerts, sporting events and family shows. ***Mar 20*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Daughtry with Lifehouse, *tickets: $32.50 & 42.50;* ***Mar 22*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Alicia Keys, *tickets: $67–127.*

BERKLEE PERFORMANCE CENTER, 136 Massachusetts Ave., 617-747-2261. ***Mar 15 & 16*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Puscifer, *tickets: $35 & 45;* ***Mar 18*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Tao: The Martial Art of Drumming, *tickets: $30–42 (call 617-876-4275);* ***Mar 20*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Air, *tickets: $35;* ***Mar 25*** *at 8:15 p.m.*—International Folk Festival, *tickets: $10 & 15;* ***Mar 28*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Zakir Hussain and Masters of Percussion, *tickets: $30–50 (call 617-876-4275).*

BOBBY MCFERRIN, Celebrity Series of Boston, Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., 617-482-2595. ***Mar 21*** *at 3 p.m. Tickets: $37–58.* The gifted vocalist—who continues to astound audiences with the amazing range of his natural instrument, as well as his facile and inventive vocal gymnastics—returns to Boston.

DEE DEE BRIDGEWATER, Celebrity Series of Boston, Paramount Theatre, 560 Washington St., 617-482-2595. ***Mar 27*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 28*** *at 3 p.m. Tickets: $48 & 56.* The Grammy- and Tony-winning jazz vocalist lends her magnificent voice to reviving a legend, presenting the classic songs of Billie Holiday in the show *To Billie with Love—A Celebration of Lady Day.*

HOUSE OF BLUES, 15 Lansdowne St., 888-693-BLUE. *Shows at 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Visit www.hob.com/boston for full schedule.* One of the nation's first names in live music returns to Boston. The House of Blues club, concert hall and restaurant across from Fenway Park welcomes top national acts from the world of rock, blues, pop and more. ***Mar 12, 14–17*** *at 7 p.m.,* ***Mar 13*** *at 1 and 8 p.m.*—Dropkick Murphys, *tickets: $29.50;* ***Mar 18***—Mat Kearney and Ingrid Michaelson, *tickets: $22.50 & 25;* ***Mar 19***—Disco Biscuits, *tickets: $25 & 27;* ***Mar 21 & Apr 4*** *at 10 a.m.*—Gospel Brunch, *tickets: $25–45;* ***Mar 23***—Robin Thicke, *tickets: $35–45;* ***Mar 27*** *at 7 p.m.*—Spoon with Deerhunter and Strange Boys, *tickets: $25 & 35;* ***Mar 28*** *at 7 p.m.*—HIM, *tickets: $26 & 35;* ***Apr 2***—Drive-By Truckers with Lucero and Langhorne Slim, *tickets: $22.50 & 25;* ***Apr 3*** *at 6:30 p.m.*—Black Rebel Motorcycle Club with Alberta Cress, *tickets: $20.*

ORPHEUM THEATRE, 1 Hamilton Place, 617-931-2000. The Orpheum opened in 1852 and was the site of the first Boston Symphony Orchestra performances and lectures by Booker T. Washington and Ralph Waldo Emerson. ***Mar 14*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Alice in Chains; ***Apr 1*** *at 8 p.m.*—Vampire Weekend.

PARADISE ROCK CLUB, 967 Commonwealth Ave., 617-562-8800. An intimate setting with a big sound, the Paradise is one of Boston's favorite rock clubs. *All shows 18+ unless otherwise noted. Visit www.thedise.com for full schedule.* ***Mar 9*** *at 8 p.m.*—Jet, *tickets: $22.50;* ***Mar 11*** *at 9 p.m.*—Balkan Beat Box, *tickets: $15;* ***Mar 13*** *at 9 p.m.*—Butch Walker and the Black Widows, *tickets: $18;* ***Mar 18*** *at 9 p.m.*—Apollo Sunshine; ***Mar 19*** *at 7 p.m.*—Big D & The Kids' Table; ***Mar 20*** *at 9 p.m.*—Rustic Overtones, *tickets: $20;* ***Mar 25*** *at 8 p.m.*—The Donnas, *tickets: $15;* ***Mar 26*** *at 9 p.m.*—Keller Williams, *tickets: $24.50;* ***Mar 27*** *at 9 p.m.*—The Big Pink, *tickets: $15;* ***Mar 28*** *at 8 p.m.*—Beach House, *tickets: $13;* ***Mar 30*** *at 7 p.m.*—Manchester Orchestra, *tickets: $15;* ***Mar 31*** *at 8 p.m.*—Miike Snow; ***Apr 1*** *at 9 p.m.*—Girls, *tickets: $17.50;* ***Apr 2*** *at 6:30 and 10 p.m.*—The xx; ***Apr 3*** *at 9 p.m.*—Nada Surf, *tickets: $25.*

SCULLERS JAZZ CLUB, DoubleTree Guest Suites Hotel, 400 Soldiers Field Road, 617-562-4111. ***Mar 10*** *at 8 p.m.*—David Maxwell and Nicole Nelson, *tickets: $18, $56 with dinner;* ***Mar 11*** *at 8 p.m.*—Love Dogs, *tickets: $20, $58 with dinner;* ***Mar 12 & 13*** *at 8 and 10 p.m.*—Toots Thielemans, *tickets: $30, $68 with dinner;* ***Mar 16*** *at 8 p.m.*—Evgeny Lebedev World Trio, *tickets: $20, $58 with dinner;* ***Mar 17*** *at 8 p.m.*—Adam Rogers Quintet, *tickets: $22, $60 with dinner;* ***Mar 18*** *at 8 p.m.*—Jackie Ryan, *tickets: $20, $58 with dinner;* ***Mar 19*** *at 8 and 10 p.m.*—Brian Bromberg, *tickets: $25, $63 with dinner;* ***Mar 20*** *at 8 and 10 p.m.*—Melissa Manchester, *tickets: $38, $76 with dinner;* ***Mar 23*** *at 8 p.m.*—Shepley Metcalfe, *tickets: $20, $58 with dinner;* ***Mar 24*** *at 8 and 10 p.m.*—Christian Scott, *tickets: $20, $58 with dinner;* ***Mar 25*** —Bellevue Cadillac, *tickets: $100;* ***Mar 26 & 27*** *at 8 and 10 p.m.*—Roy Haynes, *tickets: $30, $68 with dinner;* ***Mar 31*** *at 8 p.m.*—Sean Lyons Quintet, *tickets: $20, $58 with dinner;* ***Apr 1*** *at 8 p.m.*—Grace Kelly, *tickets: $20, $58 with dinner;* ***Apr 2 & 3*** *at 8 and 10 p.m.*—The Yellowjackets, *tickets: $30, $68 with dinner.*

SOMERVILLE THEATER, 55 Davis Square, Somerville, 617-625-4088. ***Mar 13*** *at 8 p.m.*—Klezmatics with Josh Nelson, *tickets: $27 (call 617-876-4275);* ***Mar 17*** *at 8 p.m.*—Spoken word from Henry Rollins, *tickets: $24;* ***Mar 20*** *at 8 p.m.*—Habib Koite and Bamada, *tickets: $34 (call 617-876-4275);* ***Mar 27*** *at 8 p.m.*—Bassekou and Ngoni Ba, *tickets: $24 (call 617-876-4275);* ***Apr 1*** *at 8 p.m.*—Stephen Kellogg and the Sixers, *tickets: $20;* ***Apr 2 & 3*** *at 8 p.m.*—Angelique Kidjo, *tickets: $39 (call 617-876-4275).*

TD GARDEN, 100 Legends Way (Causeway Street), 617-624-1000. The former FleetCenter not only hosts Celtics and Bruins home games, but is the premier indoor concert arena for the city of Boston. ***Mar 11*** *at 7 p.m.*—Jay-Z with Young Jeezy, *tickets: $41.50–131.50.*

TOP OF THE HUB, Prudential Tower, 52nd floor, 617-536-1775. Enjoy food, drink and the best view in Boston as you swing to live jazz and classics from the Great American Songbook. ***Mar 8, 15, 22 & 29*** *at 8 p.m.*—Marty Ballou Trio; ***Mar 14, 21 & 28, Apr 4*** *at noon*—Lee Childs Group; *at 8 p.m.*—Marshall Wood Trio; ***Mar 16–18*** *at 8:30 p.m.,* ***Mar 19 & 20*** *at 9 p.m.*—The Tony Carelli Group; ***Mar 9–11, 23–25, 30 & 31, Apr 1*** *at 8:30 p.m.*—The Bob Nieske Trio featuring Bob Tamagni and Joe Mulholland; ***Mar 12, 13, 26 & 27, Apr 2 & 3*** *at 9 p.m.*—The Bob Nieske Group featuring vocalist Maggie Galloway.

WANG THEATRE, Citi Performing Arts Center, 270 Tremont St., 617-482-9393. ***Mar 12 & 13*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 14*** *at 3 p.m.*—Celtic Woman, *tickets: $42–78;* ***Mar 25*** *at 8 p.m.*—Norah Jones, *tickets: $43–63;* ***Apr 1*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Trans-Siberian Orchestra, *tickets: $48.50 & 58.50.*

WILBUR THEATRE, 246 Tremont St., 617-248-9700. ***Mar 24*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Tower of Power, *tickets: $45.*

OPERA

ARIADNE AUF NAXOS, Boston Lyric Opera, Citi Performing Arts Center, The Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., 866-348-9738. *Performances:* ***Mar 12, 17, 19 & 23*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 14 & 21*** *at 3 p.m. Tickets: $34–140.* An unseen producer makes changes to an opera just before the curtain rises. That's how the clowns get onstage. The composer? Backstage, tearing his hair out. Richard Strauss weaves voices and orchestra beautifully in his half farce, half opera seria.

DER ZWERG, OperaHub, Plaza Black Box Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St. *Performances:* ***Mar 11 & 12*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 13*** *at 3 and 8 p.m. Free and open to the public.* This free performance, based on a short story by Oscar Wilde, presents Alexander Zemlinsky's lush and powerful one-act opera about the relationship between a beautiful but heartless princess and the dwarf given to her as a birthday gift who tragically falls in love with her.

SPECIAL EVENTS

BIG APPLE CIRCUS, City Hall Plaza, 800-922-3772. *Performances:* ***Apr 3 & 4*** *at 12:30 and 4:30 p.m. Tickets: $15–65.* The exciting

Big Apple Circus, now in its 32nd season under the big top, returns to Boston with its all-new and exciting show, *Bello is Back!* This one-ring circus features the return of daredevil clown Bello Nock, joining Big Apple's star performer Barry "Grandma" Lubin, and Big Apple's high-flying acrobats, jugglers, contortionists, dogs, horses and dancers for a show you won't soon forget.

BOSTON FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW, Seaport World Trade Center, 200 Seaport Blvd., 781-273-5533. ***Mar 24–26*** *from 10 a.m.–9 p.m.,* ***Mar 27*** *from 9 a.m.–9 p.m.,* ***Mar 28*** *from 8 a.m.–6 p.m. Tickets: $20; seniors $17; children (6–17) $10.* Welcome spring to the Hub with a visit to the city's biggest flower show, an event that features 30 major garden exhibits, a marketplace packed with 270 retail vendors, daily gardening demonstrations, appearances by noted garden designers, afternoon teas amidst the flowers and much more.

BOSTON WINE FESTIVAL, Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, 888-660-WINE. *Call for ticket prices and full event schedule or visit www.bostonwinefestival.net.* ***Mar 9***—Castellani Showcase, *tickets: $145;* ***Mar 17***—Hirsch Vineyards Showcase, *tickets: $145;* ***Mar 30***—Trefethen Family Vineyards Showcase, *tickets: $150;* ***Apr 1***—Stony Hill Vineyards Showcase, *tickets: $145;* ***Apr 2***—Closing reception, featuring some of the 2010 festival's favorite wines and a preview of 2011 wines, *tickets: $100.*

BOSTON WINTER RESTAURANT WEEK, Various locations in Boston and Cambridge. *For a complete list of participating restaurants and menus, visit www.BostonUSA.com/Restaurant Week.* ***Mar 14–19 & 21–26.*** Sample the best dining in Boston and Cambridge for the best prices when nearly 100 top restaurants offer three-course prix fixe lunches for $20.10 (two courses for $15.10) and dinners for $33.10. Choose from hot new spots like Bistro du Midi, Ginger Park, Post 390 and Sensing, established faves like Top of the Hub and Union Oyster House, and many more.

FIRST ROBOTICS COMPETITION, Agganis Arena, Boston University, 925 Commonwealth Ave. ***Mar 26*** *at 8 a.m. Free and open to the public.* Some of the region's most brilliant young minds come together for the regional FIRST (For Inspiration & Recognition of Science and Technology) competition, where teams of high school students pit their high-tech robot creations against each other in a highly-charged competitive battle.

SOUTH BOSTON ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE, West Broadway, South Boston, 617-268-7955. ***Mar 14*** *at 1 p.m. Free and open to the public.* Marching bands from throughout North America gather in one of Boston's most traditionally Irish neighborhoods for this all-day family event featuring pipe and drum corps, colorful floats and Irish stepdancing. Anywhere from 600,000 to 1.2 million people attend annually, including Bostonians, out-of-towners and local celebrities.

SPORTS

BOSTON BLAZERS **NATIONAL LACROSSE LEAGUE**
TD Garden, 100 Legends Way, 1-888-BLAZERS.
Mar 13 *at 7:30 p.m.* vs. Buffalo Bandits
Apr 3 *at 7:30 p.m.* vs. Orlando Titans

BOSTON BRUINS **NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE**
TD Garden, 100 Legends Way, 617-624-1000.
Mar 18 *at 7 p.m.* vs. Pittsburgh Penguins
Mar 21 *at 3 p.m.* vs. New York Rangers
Mar 25 *at 7 p.m.* vs. Tampa Bay Lightning
Mar 27 *at 1 p.m.* vs. Calgary Flames
Mar 29 *at 7 p.m.* vs. Buffalo Sabres
Apr 1 *at 7 p.m.* vs. Florida Panthers

BOSTON CELTICS **NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION**
TD Garden, 100 Legends Way, 617-523-3030.
Mar 10 *at 7:30 p.m.* vs. Memphis Grizzlies
Mar 12 *at 7:30 p.m.* vs. Indiana Pacers
Mar 15 *at 8 p.m.* vs. Detroit Pistons
Mar 17 *at 7:30 p.m.* vs. New York Knicks
Mar 24 *at 7 p.m.* vs. Denver Nuggets
Mar 26 *at 7:30 p.m.* vs. Sacramento Kings
Mar 28 *at 8 p.m.* vs. San Antonio Spurs
Mar 31 *at 7:30 p.m.* vs. Oklahoma City Thunder
Apr 2 *at 7:30 p.m.* vs. Houston Rockets
Apr 4 *at 1 p.m.* vs. Cleveland Cavaliers

BOSTON RED SOX **MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL**
Fenway Park, 4 Yawkey Way, 617-482-4SOX.
Apr 4 *(home opener) at 8:05 p.m.* vs. New York Yankees

HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS, TD Garden, 100 Legends Way, 617-931-2000. ***Mar 27*** *at 7:30 p.m.,* ***Mar 28*** *at 1 p.m. Tickets: $21–154.* Members of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame, the high-flying Harlem Globetrotters have been dazzling basketball fans for 84 years. Now, these amazing and gifted basketball tricksters make their annual visit to Boston, offering family-friendly comedy and displays of athletic, acrobatic skill on the parquet.

HOCKEY EAST CHAMPIONSHIPS **NCAA HOCKEY**
TD Garden, 100 Legends Way, 617-931-2000. *Tickets: $19.50–41.50.* Teams from schools such as the University of Massachusetts, Boston College and the University of Maine vie for the Lamoriello Trophy and an automatic berth in the NCAA Division I Ice Hockey Tournament.
Mar 19 *at 5 and 8 p.m.* Semifinals
Mar 20 *at 7 p.m.* Finals

THEATRE

ADDING MACHINE: A MUSICAL, SpeakEasy Stage Company, Roberts Studio Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., 617-933-8600. *Performances* ***beginning Mar 12****: Wed & Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 4 and 8 p.m., Sun at 3 p.m. Tickets: $25.* This musical adaptation of Elmer Rice's incendiary 1923 play tells the story of Mr. Zero, who after 25 years of service to his company is replaced by a mechanical adding machine. An eclectic score gives passionate and memorable voice to this stylish and stylized New England premiere.

