NOTABLE 2016 BOSTON ANNIVERSARIES

Boston Light, *300th Anniversary* - Located on Little Brewster Island, the original lighthouse was constructed in 1716 as the first lighthouse built in the United States. The current lighthouse dates to 1783 and tours of the structure are available with a Park Ranger courtesy of the Boston Harbor Islands National and State Park.

YWCA Boston, *150*th *Anniversary* – The YWCA Boston was founded in 1866 when 30 women gathered at the home of reformer Pauline Durant to draft a constitution for the "Young Women's Christian Association," the first time that term was ever used. In 2016, YW Boston celebrates its 150th Anniversary with a seminar series on the empowerment of women and advancement of social justice for women in Boston.

Boston Yacht Club, 150th *anniversary* – Founded in 1866 by three Dartmouth alumni, the Boston Yacht Club hosts some of the most prestigious sailing events in North America. BYC members have designed and built dozens of America's Cub winners and defenders over the decades.

MIT Opens Cambridge Campus, 100th anniversary — Originally located in the Back Bay and called Boston Tech, MIT expanded into Cambridge in 1916 when its "New Technology" campus, designed by William Bosworth, was first unveiled. Over the past century, MIT has become recognized as the nation's foremost institution for engineering, architecture and science.





Custom House Clock Tower, *100*th *Anniversary* – Originally built in 1849, by the early 20th century increased shipping required the Custom House to expand. The Custom House Tower was completed in 1915 and became Boston's tallest building until the Prudential was completed in 1964. The Clock was added a year later and began tolling in April of 2016.

Institute of Contemporary Art established, 80th anniversary — The ICA Boston was founded in 1936 as the Boston Museum of Modern Art, a branch of the New York Museum of Modern Art. The museum gained

independence in 1939, became the ICA Boston in 1948, and opened its iconic new home in the Seaport District in 2006.

Boston Symphony Orchestra plays the Berkshires, **80**th **anniversary** – Now a staple of summer in western Massachusetts, the BSO played its first Berkshire Summer Music Festival in 1936 and moved the performances to Tanglewood the next year.

Make Way for Ducklings Published, 75th **anniversary** – Robert McCloskey's timeless children's book about mallard ducks raising their 8 ducklings in Boston's Public Garden was published in 1941. The famous statues in the Boston Public Garden were dedicated in 1987.

South End Historical Society, *50*th *anniversary* – Established to preserve the historic buildings and landmarks of the South End, as well as education concerning the neighborhood's history and culture, the South End Historical Society was founded in 1966.

METCO Program, 50th anniversary – The Commonwealth of Massachusetts established the METCO Program in 1966, a voluntary program designed to expand educational opportunities and augment diversity. In a half-century METCO programs have grown from 7 districts with 200 students to 33 districts enrolling 3,300 students.



Boston Pride Parade, *45th anniversary* – The first Pride March occurred on June 26, 1971. The event was preceded by a week of workshops and symposia related to issues affecting the gay community. The first march involved 4 main stops: Bay Village, BPD headquarters, the Massachusetts State House, and St. Paul's Cathedral on Tremont Street.

Boston by Foot, *40*th *Anniversary* – Boston by Foot portrays Boston history through the lens of architecture and themed tours which highlight unique aspects of Boston's past. Tours began in 1976 and this year, to commemorate their 40th anniversary, Boston by Foot will offer a series of specialty tours such as Boston by Little Feet during School Vacation.

Boston Lyric Opera, **40**th **Anniversary** – BLO is the largest and oldest opera company in New England. Since being established in 1976, the company has stage world premieres, U.S. premieres, and co-produced operas with esteemed organizations such as The Royal Opera, Covent Garden and Scottish Opera.

Faneuil Hall Marketplace Renovation and Re-opening, 40th anniversary — By the 1970s, the historic Faneuil Hall/Quincy Market complex was in a state is disrepair and on the verge of demolition when Mayor Kevin White, developer Jim Rouse, and architect Benjamin Thompson provided a vision for a new and revitalized Faneuil Hall Marketplace. The new complex was unveiled in 1976 and 100,000 people showed up for the



re-opening, which occurred 150 years after Quincy Market first opened in 1826.

John Hancock Tower, *40*th *anniversary* – The tallest building in New England, now called 200 Clarendon, officially opened in the Back Bay on September 29, 1976. Designed by I.M. Pei and Henry Cobb, the 60-story, 790 ft. Hancock Tower initially dwarfed other buildings in the Copley Square area.

First Night, **40**th **anniversary** – The First Night tradition in the United States began in Boston in 1976 and has become a wonderful annual tradition featuring ice sculptures, fireworks, family-friendly events and activities, and spectacular decorations from Faneuil Hall to Copley Square.



Harborfest, 35th anniversary – First held in 1981, Harborfest brings millions of annual visitors to Boston looking for a unique Fourth of July event. The weeklong festival celebrates Boston's rich maritime history and heritage, including the city's seminal role in the coming of the American Revolution. Harborfest includes fireworks, concerts, and scores of tours and outdoor events. While it is a citywide celebration the events are focused on Long Wharf and

along the Charles River Esplanade, where the Boston Pops play every year during the Fourth of July.

Boston Harbor Islands National and State Park, 20th anniversary – The Boston Harbor Islands are 34 islands outside of Boston Harbor which are open to the public for hiking, kayaking, and camping. Fort Warren on Georges Island and the beaches of Spectacle Island are among the many draws. Under Mayor Thomas Menino, the Boston Harbor Islands State and National Park was incorporated in 1996.



Dine Out Boston, 15th anniversary – Boston's biannual restaurant week program,
Dine Out Boston, began in 2001 and has become a staple for Boston's
restaurateurs, residents and visitors looking to expand their culinary experiences. Enhanced in recent years by flexible price-points and social media contests, Dine Out Boston continues to involve new restaurants every year.



Big Dig, *10*th *anniversary* – the largest city development project in US history, the Big Dig was a transformative undertaking that occurred in the 1990s and early 21st century and was completed in 2006. The Zakim Bridge, Ted Williams Tunnel, and Rose Kennedy Greenway atop I-93 are the more prominent achievements of the Big Dig.