BECKY SHAW, Huntington Theatre Company, Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., 617-266-0800. *Performances:* ***Mar 8, 11, 16, 18, 25, 30 & 31, Apr 1*** *at 7:30 p.m.,* ***Mar 10*** *at 7 p.m.,* ***Mar 12, 19 & 26, Apr 2*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 13, 20 & 27, Apr 3*** *at 2 and 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 14 & 21, Apr 4*** *at 2 p.m.,* ***Mar 17 & 24*** *at 2 and 7:30 p.m.,* ***Mar 28*** *at 2 and 7 p.m. Tickets: $20–82.50.* This wickedly funny 2009 Pulitzer Prize finalist by Gina Gionfriddo (*After Ashley*) involves a married couple who fix up two romantically challenged friends. Crisis and comedy ensue in this hilarious play that asks what we owe the people we love the most.

BLUE MAN GROUP, Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., 617-931-2787 or 617-426-6912. ***Ongoing****. Performances: Tue–Thu at 8 p.m., Fri at 7 p.m., Sat at 4, 7 and 10 p.m., Sun at 2 and 5 p.m. Tickets: $48 & 62.* This giddily subversive off-Broadway hit features three muted, blue-painted performers who spoof both contemporary art and modern technology through wry commentary and bemusing antics. The show has been updated to include new performance pieces, new music and alterations to the sound and lighting design.

BOOM, Downstage @ New Rep, Black Box Theater, Arsenal Center for the Arts, 321 Arsenal St., Watertown, 617-923-8487. *Performances* ***through Mar 13****: Thu at 8 p.m., Fri at 8:30 p.m., Sat at 4 and 8:30 p.m., Sun at 3 p.m. Tickets: $25.* As an undiscovered comet hurtles towards earth, one lone scientist takes it upon himself to preserve the human race. Hilarity ensues when the woman he has taken captive refuses to procreate, and the shelter he has built is damaged beyond repair. This darkly funny New England premiere by Peter Sinn Nachtrieb takes a look at our fascination with the end of the world and starting anew.

ENTERTAINING MR. SLOANE, Publick Theatre, Plaza Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., 617-933-8600. *Performances* ***Mar 11–Apr 3****: Wed & Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 3 and 8 p.m., Sun at 3 p.m. Tickets: $33–37.50.* The charming, enigmatic Mr. Sloane rents a room from Kath, a lonely, delusional landlady, in the junkyard house she shares with her declining father, Kemp. A handsome opportunist, Sloane quickly ingratiates himself, entering into seductions offered by both Kath and her estranged brother Ed, but Sloane's past misdeeds and the dueling affections within the family soon collide in this drama by Joe Orton (*What the Butler Saw*).

LADY DAY AT EMERSON'S BAR & GRILL, Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., 617-585-5678. *Performances* ***beginning Mar 26****: Wed & Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 3 and 8 p.m., Sun at 3 p.m. Tickets: $25–54.* This off-Broadway hit features the soulful and emotional music of blues legend Billie Holiday, voiced through a dramatic cabaret act. During one of her final performances, she intertwines songs such as "God Bless the Child" and "Strange Fruit" with stories of her life as she wrestles with her past and addiction to heroin.

LEGACY OF LIGHT, Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., 617-585-5678. *Performances* ***through Mar 13****: Wed & Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 3 and 8 p.m., Sun at 3 p.m. Tickets: $25–54.* In the New England premiere of this new comedy by Karen Zacarias, a brilliant Age of Enlightenment physicist finds herself with child at age 42. Fearing she will die in childbirth, she races to complete her research and leave her legacy. Meanwhile, present-day scientist Olivia, unable to conceive and wondering what she will sacrifice for motherhood, arranges for a surrogate, who pulls together past and present in a stellar collision.

THE LION KING, The Opera House, 539 Washington St., 617-931-2787. *Performances* ***through Mar 21****: Tue–Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 2 and 8 p.m., Sun at 1 and 6:30 p.m. Tickets: $22.50–91.* The entire savannah comes to life in this Tony Award-winning Broadway sensation that *Newsweek* calls "a landmark event in entertainment." Crafted by director Julie Taymor, this musical inspired by the Disney film features the pulsating rhythms of the African Pridelands and an unforgettable score, including Elton John and Tim Rice's "Circle of Life" and the Oscar-winning song "Can You Feel The Love Tonight?"

MINUS 32 MILLION WORDS, Plaza Black Box Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., 617-933-8600. *Performances:* ***Mar 17–Apr 3****: Wed & Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 3 and 8 p.m., Sun at 3 p.m. Tickets: $43.50.* Acclaimed comic, actor and writer Sue Costello takes audiences on a journey through her life growing up in a chaotic home in Boston, exploring how it led her to a desperate need for fame and money before finally arriving at the realization that her past does not have to become her future. Alternately heartbreaking and hilarious, the show pairs Costello's street-smart, take-no-prisoners wit with her ability to bring an audience to tears.

OPUS, New Repertory Theatre, Charles Mosesian Theater, Arsenal Center for the Arts, 321 Arsenal St., Watertown, 617-923-8487. *Performances:* ***Mar 28 & Apr 1*** *at 2 and 7:30 p.m.,* ***Mar 29*** *at 7:30 p.m.,* ***Apr 2 & 3*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Apr 4*** *at 2 p.m. Tickets: $35–54.* The celebrated and world-renowned Lazara String Quartet is struggling to prepare for their highest-profile performance when their gifted but volatile violist mysteriously disappears. Written by violinist-turned-playwright Michael Hollinger, this New England premiere is interwoven with rich and powerful music that propels it forward.

OTHELLO, Actors' Shakespeare Project, Villa Victoria Center for the Arts, 85 West Newton St., 866-811-4111. *Performances:* ***Mar 10–12, 19 & 25, Apr 1 & 2*** *at 7:30 p.m.,* ***Mar 13*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 14, 21 & 28, Apr 4*** *at 2 p.m.,* ***Mar 17 & 30*** *at 10 a.m.,* ***Mar 18 & 26*** *at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.,* ***Mar 20 & 27, Apr 3*** *at 3 and 8 p.m. Tickets: $26–47.* Othello and Desdemona seem to have it all: love, success, happiness. But "honest" Iago is a master of deceit in Shakespeare's intimate masterpiece of distrust, jealousy and the rage boiling beneath the surface that can cause a dream to turn into a nightmare with the drop of a hint.

SHEAR MADNESS, Charles Playhouse Stage II, 74 Warrenton St., 617-426-5225. ***Ongoing****. Performances: Tue–Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 6 and 9 p.m., Sun at 3 and 7 p.m. Tickets: $42.* Boston's hilarious whodunnit where the audience takes a stab at catching the killer. Become an armchair sleuth in the longest-running play in U.S. history.

SOUND OF THE OCEAN, U-Theatre, Cutler Majestic Theatre at Emerson College, 219 Tremont St., 800-233-3123. ***Mar 27*** *at 8 p.m. Tickets: $25–100.* This compelling, seamless work of rhythm and movement from Taiwan is an intense physical and emotional experience tracing the cyclical journey of water from a drop to a stream, from a river to the ocean.

STICK FLY, Huntington Theatre Company, Wimberly Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., 617-933-8600. *Performances:* ***Mar 10*** *at 2 and 7:30 p.m.,* ***Mar 11, 16–18*** *at 7:30 p.m.,* ***Mar 12 & 19*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 13 & 20*** *at 2 and 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 14*** *at 2 and 7 p.m.,* ***Mar 21*** *at 2 p.m. Tickets: $20–60.* Sparks fly and long-hidden secrets tumble into the open when the LeVay brothers bring their new girlfriends home to Martha's Vineyard's world of privilege. This smart, moving and funny portrait of a complex African-American family from acclaimed playwright Lydia R. Diamond (*Voyeurs de Venus*) is an of-the-moment look at sibling rivalry and the weight of parental expectations.

TICKETS

BOSTIX, Faneuil Hall Marketplace and Copley Square, 617-723-5181. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m. (Faneuil Hall location closed Mon); Sun 11 a.m.–4 p.m.* Information and tickets, including half-price seats on day of event, for the best performing arts around Boston. Log on to www.bostix.org to purchase discounted tickets and receive special e-mail updates. All ticket offers subject to availability.

BOSTON CITYPASS, www.citypass.com. Visit five of Boston's best attractions for one low price. Save 50% and avoid ticket lines. *Booklet price: $44; youth (3–11) $28.* Ticket booklets are available at the first attraction visited and are valid for nine days. The CityPass ticket booklet includes admission to five major attractions: the New England Aquarium, Museum of Fine Arts, Museum of Science, Skywalk Observatory at the Prudential Center and your choice of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum or the Harvard Museum of Natural History, plus extra coupons for local businesses.

by Scott Roberto

Identity Crisis

RONI HORN AKA RONI HORN
Institute of Contemporary Art
Through June 13

Themes of identity and change permeate the Institute of Contemporary Art's 30-year retrospective of New York-based artist Roni Horn. Working in a variety of media and materials—from glass, metal and plastic sculpture to photography to drawing and collage—Horn showcases her fascination with subjects that can vary from one moment to the next, whether it be a person, a river, an ant farm or the volcanic island nation of Iceland. This is best exemplified by 15 photographs of the Thames River—footnoted with random thoughts about the fluid nature of water and the river itself—shot at varying times of day and in changing weather. Horn also expresses her affinity for Emily Dickinson with her three-dimensional sculptures of the poet's own words, engaging in a long-distance dialogue with the famed 19th-century recluse and Massachusetts native. *Refer to listing, page 51.*

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

LUIS MELENDEZ: MASTER OF THE SPANISH STILL LIFE
Museum of Fine Arts
Through May 9

Experience Spanish cuisine—albeit vicariously—in a whole new way at the Museum of Fine Arts' display of the works of 18th-century Spain's still life master, Luis Melendez. So exquisitely detailed that you can almost smell and taste the fruits, breads and meats depicted in the show's 30 spectacular oil paintings, the works showcase Melendez's uncanny mastery of texture and light, from reflective copper vessels to shiny fish scales to the fine bumps and pits on the skins of oranges and melons. Unable to secure his dream position as a royal painter, Melendez was not a great success during his lifetime, but it is easy to see why the appreciation of Melendez's work has grown over the intervening centuries. *Refer to listing, page 52.*

In the Galleries

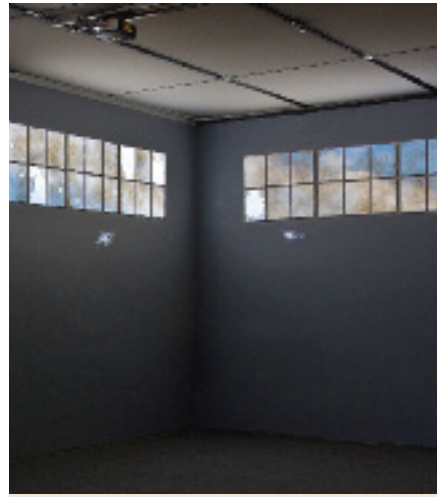
MICHAEL ROGERS, *PREMONITION*, 2009/2010; PHOTO BY GEOFF TESCH

PALIMPSESTS & EPHEMERA, Society of Arts and Crafts, ***through March 13****.* View the latest etched glass collage work by artist Michael Rogers (pictured above) before that show yields to the **POCKET GUIDE TO NEW ZEALAND JEWELRY** exhibit ***beginning March 26****.* *Refer to listing, page 54.*

BOSTON: COMBAT ZONE 1969–1978, Howard Yezerski Gallery, ***through March 16****.* Catch this display of photographs by Roswell Angier, Jerry Berndt and John Goodman chronicling the Hub's former adult entertainment district before the gallery debuts **PAUL SHAKESPEAR: BLACK/WHITE** ***beginning March 19****.* *Refer to listing, page 54.*

CRISTÓBAL LEHYT: IF ORGANIZING IS THE ANSWER, WHAT'S THE QUESTION?, Sert Gallery, Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, ***through April 4****.* The Chilean-born, New York-based artist explores the rise and fall of the Massachusetts textile industry through a series of dreamlike landscape paintings surrounding a large box containing a number of textile-like objects that are viewed through a tiny window. *Refer to listing, page 32.*

TOP LEFT: RONI HORN, *UNTITLED (ARETHA)*, 2002–2004; BOTTOM LEFT: LUIS MELÉNDEZ, *STILL LIFE WITH MELON AND PEARS*, ABOUT 1772



INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART: Catch the final days of Polish artist Krzysztof Wodiczko's ***…OUT OF HERE: The Veterans Project***, a powerful, immersive sound and video installation capturing the chaos and confusion of war, on view through March 28. **Refer to listing, below.**

BOSTON

BOSTON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM, Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., 617-426-6500. *Daily 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Fri 'til 9 p.m. Admission: $12; children (1–15) & seniors $9; children (under 1) free; Fri 5–9 p.m. (Family Night) $1.* The popular museum for families of all ages features a plethora of interactive exhibits that allow children to learn about science, history and culture firsthand. Exhibits include: Construction Zone, a child-sized work site with miniature skyscrapers inspired by the Big Dig; Arthur & Friends, featuring the stars of everyone's favorite PBS program; Boston Black, celebrating Boston's Caribbean, African and African-American cultures; Kid Power, which allows active kids to use energy in healthy ways and teaches them about fitness and nutrition. Special exhibits: Top Secret: Mission Toy; Curious George: Let's Get Curious! *Refer to Kids Corner in Current Events for special events.*

COMMONWEALTH MUSEUM, State Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Blvd., 617-727-9268. *Mon–Fri from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Free admission.* Located across from the JFK Presidential Library, this museum houses the collection of the Massachusetts Archives and is ideal for fans of history or genealogy. Special exhibit: Our Common Wealth: The Massachusetts Experiment in Democracy.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART, 100 Northern Ave., 617-478-3100. *Sat, Sun, Tue & Wed 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Thu & Fri 'til 9 p.m. Admission: $15; seniors & students $10; children (under 17) free. Free to all Thu 5–9 p.m.* Boston's first new art museum in 100 years is a state-of-the-art, gleaming structure on the South Boston waterfront which presents installations of contemporary paintings, sculptures and photographs, as well as cutting-edge live dance and musical performances. Special exhibits: ICA Collection: In The Making; Roni Horn AKA Roni Horn; ***through Mar 28***—Krzysztof Wodiczko: The Veterans Project; Momentum 15: R.H. Quaytman. Special events: ***Mar 19*** *at 7:30 p.m.,* ***Mar 20*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Mar 21*** *at 3 p.m.*—World Music/CRASHarts presents: Stephen Petronio Company, *tickets: $40;* ***Mar 26*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Adam Rudolph's Moving Pictures, *tickets: $20;* ***Apr 2*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Xavier LeRoy: Self-Unfinished, *tickets: $20;* ***Apr 3*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Xavier LeRoy: Le Sacre du Printemps, *tickets: $20.*

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, 280 The Fenway, 617-566-1401. *Tue–Sun 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $12; seniors $10; students $5; children (under 18) free. Visitors named Isabella are admitted free.* Commissioned by Boston aristocrat Isabella Stewart Gardner and modeled after a 15th-century Venetian palace, the museum exhibits 2,500 objects, including the works of Rembrandt, Botticelli, Raphael, Titian and Matisse. Special exhibit: Modeling Devotion: Terracotta Sculpture of the Italian Renaissance. Special events: ***Mar 14*** *at 2:30 p.m.*—Pianist Paavali Jumppanen, *tickets: $23;* ***Mar 18*** *from 5:30–9:30 p.m.*—Gardner After Hours: Equinox, *tickets: $12; at 7 p.m.*—Avant Gardner: Century Classics, *tickets: $23;* ***Mar 21*** *at 1:30 p.m.*—Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, *tickets: $23;* ***Mar 25*** *at 6:30 p.m.*—MusicKitchen @ the Gardner, *tickets: $23;* ***Mar 28*** *at 1:30 p.m.*—Musicians from Ravinia's Steans Institute, *tickets: $23;* ***Apr 4*** *at 1:30 p.m.*—Borromeo String Quartet, *tickets: $23.*

JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM, off Morrissey Boulevard, next to UMass Boston, Dorchester, 866-535-1960. www.jfklibrary.org. *Daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $12; seniors & students $10; children (13–17) $9; children (12 and under) free; library forums free.* This museum portrays Kennedy's life, leadership and legacy in 21 exhibits, three theaters, 20 video presentations and more. Special exhibits: Moon Shot: JFK and Space Exploration; Poetry and Power: The Inaugural Address of John F. Kennedy; The Making of a President.

LARZ ANDERSON AUTO MUSEUM, Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St., Brookline, 617-522-6547. *Fri–Sun 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Admission: $10; seniors, students & children (6–18) $5; children (5 and under) free.* The oldest collection of historic automobiles in the nation is displayed in the owner's original home. Special exhibit: The Style and Innovation of the American Automobile.

THE MARY BAKER EDDY LIBRARY, 200 Massachusetts Ave., 617-450-7000. *Tue–Sun 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Admission: $6; seniors, students & youth (6–17) $4; children (under 6) free.* The Library explores the life and achievements of Mary Baker Eddy, a New England woman who defied conventional 19th-century thinking to become an influential religious leader, publisher, teacher and businesswoman. The museum also houses the famous Mapparium—a three-story stained-glass globe, opened in 1935, which allows visitors to stand in the center, giving them a unique look at how ideas can inspire individuals and change the world. Special exhibits: Hall of Ideas; Sensational Press, Radical Response; The Mapparium: An Inside View; Peace Flag; Lincoln's "Great Willing Heart" and the Life of Mary Baker Eddy.

MCMULLEN MUSEUM OF ART, Boston College, 140 Commonwealth Ave., Chestnut Hill, 617-552-8100. *Mon–Fri 11 a.m.–4 p.m., Sat & Sun noon–5 p.m. Free admission.*

ABOVE: KRZYSZTOF WODICZKO, *…OUT OF HERE: THE VETERANS PROJECT*, 2009

Gallery tours held every *Sun at 12:30 p.m.* This museum is lauded for presenting interdisciplinary exhibits that spark new questions and renowned for its European, Asian and American collections. Special exhibit: Asian Journeys: Collecting Art in Post-War America.

THE MUSEUM OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY, African Meeting House, 46 Joy St. (corner of Smith Court), Beacon Hill, 617-725-0022. www.afroammuseum.org. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Free admission; donations welcome.* Explore the history of Boston's 19th-century African-American community at the African Meeting House, the oldest African-American church still standing in the United States. In addition, there are tour maps available for the Black Heritage Trail. Special exhibit: ***through Mar 20***—From Iowa to the White House: Historic Photographs of President Barack Obama.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, 465 Huntington Ave., 617-267-9300. *Sat–Tue 10 a.m.–4:45 p.m., Wed–Fri 'til 9:45 p.m. Admission (includes two visits in a 10-day period): $20; seniors & students $18; Wed after 4 p.m., pay as you wish; children (7–17) $7.50 on weekdays before 3 p.m., free at all other times; children (6 and under) free.* The museum houses an outstanding collection of paintings, prints, sculptures, furnishings and other artwork from ancient times through the present, as well as the most comprehensive collection of Asiatic art in the world. Special exhibits: Preserving History, Making History: The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Patterns of Long Ago: Reflections of China in Japanese No Costume; Glorious Beasts in Persian Painting; Tibet/China Confluences; The Secrets of Tomb 10A: Egypt 2000 BC; Bharat Ratna!: Jewels of Modern Indian Art; Albrecht Durer: Virtuoso Printmaker; Harry Callahan: American Photographer; Cafe and Cabaret: Toulouse-Lautrec's Paris; Object, Image, Collector: African and Oceanic Art in Focus; Luis Melendez: Master of the Spanish Still Life; ***beginning Apr 3***—Edo Ink: Tattoos in Japanese Prints. Special events: ***Mar 14*** *at 3 p.m.*—Music of the Spanish Baroque, *tickets: $25;* ***Mar 31*** *at 5:30 p.m.*—Winesdays in Bravo, *tickets: $25;* ***Apr 2*** *at 5:30 p.m.*—mfafirstfridays, *free with museum admission.*

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE, Science Park, 617-723-2500. *Sat–Thu 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Fri 'til 9 p.m. Admission: $20; seniors $18; children (3–11) $17; children (under 3) free. Planetarium, laser show and Omni theater tickets: $9; seniors $8; children (3–11) $7. Combination ticket prices and evening discounts available.* Interactive science exhibits, plus laser and astronomy shows in the Charles Hayden Planetarium, are featured. Special exhibits: Colossal Fossil: Triceratops Cliff; Identity: An Exhibition of You; Running the Numbers: Portraits of Mass Consumption.

THE MUSEUM OF THE NATIONAL CENTER OF AFRO-AMERICAN ARTISTS, 300 Walnut Ave., Roxbury, 617-442-8614. *Tue–Sun 1–5 p.m.; by appointment for groups. Admission: $4; students & seniors $3.* Housed in the former Oak Bend Mansion, a neo-Gothic structure built in the early 1870s, this museum holds a slide archive and an extensive collection of African artifacts, prints and drawings. It also hosts national and international traveling exhibits. Special exhibits: Aspelta: A Nubian King's Burial Chamber; Haiti: Paintings by Marilene Phipps.

OLD STATE HOUSE MUSEUM, 206 Washington St., 617-720-1713. *Daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Tickets: $7; seniors & students $6; children (6–18) $3.* At the site of the Boston Massacre and the first reading of the Declaration of Independence in Boston, explore exhibits on the American Revolution, Boston's maritime history and the Boston Massacre. Special exhibits: The Old State House: A Hands-on History; From Colony to Commonwealth; Every Picture Tells a Story; Preservation of the Old State House; Our Favorite Things: Boston Stories; The Boston Massacre Multimedia Presentation; Treasures from the Bostonian Society's Collections.

OTIS HOUSE MUSEUM, 141 Cambridge St., 617-227-3956. *Wed–Sun 11 a.m.–4:30 p.m., tours every half hour. Admission: $8; seniors $7; students & children (5–18) $4; children (under 5), Historic New England members and Boston residents free; $24 maximum per family.* Built in 1796 for Harrison Gray Otis and his wife, this grand mansion is an example of high-style Federal elegance. Tours offer insight into the social, business and family life of the post-Revolution American elite. Special events: ***Mar 28*** *from 2–4 p.m.*—Ladies of the House, *tickets: $13;* ***Mar 31*** *from 6–7:30 p.m.*—Women of Beacon Hill walking tour, *tickets: $15.*

THE SPORTS MUSEUM, 5th and 6th floor premium seating levels, TD Garden, Causeway Street, 617-624-1234. *Daily 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Admission on the hour only, 'til 3 p.m. Hours altered during TD Garden events, call ahead. Admission: $10; seniors & children (10–17) $5; children (under 10) free.* The Sports Museum showcases New England's rich sports heritage through an unparalleled collection of artifacts, multimedia and artwork. Exhibits include the Boston Bruins Hall of Fame portraits, the Boston Garden Penalty Box and New England's Olympic Heroes.

USS CONSTITUTION MUSEUM, Charlestown Navy Yard, Charlestown, 617-426-1812. *Daily 10 a.m.–5 p.m;* ***beginning Apr 1****: 9 a.m.–6 p.m. Free admission.* The museum preserves the treasures of "Old Ironsides," the U.S. Navy's flagship and the world's oldest commissioned warship. Includes weapons, documents, journals and more. Interactive exhibits allow visitors to load and fire a cannon, try out a sailor's sleeping quarters and virtually command the *Constitution* in battle. Special exhibits: Old Ironsides in War and Peace; The Barbary War; Model Shop; All Hands on Deck: A Sailor's Life in 1812; Paintings by George Ropes; Models in the Spotlight.

BEYOND BOSTON

BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME, 1000 West Columbus Ave., Springfield, 413-781-6500. *Sun–Fri 10 a.m.–4 p.m., Sat 'til 5 p.m. Tickets: $16.99; seniors $13.99; children (5–15) $11.99; (4 & under) free.* In 1891, James Naismith developed the game of basketball and its original 13 rules in Springfield, Mass. Now Springfield is home to the Hall of Fame, an edifice that pays homage to the greatest to play and coach the game, like Bill Russell, Magic Johnson, Michael Jordan and Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski. The Hall of Fame also includes interactive basketball fun for visitors and numerous exhibits.

CONCORD MUSEUM, 200 Lexington Road, Concord, 978-369-9763. *Mon–Sat 11 a.m.–4 p.m., Sun 1–4 p.m.;* ***beginning Apr 1****: Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun noon–5 p.m. Admission: $10; seniors & students $8; children (6–17) $5; family rates available. Ample free parking on Cambridge Turnpike.* Relive Concord's history, from Native American habitation and European settlement to the days of Emerson, Thoreau, the Alcotts and Hawthorne. Special exhibit: ***through Mar 21***—A Dedication to Craft: North Bennett Street School@125. Special event: ***Mar 28*** *from 1–5 p.m.*—Concord Historical Collaborative Winter 2010 Film Series: A Transcendental Sunday, *free.*

DECORDOVA SCULPTURE PARK AND MUSEUM, 51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln, 781-259-8355. *Tue–Sun 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $12; seniors, students & children (6–12) $8. Sculpture Park: open sunrise to sunset, admission charged during museum operating hours only.* Tour one of the largest contemporary art museums and the only permanent public sculpture park in New England. Special exhibits: Out of the Box: Photography Portfolios from the Permanent Collection; Platform 2: Eric Hongisto; The 2010 DeCordova Biennial.

GRIFFIN MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHY, 67 Shore Road, Winchester, 781-729-1158. *Tue–Thu 11 a.m.–5 p.m., Fri 'til 4 p.m., Sat & Sun noon–4 p.m. Admission: $5; seniors $2. Free to all on Thu.* Named for the Massachusetts-born photographer for publications like *Life* and *Time*, the Griffin Museum boasts three galleries dedicated to the promotion and appreciation of photographic art. Special exhibits: ***through Mar 28***—Dark Sharks/Light Rays by Karen Glaser; Cabinet of Curiosities and Pictorial Zoology: Laszlo Layton; Animal by Elliot Ross.

NATIONAL HERITAGE MUSEUM, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington, 781-861-6559. *Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Sun noon–4:30 p.m. Free admission.* Devoted to presenting exhibitions on American history and popular culture as a way of preserving our national heritage. Special exhibits: Sowing the Seeds of Liberty: Lexington and the American Revolution; Freemasonry Unmasked!: Anti-Masonic Collections in the Van Gorden-Williams Library and Archives; The Art of the Movie Theater: Photographs by Stefanie Klavens; The Initiated Eye; Treasured Lands: The 58 U.S. National Parks in Focus; ***beginning Apr 3***—Jim Henson's Fantastic World.

PEABODY ESSEX MUSEUM, East India Square, Salem, 866-745-1876. *Tue–Sun 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $15; seniors $13; students $11; children (16 and under) free.* The nation's oldest continually operating museum boasts a new wing with a 190-seat auditorium and a glass-covered atrium. The collection showcases African, Asian, Pacific Island and American folk and decorative art, a maritime collection dating back to the museum's earliest days and the first collection of Native American art in the hemisphere. Special exhibits: Auspicious Wishes and Natural Beauty in Korean Art; Of Gods and Mortals: Traditional Art from India; Fish, Silk, Tea, Bamboo: Cultivating an Image of China; All of My Life: Contemporary Works by Native American Artists; ***beginning Mar 27***—Fiery Pool: The Maya and the Mythic Sea; ***through Apr 4***—Valerie Belin: Made Up.

SALEM WITCH MUSEUM, 19½ Washington Square North, Salem, 978-744-1692. *Daily 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $8; seniors $7; children (6–14) $5.50.* Life-size stage settings and historically accurate narration recreate the hysteria of the Salem Witch Trials and executions of 1692. Translations available in Japanese, French, German, Italian and Spanish. Special exhibit: Witches: Evolving Perceptions.

GALLERIES

ARDEN GALLERY, 129 Newbury St., 617-247-0610. *Mon–Sat 11 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Sun noon–5 p.m.* Arden specializes in contemporary oil paintings and sculpture by nationally and in-

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ternationally renowned artists, whose styles range from super-realism to abstraction. Special exhibits: ***through Mar 30***—Sherrie Wolf: Counterpoint; ***beginning Apr 1***—Works by Fred Wessel and Scherer & Ouporov.

BARBARA KRAKOW GALLERY, 10 Newbury St., 617-262-4490. *Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.* The Barbara Krakow Gallery attracts top contemporary artists from around the world, showcasing work that focuses on minimalism and conceptualism. Special exhibits: ***through Mar 13***—In On Under Above and With; New Works by Liliana Porter.

BOSTON SCULPTORS GALLERY, 486 Harrison Ave., 617-482-7781. *Wed–Sun noon–6 p.m.* A sculptors' cooperative that has served as an alternative venue for innovative solo sculpture exhibitions since 1992. Special exhibits: ***through Mar 14***—Liz Shepherd: They Still Cast Shadows; George Sherwood: Up for Air; ***beginning Mar 17***—Works by Sarah Hutt and Larry Pollans.

BRICKBOTTOM GALLERY, 1 Fitchburg St., Somerville, 617-776-3410. *Thu–Sat noon–5 p.m.* This not-for-profit gallery presents thoughtful and professionally curated art exhibitions and fosters a stable, permanent artist community of residents and non-resident members. Special exhibit: Mythology Prize Winners: Yoon Soo Lee, Timon Meyer and Danielle Shaheen.

BROMFIELD ART GALLERY, 450 Harrison Ave., 617-451-3605. *Wed–Sat noon–5 p.m.* Boston's oldest artist-run gallery features shows by members of the cooperative, while exhibitions by visiting artists are selected by current members. Special exhibits: ***through Mar 27***—Charles Goss: Everything I Don't Know; Dianne Lam: What Was In My Mind, What Is In My Mind.

CHASE GALLERY, 450 Harrison Ave., 617-859-7222. *Tue–Sat 11 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun 'til 4 p.m.* Since 1990, Chase Gallery has been one of the city's top galleries for the exhibition of contemporary artists, both representational and abstract. Special exhibits: ***through Mar 28***—Works by Joseph Piccillo; ***beginning Apr 1***—Works by Kathryn Frund.

COPLEY SOCIETY OF ART, 158 Newbury St., 617-536-5049. *Tue–Sat 11 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun noon–5 p.m.* The oldest non-profit art association in the United States represents more than 500 living artists and hosts between 15–20 exhibitions each year by contemporary painters, photographers, sculptors and printmakers. Special exhibits: Co/So Artists A to Z: Nocturne; 21st Annual Student Show; Winter Members' Show: Reflections.

GALLERIA FLORENTIA, 79 Newbury St., 617-585-9200. www.GalleriaFlorentia.com. *Tue–Sat 11 a.m.–6 p.m., or by appointment.* The premier source for European furnishings in the Boston area, Galleria Florentia showcases a wondrous collection of handcrafted pieces created exclusively for the gallery by the most fabled artisan families in Europe. Using centuries-old techniques and traditions, these masters craft hand-carved furnishings, Murano glass, exquisite bronze and stone sculptures, paintings, chess sets, leather accessories and Capodimonte porcelain.

HOWARD YEZERSKI GALLERY, 460 Harrison Ave., 617-262-0550. *Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.* This South End gallery features a wide array of work from contemporary artists, ranging in media from photography to painting. Special exhibits: ***through Mar 16***—Boston: Combat Zone 1969–1978; ***beginning Mar 19***—Paul Shakespear: Black/White.

INTERNATIONAL POSTER GALLERY, 205 Newbury St., 617-375-0076. www.internationalposter.com. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* This acclaimed fine art poster gallery displays original vintage posters from the 1890s through post-World War II modern masters. Special exhibit: ***through Mar 31***—Winter Delights.

JUDI ROTENBERG GALLERY, 130 Newbury St., 617-437-1518. *Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m.* The Judi Rotenberg Gallery is one of the longest-standing independent galleries in Boston and is committed to both established and emerging talent in all media. Special exhibits: ***through Mar 13***—August Ventimiglia: Event Study; Daniel Alcala: Paper Trail v.7.

LANOUE FINE ART, 160 Newbury St., 617-262-4400. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Sun noon–5 p.m.* Featuring contemporary representational and abstract art, Lanoue is committed to exploring diverse media and concepts. Special exhibit: ***through Mar 31***—Carrie McGee: Recent Works.

MILLS GALLERY, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., 617-426-8835. *Wed & Sun noon–5 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 9 p.m.* The BCA presents exciting contemporary works by established and emerging local, regional, national and international visual artists, mounting approximately six large-scale exhibitions in the 2,200 square foot Mills Gallery each year.

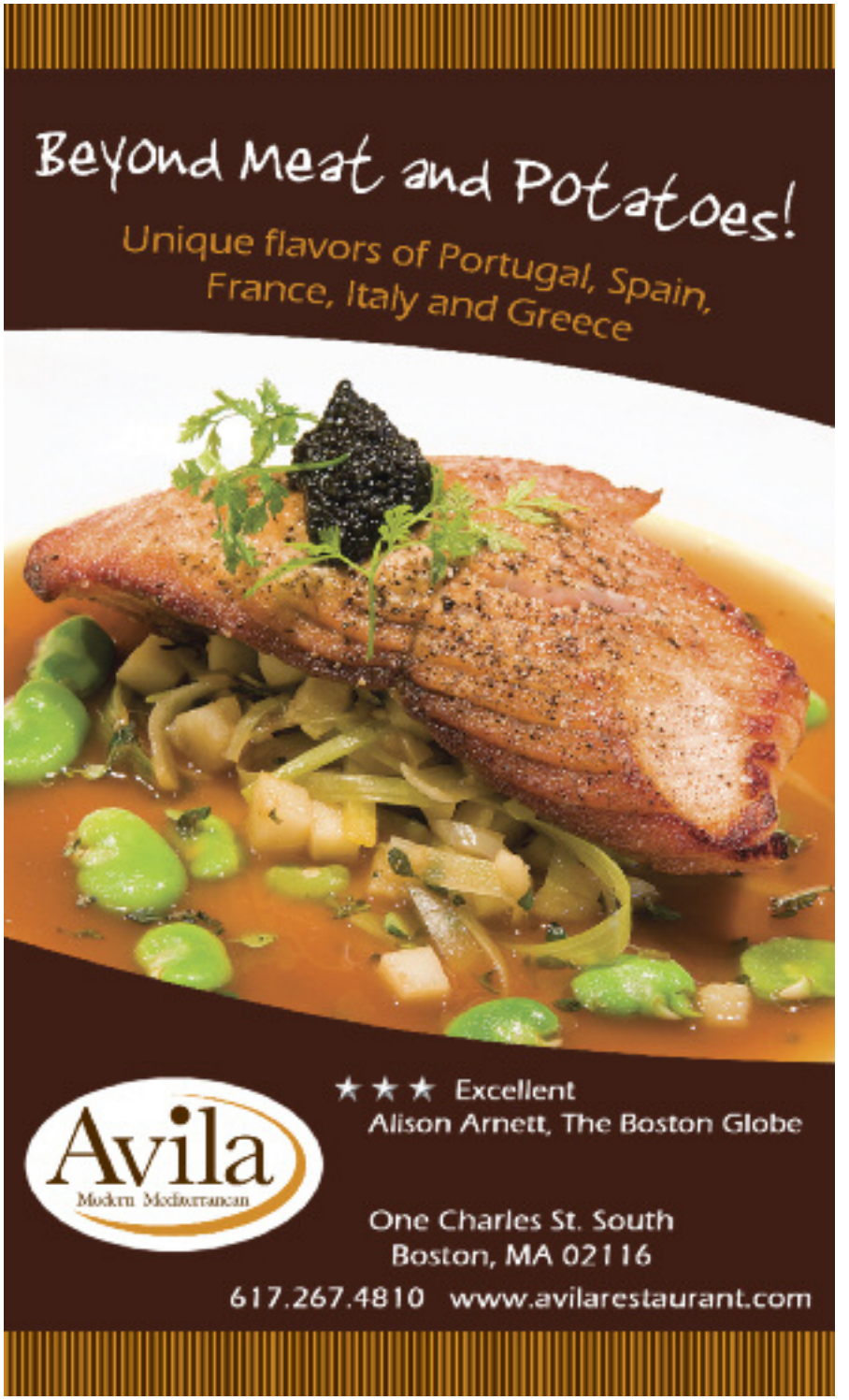
PHOTOGRAPHIC RESOURCE CENTER, Boston University, 832 Commonwealth Ave., 617-975-0600. *Tue, Wed & Fri 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Thu 'til 8 p.m., Sat & Sun noon–5 p.m. Admission: $3; students & seniors $2; children (under 18) free.* PRC exhibitions and educational programs are guided by a philosophical inquiry into the intersection of photography with aesthetic, professional and critical discourses. Special exhibit: 2010 PRC Student Exhibition.

PUCKER GALLERY, 171 Newbury St., 617-267-9473. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Sun 10:30 a.m.–5 p.m.* Features work by Israeli, American and internationally known contemporary artists. Special exhibits: ***through Mar 8***—The Construction of Nostalgia: Works by Robert Eshoo; Keeping Tradition: The Ceramic Art of Onda; ***beginning Mar 13***—Beyond Tenmoku: New Work by Hideaki Miyamura; River Series: New Paintings by Jim Schantz.

SOCIETY OF ARTS AND CRAFTS, 175 Newbury St., 617-266-1810. *Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m.* The oldest non-profit crafts organization in the country specializes in contemporary American crafts. The jewelry, furniture, glass and ceramics range from cutting-edge to traditional, from functional to sculptural. Special exhibits: ***through Mar 13***—Palimpsests & Ephemera by Michael Rogers; ***beginning Mar 26***—Pocket Guide to New Zealand Jewelry.

VICTORIA MUNROE FINE ART, 161 Newbury St., 617-523-0661. *Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.* This Back Bay gallery focuses on European works on paper and contemporary American paintings, drawings and sculpture. Special exhibit: ***beginning Mar 11***—Works by Katherine Porter.

VOSE GALLERIES, 238 Newbury St., 617-536-6176. *Mon–Fri 9:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Sat 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.* Established in 1841, Vose Galleries—the oldest family-owned art gallery in the United States—specializes in American artists from the 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries. Its new contemporary wing, expanding the collection to living artists, opened in 2001.



FILENE'S BASEMENT: Get all your favorite brand-name clothing and accessories at discount prices at this bastion of bargains in the Back Bay. Refer to listing, right.

ART & ANTIQUES

GALLERIA FLORENTIA, 79 Newbury St., 617-585-9200. www.GalleriaFlorentia.com. *Tue–Sat 11 a.m.–6 p.m., or by appointment.* The premier source for European furnishings in the Boston area, Galleria Florentia showcases a wondrous collection of handcrafted pieces created exclusively for the gallery by the most fabled artisan families in Europe. Using centuries-old techniques and traditions, these masters craft hand-carved furnishings, Murano glass, exquisite bronze and stone sculptures, paintings, chess sets, leather accessories and Capodimonte porcelain.

INTERNATIONAL POSTER GALLERY, 205 Newbury St., 617-375-0076. www.internationalposter.com. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* This acclaimed fine art poster gallery displays original vintage posters from the 1890s through post-World War II modern masters.

ARTS & CRAFTS

THE SOCIETY OF ARTS AND CRAFTS, 175 Newbury St., 617-266-1810. *Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m.* The oldest nonprofit craft organization in the country, established in 1897. The Society specializes in contemporary American crafts, jewelry, furniture, glass and ceramics ranging from cutting edge to traditional, and from functional to sculptural.

CLOTHING

CHANEL BOUTIQUE, 5 Newbury St., on the ground floor of the Taj Hotel, 617-859-0055. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m.* Modeled after the famed Chanel Boutique in Paris, the Boston outpost of this storied franchise offers a range of Chanel products, including a line of clothing designed by Karl Lagerfeld, as well as shoes, accessories, handbags and fragrances.

LOUIS BOSTON, Fan Pier, Northern Avenue, 617-262-6100. *Mon–Wed 11 a.m.–6 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 7 p.m.* Having recently taken up residence in Boston's up-and-coming Seaport District, this Boston institution maintains its cutting-edge allure by offering upscale men's fashions by up-and-coming designers, as well as women's fashions, bed and bath items and home accessories.

SOODEE, 170 Newbury St., 617-266-7888. *Mon–Wed 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 8 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* This boutique offers fun pieces of clothing that transport the buyer to a different age and place, with items that are modern, trendy and high fashion alongside others that are timeless and classic. Whether you need a party dress at the last minute, a designer bag at an affordable price or fashionable accessories to impress your friends, you will find it all at Soodee. Show *Panorama* ad (*page 59*) and get 15% off.

DEPARTMENT STORES

FILENE'S BASEMENT, 497 Boylston St., 617-424-5520. *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* This classic Boston off-price store—touting the slogan "Where Bargains Were Born!"—offers designer and brand name fashions for men, women and the home.

H & M, 350 Washington St., 617-482-7081; 100 Newbury St., 617-859-3192. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* This youthful, cutting-edge department store's mission of "fashion and quality at the best price" translates to inexpensive, trendy clothes for men and women, as H & M boasts the freshest, most up-to-date fashion trends in color, material and style.

LORD & TAYLOR, 760 Boylston St., 617-262-6000. *Mon–Fri 10 a.m.–9:30 p.m., Sat 'til 8:30 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* One of the oldest department stores in the nation, the Lord & Taylor brand is all about class. Find pieces from high-end designers such as Chanel, trendier items for a younger crowd or try on some of the store's own brand name clothing, such as designs by Charles Nolan.

MACY'S, 450 Washington St., 617-357-3195. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–8 p.m.* Discover the season's hottest trends, newest styles and best prices. Choose from your favorite designers: Coach, Polo, DKNY, Hugo Boss, the Martha Stewart Collection and more.

MARSHALLS, 500 Boylston St., 617-262-6066. *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.;* 350 Washington St., Downtown Crossing, 617-338-6205. *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–7:30 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* Its mantra "Brand name clothing for less" has made this discount retailer a bargain hunter's dream come true. From Ralph Lauren to Calvin Klein, Marshalls features designer clothing for men, women and children.

T.J. MAXX, 350 Washington St., 617-695-2424. *Mon–Sat 9:30 a.m.–7:30 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* This discount retailer offers brand name and designer fashions for men, women and kids, as well as accessories, fine jewelry and items for the home, at prices 20–60% off most department store rates.

GIFTS & SOUVENIRS

TEDDY BALLGAME'S, 1 South Station, 617-330-1230. Located at the South Station concierge desk, Teddy Ballgame's offers tours of Boston that leave right from South Station, a wide variety of Red Sox souvenirs, T-shirts and books about the history of Boston.

JEWELRY/ACCESSORIES

FILTHY RICH CELEBRITY JEWELRY, 402 Hanover St., 857-366-4620. www.filthyrichofboston.com. *Tue–Thu 11 a.m.–6 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 7 p.m., Sun noon–5 p.m.* You don't have to be "filthy rich" to look like a million! Licensed replicas of jewelry worn by Jacqueline Kennedy, Audrey Hepburn and other Hollywood legends of the past—as well as today's hottest celebrities and designers—are all here. Their jewelry will have you dazzling like a star on the red carpet for a fraction of the price.

HIGH GEAR JEWELRY, 204 Hanover St., 617-523-5804. *Mon–Fri 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sat 'til 9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* Merilee Wolfson's platinum-drenched contemporary fashion jewelry shop dazzles with an impressive selection of costume jewelry and semi-precious pieces. Whether you're looking for eco-friendly "green" jewelry from South America or looks fresh from the pages of the world's top fashion magazines, this is the go-to spot in Boston.

JOHN LEWIS, INC., 97 Newbury St., 617-266-6665. *Tue–Sat 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* John Lewis has been creating jewelry of imaginative design in Boston for more than 30 years. Using only solid precious metals and natural stones, Lewis aims "to make jewelry at a reasonable price of excellent workmanship and uncommon beauty."

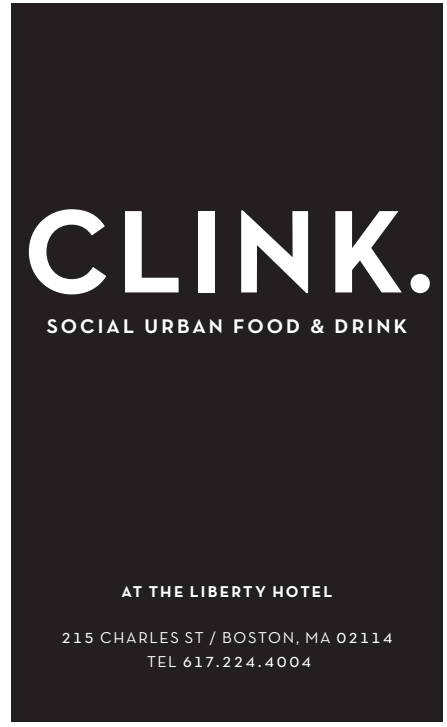
ROSS-SIMONS JEWELERS, The Shops at Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., 617-262-0935; The Natick Collection, Natick, 508-655-2956; Atrium Mall, Chestnut Hill, 617-965-5300. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.;* Chestnut Hill: *Sun noon–6 p.m.* Ross-Simons Jewelers is New England's famous destination for fabulous jewelry and fine Swiss watches—all at legendary great prices. If you're thinking about diamonds, Ross-Simons is a must-visit attraction. They have one simple promise: the absolute best prices on certified diamonds anywhere in the country.

SHREVE, CRUMP & LOW, 440 Boylston St., 617-267-9100. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Thu 'til 7 p.m., Sun noon–5 p.m.* Serving Bostonians since 1796, this Boston institution boasts of being the oldest continuously operating luxury business in the U.S. Its Back Bay location is filled with glittering diamonds, fine jewelry, watches, silver, china, porcelain, stationery, antiques and more.

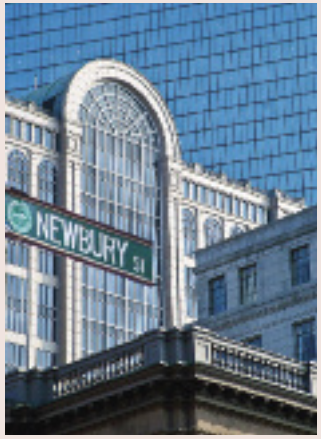
MALLS/SHOPPING CENTERS

COPLEY PLACE, Copley Square, 617-369-5000. The magnificent Copley Place features more than 100 upscale stores, including Neiman Marcus, Tiffany & Co., Gucci and Williams-Sonoma. A variety of restaurants, including Legal Sea Foods, offer shoppers numerous dining options. To receive a free Ultimate Shopping Excursions card, stop by one of the customer service kiosks.

(continued on page 60)



Newbury Street



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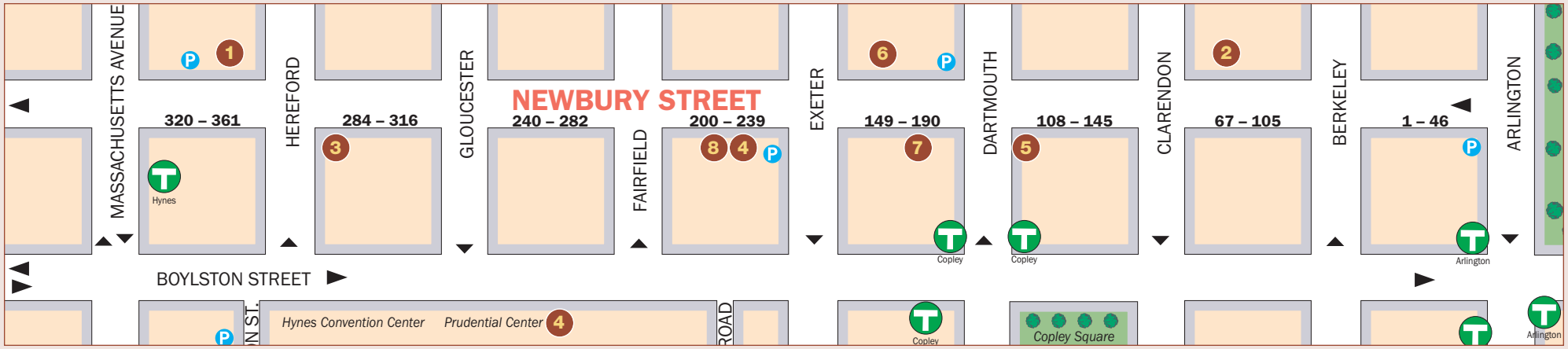

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www.snappysushi.com

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Ananda Khalsa • *Bluebirds*

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(continued from page 57)

THE CORNER MALL, corner of Winter and Washington streets. One-stop shopping in Downtown Crossing. You'll find the latest styles at shops like Discovery Imports, Bath & Body Works, Champs, Wet Seal and Aldo Shoes. In addition, the Corner Mall features an international food court to please every palate, including Sakkio Japan and India Entrees.

THE HERITAGE ON THE GARDEN, 300 Boylston St., 617-426-9500. *Call for individual store hours.* This residential/office/retail complex located alongside the Public Garden features a handful of upscale retailers, including St. John Boutique, Sonia Rykiel, Escada, Hermes, Exhale Spa and Anne Fontaine.

THE SHOPS AT PRUDENTIAL CENTER, 800 Boylston St., 800-SHOP-PRU. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* The Shops at Prudential Center features over 75 stores and restaurants including The Cheesecake Factory, Saks Fifth Avenue, Ann Taylor and J. Jill. It is also the launch spot for the city's renowned tourist resource, the Boston Duck Tours.

MUSIC/VIDEO

NEWBURY COMICS, 332 Newbury St., 617-236-4930. *Mon–Thu 10 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* Also: 36 JFK St. (Garage Mall), Cambridge, 617-491-0337; North Market Building, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-248-9992. You'll have a "wicked good time" at this upstart local chain, which boasts the cheapest CD prices in town, including import, indie and major label releases, as well as T-shirts, comics and other pop culture kitsch items.

SHOES

HELEN'S LEATHER, 110 Charles St., 617-742-2077. *Mon–Wed, Fri & Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Thu noon–8 p.m., Sun 'til 6 p.m.* For more than 35 years, Helen's Leather has supplied New Englanders with quality Western boots by makers like Lucchese, Tony Lama, Justin, Nocona and Frye. In addition, Helen's sells Western belts, buckles, shirts and Stetson hats, as well as leather jackets and bags.

SPORTING GOODS

BILL RODGERS RUNNING CENTER, 353 North Market Bldg., Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-723-5612. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* Owned by the four-time Boston Marathon winner, the Bill Rodgers Running Center boasts the most experienced running staff in Boston. Since 1977, they have been helping fellow runners find the best shoes for their individual needs.

WIRELESS PHONES

WARLOX WIRELESS, 800 Boylston St. (Prudential Center), 617-927-7500. *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun 'til 6 p.m.* www.iUnlock.com. This mobile phone headquarters specializes in unlocked GSM phones and carries a wide variety of Bluetooth headsets and hundreds of other wireless accessories.

A Hidden Hotspot

PROHIBITED
8 Westland Ave.
617-267-1200

Shhhhhh—it's a secret, but Boston's got a brand-new nightclub that pretty much redefines "under the radar." Prohibited, the Hub's new speakeasy, is a great place to hang out with friends—if you know where to find it. Hidden within the basement of new eatery Symphony 8, Prohibited requires a password for entry (to keep the riffraff out), which can be obtained by a quick visit to the bar's Facebook page. Once you're in, you'll enjoy swanky 1920s-themed libations as long as you adhere to the bar's code of etiquette, including such rules as "don't bring anyone that you wouldn't take to mom's house for dinner" and, believe it or not, no talking on your phone. That's it, you've heard the word—but remember, you didn't hear it from us.

—Emma Snider

You're With the Band

LIVE BAND KARAOKE
The Lansdowne Pub
9 Lansdowne St.
617-247-1222
Thursday nights at 9 p.m.

Ever wish that, for just one night, you could be the next David Lee Roth or Chris Martin—fronting your very own band in front of a (hopefully) adoring crowd? The Lansdowne Pub provides the opportunity to be a rock god (or goddess) every *Thursday at 9 p.m.*, with Live Band Karaoke night. Brave vocalists get to sing their hearts out to rock and pop favorites, backed by house band The Jukebox Heroes. With hundreds of songs to choose from—everything from "Billie Jean" to "My Generation" to (ahem) "Ice Ice Baby"—there's sure to be something right in your vocal wheelhouse, so head over to The Lansdowne, and live out your rock 'n' roll dream. *Refer to listing, page 71.* *—Josh B. Wardrop*

SINGING A NEW SONG

CLUB CAFÉ
209 Columbus Ave.
617-536-0966

For more than a quarter-century, Club Café in the South End has been one of the city's most popular nightspots, drawing a diverse clientele from the famously gay-friendly neighborhood and beyond. For 2010, the club has unveiled a new look and a revamped social calendar focused on giving patrons a chance to enjoy their 15 minutes of fame. In addition to its popular dance club, Club Café has unveiled its new Napoleon Room, devoted to live entertainment like Open Mic Thursday, Tuesday night piano singalongs and Wednesday night karaoke. Combine this with live theatrical, comedy and cabaret performances by professional acts, the red-hot DJs in the club's video bar and a full restaurant menu, and Club Café has truly reinvented itself as one-stop shopping for anyone interested in having a good time. *Refer to listing, page 63.* *—Meredith Wilson*

TOP LEFT PHOTO BY JONATHAN DAISY

PHOTO BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

DICK'S LAST RESORT: This popular bar and restaurant in Quincy Market at Faneuil Hall Marketplace offers buckets of great grub, enormous beers and potent cocktails. **Refer to listings, right and page 72.**

PUBS AND BARS

THE BELL IN HAND TAVERN, 45 Union St., 617-227-2098. *Daily 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m.* Opened in 1795, the Bell in Hand is the oldest tavern in the U.S. This casual pub, offering pints, food and live music, attracts locals, students and visitors alike. *Tue*—Karaoke night.

BLEACHER BAR, 82A Lansdowne St., 617-262-2424. *No cover. Sun–Wed from 11 a.m.–1 a.m., Thu–Sat 'til 2 a.m.* Inside Fenway Park, underneath the bleachers, take in center field views of America's most beloved ballpark. With the feel of a neighborhood pub and featuring a deli-style menu and cold beer, Bleacher Bar is open all year round.

BRISTOL LOUNGE, Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., 617-351-2037. Jazz entertainers create sounds as lush as the setting on a Boston-made, antique Steinert piano. Live music nightly.

THE BURREN, 247 Elm St., Somerville, 617-776-6896. *Daily 11:30 a.m.–1 a.m.* This popular Irish pub, located in Somerville's Davis Square, features traditional Irish music every night of the week. Rock bands play in the back room, and hearty fare like burgers, steak and shepherd's pie is served along with a large selection of draught beer and wine. *Mon at 8 p.m.*—Set dancing lessons; *Tue*—Open mic.

CASK 'N FLAGON, 62 Brookline Ave., 617-536-4840. *Mon–Sat 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m., Sun 'til 1 a.m.* A hangout for Red Sox fans since the days of Yastrzemski and Fisk, this classic bar boasts tons of TVs for watching the Sox—if you get shut out of Fenway Park across the street—and is loaded with photos depicting the histories of Fenway and the Sox. The Cask also boasts Oliver's, a back room nightclub with a dance floor and second bar. *Wed at 8 p.m.*—Trivia.

CHEERS, 84 Beacon St., 617-227-9605. *Daily 11 a.m.–1 a.m.* Also: Faneuil Hall Marketplace. The model for the beloved sitcom, this Back Bay pub is one of the top visitor attractions in Boston. Live weekend entertainment.

CLERY'S, 113 Dartmouth St., 617-262-9874. *Daily 11 a.m.–1:30 a.m.* Considered one of the city's best neighborhood bars, Clery's is a cozy bistro and party-friendly bar wrapped all in one. Irish food and 16 draught beers are served at the bar or by the fireplace, and live DJs and karaoke keep the good times going all weekend long.

DICK'S LAST RESORT, Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-267-8080. *Daily 11 a.m.–2 a.m.* Watch for the outrageous antics of Dick's sassy staff as they serve up buckets of sloppy ribs, succulent crab and shrimp, juicy steaks and chicken, two-fisted sandwiches, burgers and salads. If that isn't entertaining enough, there's live music every night with no cover.

DILLON'S, 955 Boylston St., 617-421-1818. *Mon–Fri 11 a.m.–2 a.m., Sat & Sun 10 a.m.–2 a.m.* Located in the heart of the Back Bay, Dillon's draws an older, stylish crowd of young professionals and locals. The front bar and sunken dining area feature flat-screen TVs, leather seating and upscale fare.

THE GOOD LIFE, 28 Kingston St., 617-451-2622. *Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m., Sat 6 p.m.–2 a.m.* This sleek downtown lounge serves comfort fare like mac and cheese and grilled salmon, while hosting contemporary live bands and DJs. Highlights include the extensive vodka selection and local artwork on display.

THE GREATEST BAR, 262 Friend St., 617-367-0544. *Mon–Thu 4 p.m.–2 a.m., Fri–Sun noon–2 a.m. Cover charge varies.* Located across from TD Garden, the home of the Boston Celtics and Bruins, there's no better place to sit back, enjoy a beer or martini, and remember why Boston rocks.

GYPSY BAR, 116 Boylston St., 617-482-7799. *Tue–Sat 5:30 p.m.–2 a.m.* Internationals, or locals with a little international flair, will feel at home in this chic destination in the Theater District. Enjoy tapas-size plates of Moroccan-spiced chicken legs or fennel-crusted ahi tuna, homemade sangria and designer martinis, and DJs spinning international or Top 40 dance tunes. With its high-style decor, dimly lit corners and occasional celebrity appearances, the Gypsy Bar is the place to see and be seen—or just to enjoy a late-night rendezvous.

THE HARP, 85 Causeway St., 617-742-1010. *Mon–Sat 11 a.m.–2 a.m, Sun noon–2 a.m.* Located just across the street from the Garden, this favorite for area workers and college students is all things in one: quiet lunch spot, popular pre-game hang-out and late-night dancing haven. On weekend nights you can usually check out a local cover band performing on the first floor stage, and DJs take over the basement dance floor, allowing you to dance the night away.

THE KINSALE IRISH PUB & RESTAURANT, Two Center Plaza, Cambridge Street, 617-742-5577. The city's only Irish pub and restaurant built in Ireland and shipped to Boston. There is never a cover charge. *Tue at 7:30 p.m., Sat at 9 p.m.*—Live Irish music; *Fri at 9 p.m.*—Rock and pop music; *Wed at 9 p.m.*—Trivia.

KITTY O'SHEA'S, 131 State St., 617-725-0100. *Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m., Sat & Sun 9 a.m.–2 a.m.* Pine floors imported from Belfast and stained glass windows depicting historical Irish scenes add to the immense character of this bar, the only U.S. outpost of this European chain of Irish bars. On weeknights it's a relaxed place to catch a game on TV or enjoy live Irish tunes. On weekends, though, it's packed with mostly college students who gather to hear some of the hottest DJs around spin their favorite tracks.

THE LIVING ROOM, 101 Atlantic Ave., 617-723-5101. *Mon–Sat 11:30 a.m.–1 a.m., Sun 10 a.m.–1 a.m.* Really, the name says it all. The Living Room is comfortable and casual, and the plush, pillowy couches are just begging you to sink in. Although it's a high-end lounge, there's no pretention here and the feel is homey. Creative cocktails and an extensive menu of comfort food favorites are best enjoyed in The Living Room.

THE PURPLE SHAMROCK, 1 Union St., 617-227-2060. *Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m., Sat 9 a.m.–2 a.m., Sun 'til 10 p.m.* Located on the Freedom Trail, The Purple Shamrock offers an escape from the nearby activity of Quincy Market. Menu items include burgers, sandwiches, hearty pastas, fresh seafood, tender steaks and more. After dark, The Purple Shamrock has nightly entertainment, including a mix of live music. *Mon*—Trivia night; *Tue*—Live music; *Wed*—Karaoke and DJ.

THE SUNSET GRILL & TAP, 130 Brighton Ave. (corner of Harvard and Brighton avenues), Allston, 617-254-1331. This popular Allston hangout features Boston's best beer selection, with more than 112 beers on tap and over 400 microbrews. Its food entices too, with award-winning steam beer burgers, famous curly fries, buffalo wings and giant nachos.

TOP OF THE HUB, 800 Boylston St., 617-536-1775. Listen to the sounds of live jazz seven nights a week while experiencing the breathtaking view atop Boston's Prudential Center. Featuring a midnight menu *Sun–Wed 'til 1 a.m., Thu–Sat 'til 2 a.m.*

WHISKEY PARK, Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., 617-542-1482. *Daily 4 p.m.–2 a.m.* A sleek, sophisticated lounge in Boston's swank Park Plaza Hotel, Whiskey Park attracts a diverse crowd of internationals and the occasional celebrity. Finger foods are served alongside an extensive drink menu, and dark wood and dim lighting set the mood.

NIGHTCLUBS

THE BEEHIVE, 541 Tremont St., 617-423-0069. *Nightly 5:30 p.m.–2 a.m.; Sat & Sun Brunch 10:30 a.m.–3 p.m., bar 3–5 p.m.* This new South End establishment offers a full and diverse dinner menu, sophisticated cocktail selection and nightly live jazz performances, making The Beehive the mature hipster's choice for a fun and funky night out.

FELT, 533 Washington St., 617-350-5555. *Tue–Sat 5 p.m.–2 a.m.* This New York-style lounge next to Boston's Opera House features four floors of entertainment for fashionable tastes. Enjoy dinner service or appetizers, try your hand at one of Felt's 14 pool tables and dance in the nightclub on the top level. Or simply order a drink and take in the scene because at Felt, the crowd may be the most interesting of the club's offerings. *Thu*—Pandora Thursdays; *Fri*—Fantasy Fridays; *Sat*—Social Club Saturdays in the 4th Level Club.

GAME ON, 82 Lansdowne St., 617-351-7001. *Mon–Fri 7 a.m.–2 a.m., Sat & Sun 8 a.m.–2 a.m.* The ultimate for any sports club enthusiast: a bar/restaurant/nightclub built inside Fenway Park. One of the brightest jewels in the ongoing renovation of the Fenway area, this nightspot offers a cool, sleek spot in which to sample a full menu and watch the Sox and other sporting events on a number of big-screen TVs.

JILLIAN'S BOSTON, 145 Ipswich St. (behind Fenway Park), 617-437-0300. *Mon–Sat 11 a.m.–2 a.m., Sun noon–2 a.m. Sun–Thu 18+, Fri & Sat 21+ after 8 p.m.* One of Boston's largest entertainment complexes, this fun and diverse club features 50 pool tables and six full bars. Lucky Strike Lanes bowling is located on the third floor, and there's late-night dancing at Tequila Rain ("spring break 52 weeks a year") on the first floor. Proper dress required.

KINGS, 10 Scotia St., 617-266-BOWL. *Mon 5 p.m.–2 a.m., Tue–Sun 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m.* Kings features state-of-the-art bowling lanes, pool tables and video technology for sports viewing. With three bars and a full-service restaurant serving top-notch American cuisine, Kings is truly a playground for grown-ups.

LIMELIGHT STAGE & STUDIOS, 204 Tremont St., 617-423-0785. *Thu 8 p.m.–1 a.m., Fri & Sat 7 p.m–1 a.m. Studios can be rented Mon–Sat by reservation.* What would we do without technology? Limelight Stage & Studios uses it to allow everyone, from the musical savant to the tone deaf, to perform and record tunes. It's a karaoke mecca for singers and music lovers everywhere.

VERTIGO, 126 State St., 617-723-7277. *Tue–Sun 10 p.m.–2 a.m.* Sandwiched between Quincy Market and the Financial District, this trendy dance club draws a hip, jet-set crowd, and even the occasional pro athlete. The first floor lounge offers a relaxed atmosphere before you head to the downstairs dance floor, where DJs spin trance, house, R&B, reggae and Caribbean music.

GAY AND LESBIAN

CLUB CAFE, 209 Columbus Ave., 617-536-0966. *Mon–Thu 11 a.m.–1:30 a.m., Fri & Sat 2 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover.* In the back of this restaurant, you'll find the Moonshine and Satellite lounges, voted "Best of Boston" by *Boston* magazine and *The Improper Bostonian* for best gay and lesbian nightspot. *Wed at 9 p.m.*—Karaoke; *Thu*—Revolution Thursdays with VJ Rompy; *Fri*—Edge Fridays with DJ Aga; *Sat*—Mayhem Saturdays, featuring Top 40 and dance hits.

MACHINE, 1254 Boylston St., 617-536-1950. *Fri & Sat noon–2 a.m. Cover varies. Cash only.* With two dance floors, four bars, six pool tables, pinball machines, video games and theme nights, this club offers Boston's gay and lesbian partygoers a plethora of nightlife options. *Thu at 10 p.m.*—Karaoke with Adam Morris; *Fri*—College Night; *Sat*—Rotating dance nights; *Sun*—Club Classics with DJ Ace Boogie.

A Hot Sip

SEASONAL SIPS: THURSDAY TASTINGS
Meritage
Boston Harbor Hotel
70 Rowes Wharf
617-439-3995

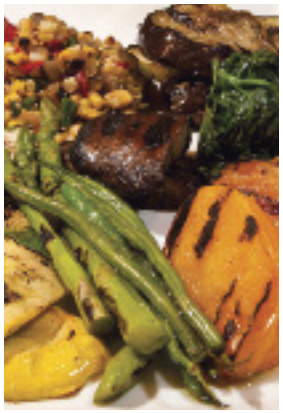
Even if you long ago outgrew the days of "Thirsty Thursdays" at your local student pub, there's no reason you have to stay in and watch "Grey's Anatomy" for the millionth time. Wine enthusiasts—from the serious vintage expert to the more casual connoisseur—can find much to delight them at Meritage's Seasonal Sips: Thursday Tastings, each week *from 5:30–7:30 p.m.* Sommelier Jonas Atwood and chef Daniel Bruce pair selections from the acclaimed eatery's 12,000-bottle wine collection with tasting spoons and small bites of delectable cuisine. For just $25 a person, gourmets can enjoy evenings devoted to the Alsace region (**March 18**) or wine pairings with crustaceans (**March 25**) in a classy and tasty warm-up for the weekend. *—Sofia Constantin*

SOUL FOOD

GOSPEL BRUNCH
House of Blues
Sundays at 11:30 a.m.

Since 1992, House of Blues locations nationwide have been satisfying souls and appetites with the popular Gospel Brunches. The newest HOB—right here in Boston—has embraced the tradition as well. Every Sunday, lovers of great food and stirring gospel music can enjoy a delicious southern-style buffet of dishes like fried chicken, waffles, biscuits and gravy, jambalaya and more while testifying to the uplifting sounds of some of the best gospel music around. *Refer to listing, page 71, and for a special HOB dining promotion exclusive to* Panorama, *see ad on page 76.* *—Kristen Berke*

(Gluten) Free-for-All



Eating out in Boston is an embarrassment of riches for most of us, but for those who suffer from celiac disease the options aren't nearly as limitless. Thankfully, some area restaurants have taken notice and crafted special gluten-free menus that don't contain wheat, rye, barley or oats. The **Legal Sea Foods** chain offers variations on many of its popular appetizers, entrees, sides and desserts. **Myers + Chang** in the South End makes Asian cuisine available to all with dishes like Thai ginger chicken salad, oyster wokked omelettes and nasi goring (Indonesian fried rice). And lovers of Italian can eat without fear at **Davio's**, where the baby spinach and warm eggplant caponata and the grilled seasonal vegetables in fresh herbs and balsamic vinaigrette (pictured) are served for lunch and dinner. Thanks to these restaurants, and a growing number of others, no appetite has to be left unsatisfied in the Hub. *Refer to listings, pages 65, 74 & 75.* *—Meredith Wilson*

FUGAKYU: Enjoy some of the best Japanese cuisine around—including the freshest sushi—at this popular eatery in nearby Brookline. **Refer to listing, page 68.**

ALLSTON/BRIGHTON

BIG CITY PIZZA KITCHEN & POOL HALL, 138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020. In this renovated, two-floor bank building, you'll find one-of-a-kind "retro-metro" décor featuring life size murals, as well as 15 champion-size pool tables, 6 foosball tables, 80 beer taps and outrageous thin crust pizzas that always keep customers coming back. L, D, LS, Sat & SB. $

***DEVLIN'S,** 332 Washington St., Brighton, 617-779-8822. This upscale pub serves flavorful cuisine that unites tradition and innovation, including delicious pasta, fish, steak and pizza. Accentuate your meal with a fine wine, or follow it up with one of Devlin's popular dessert selections, such as crème brulee, chocolate mousse and tiramisu. Entertainment nightly. L, D, BR, LS. $$

***PORTER BELLY'S,** 338 Washington St., Brighton, 617-254-3300. This Irish pub is a top spot for a casual lunch or to wind down with a pint of beer and hear some live music after a long day. Large-screen plasma TVs abound, so you can catch every big game as you enjoy dinner and drinks with friends. No cover. L, D, SB. $

THE SUNSET GRILL & TAP, 130 Brighton Ave. (corner of Harvard and Brighton avenues), Allston, 617-254-1331. This popular Allston hangout features Boston's best beer selection, with more than 112 beers on tap and over 400 microbrews. Its food entices too, with award-winning steam beer burgers, famous curly fries, buffalo wings and giant nachos. L, D, C, LS, SB. $

BACK BAY

CAPITAL GRILLE, 359 Newbury St., 617-262-8900. Everything you expect in a steakhouse can be found right here at this upscale Newbury Street favorite, from the extraordinary dry-aged porterhouse to the homemade cheesecake. A perfect spot for power lunches or special occasions. D, C, LS. $$$$

CLIO, The Eliot Hotel, 370-A Commonwealth Ave., 617-536-7200. James Beard Award-winning chef Ken Oringer serves up French-American fare with some striking Asian influences in a sleek, sophisticated atmosphere that's styled after a Parisian supper club. Bacon-wrapped foie gras, caramelized swordfish au poivre and ginger-glazed oxtail keep customers coming back for more. D. $$$$

COTTONWOOD CAFE, 222 Berkeley St., 617-247-2225. Specialties include open-grill steaks, poultry, pasta and vegetarian dishes. Voted "Boston's Best Southwestern Restaurant" and "Boston's Best Margarita." Reservations recommended. Two hours free validated parking. L Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.; D Sun–Thu 'til 10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m.; Sat & SB 11 a.m.–2:30 p.m. C, LS, VP. www.cottonwoodboston.com. $$

DAVIO'S NORTHERN ITALIAN STEAKHOUSE, 75 Arlington St., 617-357-4810. Enjoy fine steaks, pasta and seafood, or lighter fare in the spacious bar. L Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m.; D Sun–Tue 5–10 p.m., Wed–Sat 'til 11 p.m. C, VP. www.davios.com. $$$.

GRILL 23 & BAR, 161 Berkeley St., 617-542-2255. This top-notch, classy eatery offers prime dry-aged beef, imaginative fish and seafood, and an impressive wine list, as well as a clubby yet congenial atmosphere. Lauded for its impressive bar and as a spot for people watching. Inducted into *Boston* magazine's Hall of Fame for Best Steakhouse. Reservations strongly suggested. D. $$$$

JASPER WHITE'S SUMMER SHACK, 50 Dalton St., 617-867-9955; 149 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge, 617-520-9500. Top-notch fare such as pan-roasted lobster, award-winning fried chicken and an impressive raw bar in a casual setting. Boston: Sun–Wed 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 11 p.m., raw bar Thu–Sat 'til 1 a.m. Cambridge: Mon–Thu 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m., Sun 3–9 p.m. $$$.

L'ESPALIER, Mandarin Oriental Boston, 774 Boylston St., 617-262-3023. Situated in the new, luxurious Mandarin Oriental Hotel, this sophisticated French classic helmed by top chef Frank McClelland is a favorite of both power brokers and couples out for a romantic evening. Widely acknowledged by critics and diners alike as one of the finest French restaurants in the nation, and the crème de la crème of acclaimed Boston eateries. D. $$$$

KEY

B	Breakfast
L	Lunch
D	Dinner
BR	Brunch
SB	Sunday Brunch
C	Cocktails
LS	Late Supper (serving after 10 p.m.)
VP	Valet Parking
NC	Credit Cards Not Accepted
*	Entertainment

AVERAGE PRICE OF DINNER ENTREES

$	Most less than $12
$$	$12–18
$$$	$19–25
$$$$	Most more than $25

Many restaurants offer a wide range of entrees and prices; therefore, the classifications are only approximations.
Refer to Cuisine index, page 78.

TOP RIGHT PHOTO BY CHARLES SCHOONOVER

MORTON'S THE STEAKHOUSE, One Exeter Plaza (699 Boylston St. at Exeter Street), 617-266-5858; World Trade Center East, Two Seaport Lane, 617-526-0410. These renowned steakhouses are famous for their prime-aged beef, including filet mignon and New York strip steak. They also serve a variety of other non-beef entrees, including jumbo lump crab cakes and double rib lamb chops. Mon–Fri 5:30–11 p.m., Sat & Sun 5–10 p.m. $$$$

***THE OAK ROOM,** Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Ave., 617-267-5300. This sophisticated spot offers a traditional steakhouse menu of prime steaks and chops and fresh seafood. Replete with stately wood paneling, rich draperies and wall ornaments for a comfortable yet elegant feel. The adjoining Oak Bar offers martinis, raw bar and full Oak Room menu. B, L, D daily. $$$$

POST 390, 406 Stuart St. (corner of Clarendon Street), 617-399-0015. This bi-level restaurant located at new luxury residence The Clarendon offers refined, upscale comfort food—including Kobe beef hot dogs, meatloaf and homemade ravioli—and three fireplaces for a swank, urban tavern atmosphere with fantastic views of the Back Bay. L, D, C, LS. $$$

SKIPJACK'S SEAFOOD EMPORIUM, 199 Clarendon St., Copley Square, 617-536-3500; other locations outside Boston. Enjoy a comfortable atmosphere and specialties such as blackened tuna sashimi, moonfish, Maryland crabcakes and lobster. Winner of Best of Boston 2003 award for seafood. Jazz Brunch Sun 11 a.m.–3 p.m., L & D Sun–Thu 11 a.m.–10:30 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til midnight. $$

SNAPPY SUSHI, 144 Newbury St., 617-262-4530; 420 Highland Ave., Davis Sq., Somerville, 617-625-0400. If your day of shopping has left you craving sushi, this tiny, subterranean sushi bar specializes in freshly prepared maki rolls and fun specials. Affordably priced, Snappy offers Newbury Street shoppers a fast, cheap dining alternative. L & D. $

SONSIE, 327 Newbury St., 617-351-2500. Recommended by *Boston* magazine as the place to "see and be seen." The lively restaurant features a streetside cafe, 50-foot mahogany bar, brick oven, creative takes on classic American cuisine and a colorful dining room. The restaurant also boasts a downstairs candlelit wine bar, an intimate and lovely brick-walled spot in which to enjoy items from a 250-bottle menu. L, D, C, LS, VP. $$$

STEVE'S GREEK CUISINE, 316 Newbury St., 617-267-1817. For more than 20 years, this family-run restaurant has offered Greek hospitality and masterfully prepared Greek cuisine. Serving specialties like spanikopita, pastichio, shish kebabs and gyros, Steve's is a favorite. B, L, D. $

***THE TAJ BOSTON,** 15 Arlington St., 617-536-5700. This 1927 landmark offers award-winning contemporary French cuisine. The historic Dining Room is available for special events only. The Cafe: B, L, D, Sat & SB. The Lounge: L, D, C, LS. The Bar: L, D, C, LS. $$$$

***TOP OF THE HUB,** 800 Boylston St., Prudential Center, 617-536-1775. There is nothing like sitting 52 stories above Boston for dining and a spectacular view of the city. The magnificent cuisine complements the breathtaking views. Live jazz seven nights a week. L, D, LS, C. $$$$

TURNER FISHERIES, Westin Hotel Copley Place, Stuart and Dartmouth streets, 617-424-7425. Winner of several regional awards, Turner Fisheries is known for its fresh seafood, as well as the decor designed by Peter Niemitz, which features seven-foot-high French windows, banquettes, mahogany paneling and cobalt blue tile. Private dining rooms accommodate 10–140 guests. VP available on Dartmouth Street. B, L, D, C, LS. $$$

THE UPPER CRUST, 222 Newbury St., 617-262-0096; 20 Charles St., 617-723-9600; 683 Tremont St., 617-927-0090; 49B Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-497-4111; 286 Harvard St., Brookline, 617-734-4900; 435 Moody St., Waltham, 781-736-0044; 94 Main St., Watertown, 617-923-6060. Traditional Neapolitan-style pizza (thin crust, chunky sauce) in an urban setting. Come sit with friends in the uniquely designed dining room, enjoy a specialty pizza and watch your favorite team on an HDTV screen. If you're on the go, call ahead for take-out (allow 20–25 minutes) or just pop in for a slice. Delivery is available. $$

VLORA MEDITERRANEAN RESTAURANT & WINE BAR, 545 Boylston St., 617-638-9699. Located in Copley Square, Vlora embraces the Mediterranean adage of "eat better, live well." Featuring authentic southern Italian, Greek and Albanian cuisine, the fresh ingredients are enhanced only with olive oil and fresh herbs, making Vlora's signature dishes unmatched in the city. Open daily 10 a.m.–1 a.m. B, L, D, C, LS, Sat & SB, VP. www.vloraboston.com. $$$

BEACON HILL

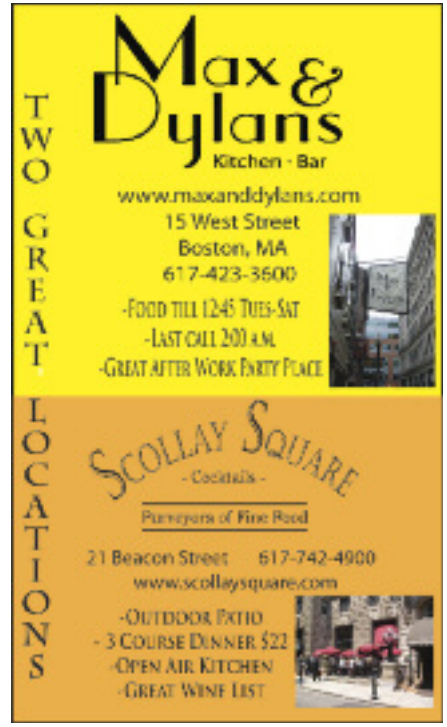
ANTONIO'S, 288 Cambridge St., 617-367-3310. One of Boston's finest Italian restaurants (across from Mass. General Hospital on historic Beacon Hill). Traditional Italian food with nightly specials and complementing wine list. Specials include homemade fusilli, shrimp margarita and chicken/sausage vinegar peppers and potatoes. L, D Mon–Thu 11 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 10:30 p.m. $

***CHEERS,** 84 Beacon St., 617-227-9605; Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-227-0150. Both the original Beacon Hill pub and its spinoff offer a tasty selection of traditional fare and an abundant beverage selection, including their award-winning Bloody Mary and a variety of draft beers. Live entertainment Thu–Sat nights, and officially licensed Cheers merchandise sold on site. L, D, C, LS. $

CLINK, The Liberty Hotel, 215 Charles St., 617-224-4004. Serving a menu that artfully marries European culinary tradition with contemporary American innovation, Clink features a dining room with vestiges of original jail cells and an open kitchen, while gold leather seats, butcher block tables and granite accents add to the contemporary style. Clink's lobby bar draws urban dwellers and hotel guests to an energetic and social nightlife scene in the heart of Boston. B 6:30–11 a.m.; L 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m.; D 5–11 p.m. C. $$$

NO. 9 PARK, 9 Park St., 617-742-9991. Nationally acclaimed chef Barbara Lynch serves up French and Italian style dishes in a sophisticated bistro atmosphere atop Beacon Hill. Chef Lynch has a subtle hand in the kitchen, turning out inventive renditions of classic Italian and French fare such as fresh pasta and foie gras. L, D, LS. $$$$

SCOLLAY SQUARE, 21 Beacon St., 617-742-4900. Scollay Square is a warm, inviting environment serving American comfort food at a reasonable price with a sophisticated cocktail list. This neighborhood bistro-style restaurant is a great



meeting place for friends and small groups to eat, drink and socialize, and features a nightly three-course $22 menu and a "Make Your Own Bloody Mary Bar" for SB. Open daily 11:30 a.m.–11 p.m. L, D, SB, C. www.scollaysquare.com. $$$

BROOKLINE/CHESTNUT HILL

FUGAKYU, 1280 Beacon St., Brookline, 617-734-1268. One of the largest Japanese restaurants in the area, this popular eatery features a floating boat sushi bar and tantalizing specialties like the caterpillar maki (eel and avocado) and the house special (salmon, tuna, clam and octopus), as well as tempting tempura and seafood dishes. L, D, LS. $$$

CHARLESTOWN

OLIVES, 10 City Square, Charlestown, 617-242-1999. Celebrity chef Todd English got his start with this local eatery, and the Charlestown flagship restaurant is still the unparalleled king of his endeavors. Sample English's multi-layered, ingredient rich, pan-Mediterranean creations. D. $$$$

***THE WARREN TAVERN,** 2 Pleasant St., Charlestown, 617-241-8142. More than 225 years old, the Warren is the oldest tavern in Massachusetts, and was frequented by some of history's biggest names, including George Washington and Paul Revere. Today, diners go to the Warren to sit beside a warm, roaring fire and enjoy fresh-made soups, Angus burgers, shepherd's pie and other comforting dishes. Live music Wed & Thu. L, D, BR. $$

DOWNTOWN

AVENUE ONE, Hyatt Regency (near The Opera House and Downtown Crossing), 1 Ave. de Lafayette, 617-422-5579. Enjoy traditional New England fare with a contemporary twist in a relaxing atmosphere. B, L, D, C. $$

***BOND,** Langham Hotel Boston, 250 Franklin St., 617-451-1900. This swanky restaurant and lounge boasts a diverse cocktail and wine menu to accompany a wide range of exotic international cuisine, all served in a sophisticated, modern setting. L, D, C. $$$

***CAFÉ FLEURI,** Langham Hotel Boston, 250 Franklin St., 617-451-1900. Enjoy what *Boston* magazine calls "the best Sunday brunch in Boston," or sample a la carte Mediterranean and American fare, and French desserts—all within a sunlit garden atrium. B Mon–Fri 6:30–11:30 a.m., Sat 7:30–11 a.m.; L daily 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m.; D Mon–Sat 6–10 p.m., Sun 4–10 p.m.; SB 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m. $$

CALITERRA, Hilton Boston/Financial District, 89 Broad St., 617-348-1234. Located in the heart of the Financial District, this casual, upscale restaurant features Cal-Ital cuisine with seasonal New England flavors. B, L, D. $$

CHART HOUSE, 60 Long Wharf, 617-227-1576. The Chart House boasts an impressive menu of fresh seafood, including specialties like the crab, avocado and mango stack appetizer, shrimp fresca, macadamia crusted mahi-mahi, slow roasted prime rib and its signature dessert—hot chocolate lava cake. Private parties for 30 or more by reservation only. L, D, C, free VP. $$$

***ELEPHANT & CASTLE,** 161 Devonshire St., 617-350-9977. This British pub and restaurant is famous for its fish and chips, great beer selection and the warmth of its hospitality. Also enjoy trivia Tue at 6:30 p.m., live music Fri at 6:30 p.m., Sat karaoke, murder mystery dinner theater and comedy. Banquet space available. B Mon–Sat 6:30–11 a.m., Sun 7 a.m.–noon; L & D daily 'til 11 p.m.; C 'til 1 a.m. $$

FAJITAS & 'RITAS, 25 West St., 617-426-1222. Established in 1989, Fajitas & 'Ritas features fresh, healthy Tex-Mex and barbecue cuisine. The restaurant stresses generous portions, affordable prices, open casual space and prompt, friendly service. Mon & Tue 11:30 a.m.–9 p.m., Wed & Thu 'til 10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m., Sun noon–8 p.m. C, LS. www.fajitasandritas.com. $.

IVY RESTAURANT, 49 Temple Place, 617-451-1416. Ivy Restaurant is a warm neighborhood restaurant featuring Italian-inspired small plates priced $6–18 and a unique flat-priced wine list with more than 30 bottles, all priced at $26. L Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m.; D Sun–Wed 5–10:30 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 11:30 p.m. C, LS, VP. www.ivyrestaurantgroup.com. $$

***THE KINSALE IRISH PUB & RESTAURANT,** 2 Center Plaza (Cambridge Street), 617-742-5577. Hand-crafted in Ireland and shipped to Boston, this classic pub features a cozy interior with beautiful Celtic motifs and a menu of steaks, seafood, burgers, pasta and traditional Irish fare with 20+ beers on tap, including many craft brews. Also enjoy the 100-seat seasonal patio, live music and trivia on Wed. Sat & SB $7.99–11.99. Validated parking after 6 p.m. L, D, C. $$

LOCKE-OBER, 3 Winter Place, 617-542-1340. Helmed by local culinary innovator Lydia Shire, this downtown landmark has been refurbished and restored to its former glory. The menu of this Boston Brahmin bastion has been updated, but Shire has kept many of its classics, including the legendary lobster Savannah. L, D, LS. $$$$

MAX & DYLANS, 15 West St., 617-423-3600; 1 Chelsea St., Charlestown, 617-242-7400. This hip, casual restaurant features appetizers, flatbreads, sandwiches and refined comfort food entrees along with vibrant cocktails. Priced for value, this is a great meeting place for groups or friends. Open daily 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m. L, D, LS, SB. www.maxanddylans.com. $$

MERITAGE, Boston Harbor Hotel at Rowes Wharf, 617-439-3995. Fresh, seasonal cuisine is carefully matched to an appropriate vintage from the 12,000-bottle wine collection. The restaurant's interior combines slate, marble, exotic wood and leather, creating a luxurious atmosphere to accompany a hearty meal. All menu items come in appetizer and entree sizes. D, LS. $$$$

MIEL, InterContinental Hotel, 510 Atlantic Ave., 617-217-5151. This "Brasserie Provencal" brings the feel and flavor of the French countryside to Boston's waterfront. No butter is used in preparing the cuisine, with heart-healthy olive oils and aromatic herbs instead flavoring classic Provencal dishes like bouillabaisse, salad Nicoise and ratatouille. Diners can enjoy the extensive wine list and an exquisite "small plate" SB in a dining room overlooking Boston Harbor. $$$

OCEANA, Marriott Long Wharf Hotel, 296 State St., 617-227-3838. Executive chef Joseph Chaves serves seasonal dishes, including fresh seafood delivered directly to the hotel's dock, in a dining room offering panoramic views of Boston Harbor. www.marriottlongwharf.com. B, L (Mon–Fri), D, SB. $$

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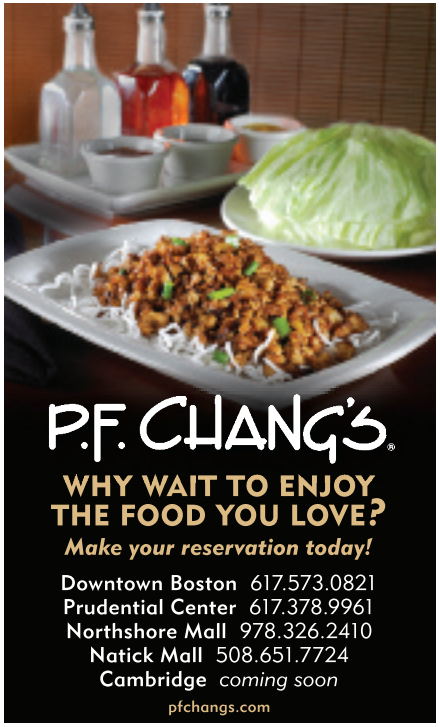

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O YA, 9 East St., 617-654-9900. Diners and critics alike are enthused about this contemporary and edgy sushi eatery that was crowned Boston's best restaurant of 2009 by *Boston* magazine. A simple, natural decor perfectly complements the exquisitely created dishes. The intimate seating capacity of 37 diners makes reservations a must. D, C, VP. $$$

PARKER'S RESTAURANT, Omni Parker House, 60 School St., 617-725-1600. Executive chef Gerry Tice celebrates nostalgic cuisine with a contemporary flair. The stately dining room reflects the rich culinary heritage that lives on at the birthplace of Boston cream pie and the Parker House roll. B, L, D. $$$$

RADIUS, 8 High St., 617-426-1234. James Beard Award-winning chef/owner Michael Schlow and staff offer impeccably prepared nouveau French fare in an ultra-modern, minimalist setting. The ambiance is powerbroker chic, and the service is top-notch. L, D, C, LS. $$$$

ROWES WHARF SEA GRILLE, Boston Harbor Hotel at Rowes Wharf, 617-856-7744. Chef Daniel Bruce helms the kitchen at this restaurant that celebrates its spectacular harborfront setting by showcasing the best offerings of the sea. Simple, fresh cuisine, contemporary, nautical-influenced design and a vibrant harbor setting combine for the ultimate waterfront dining experience. B, L, D. $$$

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, 45 School St., 617-742-8401. Housed in Boston's Old City Hall, Ruth's Chris Steak House offers the finest USDA prime steaks served sizzling hot, as well as fresh seafood and an award-winning wine list, all in a gracious environment with warm hospitality. L, D, C. $$$$

YE OLDE UNION OYSTER HOUSE, 41 Union St., 617-227-2750. Steps from Quincy Market stands America's oldest restaurant, serving Yankee-style seafood, beef and chicken. Famed for its oyster bar where Daniel Webster dined daily. Specialties include clam chowder, swordfish and fresh lobster. L, D Sun–Thu 11 a.m.–9:30 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 10 p.m. VP. www.unionoysterhouse.com. $$$

EAST BOSTON/AIRPORT

HARBORSIDE GRILL, Hyatt Harborside, 101 Harborside Drive, 617-568-6060. The Harborside Grill offers panoramic views of the Boston skyline from every seat in the dining room. During the day, the Grill is a welcoming casual location for a bowl of chowder, and in the evening is transformed into a sophisticated seafood restaurant. Open daily 6 a.m.–10 p.m. B, L, D, SB, C, VP. $$$

FANEUIL HALL MARKETPLACE

***DICK'S LAST RESORT,** Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Quincy Market, 617-267-8080. Watch for the outrageous antics of Dick's sassy staff as they serve up buckets of sloppy ribs, succulent crab and shrimp, juicy steaks and chicken, two-fisted sandwiches, burgers and salads. If that isn't entertaining enough, there's live music every night with no cover. L, D, C. www.dickslastresort.com. $$.

***HARD ROCK CAFE,** 22–24 Clinton St., 617-424-ROCK (7625). Hard Rock Cafe offers classic American cuisine served up with a healthy dose of rock 'n' roll at its new, larger digs. After you eat, check out the largest collection of authentic rock 'n' roll memorabilia around, stop by the Rock Shop for the coolest gifts and enjoy live music from the hottest bands around. L, D, C, LS. $

NORTH 26, Millennium Bostonian Hotel, 26 North St., 617-557-3640. North 26 offers a fresh take on New England cuisine, combining a commitment to fresh, local meats and seafood with a dedication to simple, hearty regional dishes. Drop by for one of three square meals offered daily or visit the bar for after-dinner cocktails. B, L, D, C. $$$

FENWAY/KENMORE SQUARE

EASTERN STANDARD, Hotel Commonwealth, 528 Commonwealth Ave., 617-532-9100. This brasserie in the heart of Kenmore Square resembles an old hotel dining room with its decor, but the restaurant attracts a diverse crowd, from businessmen to Red Sox fans seeking a pre-game bite. Its menu caters to both crowds, with offerings ranging from pork tenderloin to frog's legs and foie gras to sandwiches. B, L, D. $$

***HOUSE OF BLUES,** 15 Lansdowne St., 617-960-8358. The popular national chain known for live music and good times also offers delicious cuisine with a Southern influence. Enjoy a full menu of appetizers, sandwiches, pizzas and entrees like the baby back ribs with mashed sweet potatoes, cajun meatloaf and mushroom gravy and the spicy creole seafood jambalaya in a distinctly rock 'n' roll setting, as well as its famous Gospel SB. L, D, C. $$

***THE LANSDOWNE,** 9 Lansdowne St., 617-247-1222. As part of the Fenway nightspot renovation, the Lansdowne finally brings a splash of Irish flavor to the neighborhood with a spacious bar, swanky wood interior and a comprehensive beer list featuring hard-to-find European imports. The lunch and dinner menu, meanwhile, serves up traditional Irish pub food favorites—from shepherd's pie to a full Irish breakfast all day long. L, D, C, LS. $$

NORTH END

ANTICO FORNO, 93 Salem St., 617-723-6733. Antico Forno (Italian for "old stove") features brick-oven classics such as roasted chicken with garlic and herbs; pizza with artichoke hearts, porcini mushrooms and buffalo mozzarella; and linguini with clams, mussels, calamari and shrimp, sautéed in a plum tomato sauce and baked in parchment. L Mon–Sat 11:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.; D Mon–Thu 3:30–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 10:30 p.m., Sun 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m. $$

***CANTINA ITALIANA,** 346 Hanover St., 617-723-4577. Cantina Italiana has been serving generations of locals and visitors in the North End since 1931. Diners crave the taste of Cantina's food, and some say their mouths water just thinking about eating here. That's why when even the slightest change is made, they let it be known—some things should stay as they are. Reservations recommended. L Mon–Sat 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m.; D Mon–Sat 3–11 p.m., Sun noon–10:30 p.m. VP. www.cantinaitaliana.com. $$$

G'VANNI'S RISTORANTE, 2 Prince St., 617-523-0107. A boutique-style restaurant with eclectic decor located on the Freedom Trail where diners can enjoy fresh pasta dishes or great seafood. Be sure to sample the Veal & Vintage menu, famous for its "Veally Good Deal" of two dinners and a bottle of wine for $29.99. L & D. www.gvannis.com. $$

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LUCCA RESTAURANT & BAR, 226 Hanover St., 617-742-9200; 116 Huntington Ave., 617-247-2400. This North End eatery (with a second location in the Back Bay) is still racking up accolades for its regional Italian cuisine, lively bar and elegant atmosphere. D nightly 5 p.m.–12:15 a.m. C, Valet Parking. $$$.

MASSIMINO'S CUCINA ITALIANA, 207 Endicott St., 617-523-5959. Owner/chef Massimino was formerly head chef of Naples' Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel. His eatery's specialties include veal chop stuffed with arugula, prosciutto, smoked mozzarella and black olives, amongst numerous other delights. L, D, LS, C. Mon–Thu 11 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri–Sun 'til 11 p.m. $

REGINA PIZZA, 11½ Thacher St., 617-227-0765; also: Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall Marketplace; The Shops at Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St.; South Station, Atlantic Ave. and Summer Street. Since 1926, Regina Pizza has been greeting customers in the North End. As in the beginning, Regina's pizza is made with only fresh, all-natural ingredients, special seasoning, the finest toppings and is always baked in a brick oven as a matter of tradition and family pride. L & D Mon–Thu 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m., Sun noon–10 p.m. www.reginapizza.com. $

***RISTORANTE FIORE,** 250 Hanover St., 617-371-1176. Voted by Zagat as one of the top 1,000 Italian restaurants in the country, Ristorante Fiore embodies both the North End's past and present with authentic Italian dishes as well as contemporary variations on the classics. Fiore offers private dining for up to 70 guests, as well as three distinct dining rooms and the North End's only rooftop dining. Reservations recommended. Live piano music nightly 6:30–9:30 p.m. L Mon–Sat 11:30 a.m.–4 p.m.; D Mon–Sat 4–11 p.m., Sun noon–11 p.m. C. VP 5–11 p.m. www.ristorantefiore.com. $$

SENSING, Fairmont Battery Wharf, 3 Battery Wharf, 617-994-9001. Although just recently opened, Sensing—the first U.S. restaurant by acclaimed French Chef Guy Martin—is garnering abundant amounts of praise. Try the signature "Tasting Plate"—appetizer-sized portions of the unique and delicious dinner options. L, D, Sat and SB. $$$$

TERRAMIA RISTORANTE, 98 Salem St., 617-523-3112. Since opening in 1993, Terramia has aimed to convince North End diners that there was always more to Italian food than red sauce. Specializing in creative interpretations of Italian classics, Terramia offers seasonally based dishes and an extensive wine list in a cozy, rustic atmosphere. D Sun–Thu 5–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 10:30 p.m. $$

TRESCA, 233 Hanover St., 617-742-8240. Tresca brings the romantic feel of a Tuscan villa to the North End. Diners can enjoy mouthwatering entrees like boneless breast of duck, veal rib chop and numerous delectable pastas and the cozy bar boasts an extensive list of hard-to-find Italian wines to accentuate any meal. Mon–Fri 5 p.m.–midnight, Sat 1 p.m.–midnight, Sun 2 p.m.–midnight. VP. $$$$

SOMERVILLE

BOSTON BURGER COMPANY, 37 Davis Square, Somerville, 617-440-7361. Those who worship at the altar of the juicy, beefy burger will find much to love in this particular place of worship. These burger fanatics offer dozens of variations on the classic burger, serving them up with every condiment and topping you can imagine (and a few you'd never believe), along with a dozen types of French fries, pressed panini sandwiches, onion rings, boneless wings and more. Mon–Wed 11 a.m.–10 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 11 p.m., Sun noon–8 p.m. L, D. $

***ORLEANS,** 65 Holland St., Somerville, 617-591-2100. Diners flock to this stylish restaurant/bar located in the heart of Davis Square. Orleans offers a constantly changing menu that offers only the freshest seasonal ingredients, and doubles as a happening spot for after-work drinks and weekend merriment. Entertainment Wed–Sun. L Mon–Fri 11 a.m.–3 p.m.; D daily 4:30–10 p.m.; Sat & SB 10:30 a.m.–3 p.m. Bar menu available Sun–Wed 2:30–10 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til midnight. $$

TRINA'S STARLITE LOUNGE, 3 Beacon St., Somerville, 617-576-0006. Fried chicken with buttermilk waffles, mac & cheese and baked haddock can be found amongst the delicious comfort foods at this traditional '50s style lounge. To wash down your meal, a friendly staff of skilled bartenders serve a wide variety of beer and cocktails. Open daily 5 p.m.–1 a.m. D, C; BR Mon noon–4 p.m. $

SOUTH BOSTON

ATLANTIC BEER GARDEN, 146 Seaport Blvd., 617-357-8000. This newly established restaurant and bar offers an impressive beer selection with its menu or pub favorites. Choose between the classic American burger and fries, or order something a little more cosmopolitan, such as the gnocchi in vodka sauce. This comfortable and casual eatery offers outside seating by the water, late night service and broadcasts of sports games on 29 high-definition screens. L, D, C. $$$

AURA, Seaport Hotel, One Seaport Lane, 617-385-4300. The newly expanded and renovated waterfront restaurant features chef Rachel Klein's global, Asian-influenced menu, as well as steakhouse offerings such as the Painted Hills Farm all-natural sirloin and the Brandt all-natural filet. B, L, D, SB. $$$

BARLOW'S, 241 A St., 617-338-2072. Carved from the remains of an old mill, this stylish new Southie spot whips up classic American comfort food, including butternut squash soup, crab cakes, bacon-wrapped meatloaf, burgers and pizzas. Open Mon–Fri 8–1 a.m., Sat & Sun 10 a.m.–1 a.m. L, D, SB. $$

LTK BAR AND KITCHEN, 225 Northern Ave., 617-330-7430. LTK (Legal Test Kitchen) is just that—a test kitchen that ventures into uncharted waters and pushes the boundaries of innovation in both its bar and restaurant menus. With inspired seasonal cocktails, an award-winning wine list and multicultural, non-coursed dining options, LTK offers a cutting-edge yet comfortable environment. L, D, LS, C. $$$

SAUCIETY, Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel, 425 Summer St., 617-532-4670. As its name implies, this modern American grill is all about the sauce. Sauciety's dinner menu is weighted toward grilled, seared and pan-roasted meat dishes, served with a diverse choice of sauces—from parmesan foam to whiskey-spiked ketchup to amber ale caramelized onion and beyond. B, L, D, C. $$$$

606 CONGRESS, Renaissance Hotel, 606 Congress St., 617-476-5606. Vaulted ceilings, an exhibition kitchen and patio seating make this restaurant on the Boston waterfront a visually appealing locale in which to enjoy the delicious new American cuisine of Chef Gregory Griffie. B, L, D, C, VP. $$

SOUTH END

B&G OYSTERS, 550 Tremont St., 617-423-0550. This sophisticated South End raw bar from James Beard Award-winning chef Barbara Lynch (No. 9 Park) and partner Garrett Harker features bivalves from Wellfleet to the West Coast, as well as signature dishes like the lobster BLT and the Maine lobster roll. L, D, LS, VP. $$

COPPA, 253 Shawmut Ave., 617-391-0902. Experience a taste of Italy at the latest venture from acclaimed chefs/restaurateurs Ken Oringer and Jamie Bissonnette. This small, charming enoteca features Italian small plates, wood-oven pizzas and handmade pastas, perfectly accentuated by Coppa's selection of fine wines and its creative cocktails. Open daily 5:30 p.m.–12:45 a.m. D, C. $$

GINGER PARK, 1375 Washington St., 617-451-0077. Executive chef Patricia Yeo offers a bold menu celebrating a variety of Asian flavors in this strikingly stylish and modern restaurant in the heart of the South End. D Sun–Wed 5–11:30 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til midnight; SB 11 a.m.–4 p.m. $$

HAMERSLEY'S BISTRO, 533 Tremont St., 617-423-2700. This pioneering French-American classic, helmed by the husband and wife team of Gordon and Fiona Hamersley, first put the South End dining scene on the map. Try the duck confit or the roast chicken with garlic, lemon and parsley. Long regarded as one of the city's top tables. D. $$$$

MASA, 439 Tremont St., 617-338-8884. Bringing the Southwest to the South End, chef Philip Aviles serves up specialties such as roasted salmon with chipotle and horseradish crust and chili rubbed cowboy cut steaks. Masa also serves Sunday brunch, a variety of margaritas and other cocktails, and a $1 tapas menu. D, BR, C. $$$

MEDIEVAL MANOR THEATER RESTAURANT, 246 East Berkeley St., 617-423 4900. Eat with your hands, raise glasses on high and laugh 'til it hurts at Boston's legendary Medieval Manor Theater Restaurant. Enjoy the company of new and old friends with the King, Minstrel, Jester, Oaf and Wenches. Thu & Fri at 7:45 p.m., Sat at 4:30 and 8:30 p.m., Sun at 4:30 p.m. By reservation only. $$

MYERS + CHANG, 1145 Washington St., 617-542-5200. Myers + Chang upends the American conception of Asian food. Inspired by traditional Taiwanese cuisine and Asian street food, chefs Joanne Chang (of Flour Bakery fame) and Matthew Barros offer their personal, often playful, and always novel takes on the classic dishes and flavors of Southeast Asia. A funky, laid-back atmosphere makes the food as fun to eat as it evidently was to create. L, D, C. $$

TORO, 1704 Washington St., 617-536-4400. Chef Ken Oringer's Spanish restaurant aims for a highly social dining experience. The seating is a series of communal tables and the small, perfect-for-sharing tapas dishes—such as salt cod fritters, rainbow beet salad and salty fried peppers—blend a variety of vibrant styles and flavors. D, C. $$$

UNION BAR AND GRILLE, 1357 Washington St., 617-423-0555. This sleek, upscale American bistro in the SoWa District features everything from gourmet comfort food like the Reuben sandwich and a beef-and-sausage burger to the award-winning 10K tuna in a roasted tomato vinaigrette. D, C, LS, SB. $$$

THEATRE DISTRICT

AVILA MODERN MEDITERRANEAN, One Charles Street South, 617-267-4810. Enjoy the flavors of Spain, Portugal, France, Italy and Greece with a modern flair at this sister restaurant to Davio's Northern Italian Steakhouse. The menu includes small plates of crispy squid, baked moussaka and chicken livers, appetizers of tuna tartare, onion soup and foie gras, as well as the finest quality all natural beef and fresh seafood entrees, with breads, desserts and ice creams made fresh daily. L, D, C. $$$.

BINA OSTERIA, 581 Washington St., 617-956-0888. Hailed by *Boston* magazine as one of the best new restaurants of 2009, this sleek, minimalist and trendy spot in the heart of Downtown Crossing pushes the culinary envelope with its inventive, yet rustic, take on fine Italian food. Visit the adjoining shop to pick up specialty European foods, including wine, cheese and prepared meals. L, D, C. $$$

DA VINCI RISTORANTE, 162 Columbus Ave., 617-350-0007. Located between Park Square, the Back Bay, the South End and the Theatre District is one of the newest additions to Boston's stylish restaurant scene. Chef Peppino's menu reflects a blend of modern and classic Italian cuisine. Da Vinci offers an array of beautifully presented antipasti and entrees, and the chef's homemade pastas are made fresh every day, as are the bread and desserts. Open Mon–Sat at 5 p.m. www.davinciboston.com. $$$

INTERMISSION TAVERN, 228 Tremont St., 617-451-5997. The Intermission Tavern offers a variety of delicious food and drinks in a theatrical-themed, relaxed atmosphere. Food ranges from delectable fish and chips to savory burgers, and the stellar cocktail menu includes the famous Intermission Manhattan. L & D Mon–Sat 11 a.m.–2 a.m., Sun noon–2 a.m. $$

***JACOB WIRTH,** 37 Stuart St., 617-338-8586. Opened in 1868, Jacob Wirth is the city's second-oldest restaurant, serving traditional German fare, including wiener schnitzel, sauerbraten and a great selection of German beers. This Theatre District mainstay still resembles an old-time saloon, complete with ancient mahogany bar, weathered floors and weekly piano sing-alongs. L, D, C, LS. $$

LEGAL SEA FOODS, 26 Park Plaza, Park Square Motor Mart, 617-426-4444; 255 State St., Long Wharf, 617-227-3115; Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., 617-266-6800; other locations. Legal Sea Foods, a Boston tradition for more than 50 years, features more than 40 varieties of fresh fish and shellfish as well as an award-winning wine list. Named

"Boston's Most Popular Restaurant" (*Zagat* 2009). L & D. www.legalseafoods.com. $$$

MARKET BY JEAN GEORGES, W Hotel, 100 Stuart St., 617-310-6790. Located in the heart of the Theatre District, this restaurant from acclaimed chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten boasts a menu packed with fresh, locally produced ingredients that are often found in vegetable and fish markets. Combining French, Asian and Italian flavors, Market is sure to please everyone's tastes. B, L, D, BR, C, LS, VP. $$$

PAIRINGS, Park Plaza Hotel, 50 Park Plaza, 617-262-3473. Executive chef Robert Bean gets creative with exotic ingredients and innovative small plates designed for sharing and sampling. Enjoy seared scallops on a bed of lentils and scallions or a meaty oxtail in cream sauce. An extensive list of wines and cocktails are also available. B, L, D, BR, C, VP. $$

P.F. CHANG'S, 8 Park Plaza, 617-573-0821; Prudential Center, 617-378-9961. Enjoy unforgettable Chinese cuisine, attentive service and delicious desserts all served in a stylish bistro setting. Featuring an award-winning wine list, P.F. Chang's offers an extensive wine-by-the-glass program as well as original cocktails like the Lucky Cat Martini. L, D & LS. Reservations accepted. Sun–Thu 11 a.m.–11 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til midnight. www.pfchangs.com. $$.

RUSTIC KITCHEN, Park Square, 210 Stuart St., 617-423-5700. This lively and classic Italian-Mediterranean bistro combines a distinctive award-winning menu with a comfortable, inviting and attractive rustic atmosphere. All breads, pastas and desserts are prepared fresh daily on the premises. Pre-theatre menu, three private dining rooms, garden lounge and weekly cooking classes are available. L 11:30 a.m.–4 p.m.; D 4 p.m.–2 a.m.; SB 11 a.m.–4 p.m. C, LS, VP. www.rustickitchen.biz. $$

SMITH & WOLLENSKY, The Castle at Columbus & Arlington, 617-423-1112. Located in a spectacular setting, this legendary restaurant features USDA Prime dry aged steaks. The meticulously restored former armory, known simply as "The Castle," is accented by seven working fireplaces and dining rooms that span four floors to blend fun and formality. D, C. $$$$

THEATRE CAFE, Radisson Hotel, 200 Stuart St., 617-574-2752. Located in the heart of the Theatre District, this restaurant features traditional American fare in a comfortable atmosphere and is a great location for pre- and post-theater dining. Seasonal outdoor dining and discounted parking at on-site garage is available. B, L, D. $$

WEST END/NORTH STATION

BOSTON BEER WORKS, 112 Canal St., 617-896-2337; 61 Brookline Ave., 617-536-2337. Celtics and Bruins fans can enjoy 15 microbrews on tap and an extensive menu of bold American food, including BBQ baby back ribs, classic sandwiches, buckets of fries and a full burger menu at BBW's second Boston location, just steps from TD Garden. Boston's largest restaurant/brewery is always packed before and after Sox games at its original location, located directly across from Fenway Park. Daily 11:30–1 a.m. $

DJ'S AT THE GARDEN, 222 Friend St., 617-723-3222. More than just your average sports bar, DJ's offers a sporty chic atmosphere complete with lounges, HDTVs and pool tables. With a selection of over 80 beers and tasty dishes like Guinness-braised short ribs and a Paddy melt burger on the menu, it's no wonder DJ's was named one of *The Improper Bostonian*'s "Best of Boston" in 2008. Tue & Wed 11 a.m.–8 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 2 a.m., Sun noon–2 a.m. (11 a.m.–2 p.m. if there is a TD Garden event). L, D, C. $

FLAT IRON TAPAS BAR & LOUNGE, Bulfinch Hotel, 107 Merrimac St., 617-778-2900. Located in the Bulfinch Hotel, the sleek décor and lounge music create a relaxed environment perfect for savoring a cocktail and sharing tasty tapas. The menu includes sophisticated dishes from countries around the globe and creative specialty drinks like the Lavender Citrus Drop. Sun–Wed 5–11 p.m., Thu–Sat 5:30–11:30 p.m. D, C. $$$

THE FOURS, 166 Canal St., 617-720-4455. With sports memorabilia covering the walls and plenty of plasma screens broadcasting all the big games, it's no wonder this Boston bar was voted #1 Sports Bar in America by *Sports Illustrated.* Moreover, the homemade clam chowder, buffalo wings and abundant menu of appetizers, sandwiches and pub food have made it as popular for its cuisine as its sports scene. 11 a.m.–2 a.m. L, D, LS. $$

NEBO, 90 N. Washington St., 617-723-6326. Located just 252 steps away from the TD Garden, Nebo is an upscale pizzeria and enoteca with a familial vibe—likely due to its chefs/owners, sisters Christine and Carla Pallotta. The restaurant offers up a pleasing menu of antipasti, homemade pastas and 30 varieties of Neapolitan-style pizza, all served in a stylish environment of natural wood, chocolate suede and brick walls. D. $$$

THE RUBY ROOM, Onyx Hotel, 155 Portland St., 617-557-9950. Part cocktail lounge, part intimate eatery, the Ruby Room is swanky and mesmerizing, a perfect spot for anything from a romantic rendezvous to a quiet business dinner. Diners can start their meal with one of the Ruby Room's signature exotic cocktails, like the Grapetini or the Apricotti martini, then enjoy dishes ranging from housemade potato chips to Argentine-style grilled skirt steak, before finishing up with decadent chocolate cinnamon bread pudding or homemade blueberry cheesecake for dessert. D, C. $

***WEST END JOHNNIE'S,** 138 Portland St., 617-227-1588. This restaurant's décor, featuring autographed memorabilia, elegant woodwork, and impressive floor-to-ceiling windows, evokes the historic feel of Boston's old West End. The menu offers a mix of Italian and traditional New England cuisine, but also includes ethnic dishes such as Portuguese littlenecks and pan roasted Scottish salmon. L Mon–Fri noon–4 p.m.; D Thu & Fri 4–11 p.m., Sat 5–11 p.m.; SB 11 a.m.–4 p.m. L, D, SB, C. $$$

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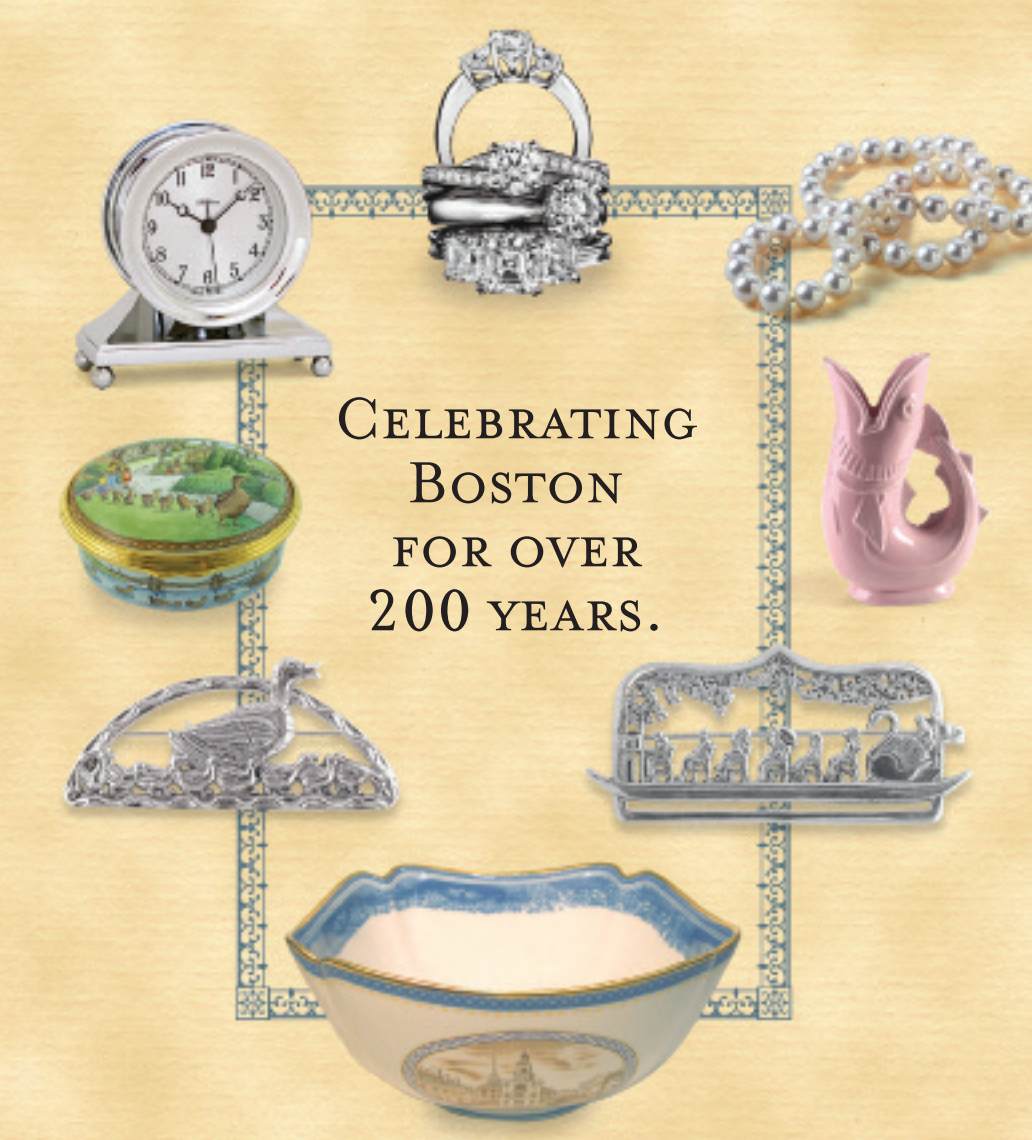

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