

# FELLOWS ATHENAEUM TRUST ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

*Please sign up for Public Comment by 10:30am via the “CHAT”  
Comments left in the chat will not be acknowledged.*

# BPL OPENING STATEMENT

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The Trustees of The Boston Public Library reaffirm our commitment to racial equity and to principles of diversity equity and inclusion, more broadly.

The Library is formally committed to becoming an anti-racist organization in response to systemic racism, inequity, and injustice prevalent in our society.

We acknowledge also that the Boston Public Library's Central Library stands on land that was once a water-based ecosystem providing sustenance for the indigenous Massachusetts people *and is a place which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange among nations*. We are committed to land acknowledgements for all locations at which we operate.

*We reaffirm this commitment to set the context for our planning, deliberations, and public engagement so that they take place from the spirit of welcome and respect, found in our motto 'free to all.'*

*Taken from the Institutional Statement Ratified by the Board of Trustees for the Boston Public Library on September 29, 2020.*

# *Committee Chair Report*

*Evelyn Arana Ortiz*

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A. Acknowledgement of the EDI Statement

B. Roll call of members

C. Approval of Meeting Minutes of 7.30.25



FY25 Carryover Available:  
\$10,439.20

FY26 Expenditure  
\$103,893.80

Total FY26 Funds Available:  
\$114,333.00



# Fellowes Athenaeum Trust Fund (FATF) FY 2026

Deandra Williams, PhD  
Programs Supervisor  
[Dwilliams@bpl.org](mailto:Dwilliams@bpl.org)

New/Returning	Name	Program Description	Targeted audience	Budget
Returning	Alda Witherspoon	"Ignite your Light. Read. Write. GET LIT."	Family/Intergenerational	\$9,078.00
Returning	Betsy Hinkle	The Boston Public Quartet	Family/Intergenerational	\$10,000
Returning	Blanca E. Bonilla	The Latino Pioneers in Boston Project #2	Family/Intergenerational	\$10,000
New	Boya Liu	The Amora Experience	Young Adults (18-26 years old)	\$1,415
Returning	Carlos Vargas	Roxbury Concert Series	Family/Intergenerational	\$6,500
Returning	Carlos Vargas	Roxbury Piano Program	Children (5-12 years old)	\$10,000
Returning	Ciyadh Wells	A Little History: a literacy workshop designed to share the history of Black historical figures Storytelling and Improvisation	Children (5-12 years old)	\$10,000
New	Cliff Notez	HipStory presents Body Language: Through Lines	Family/Intergenerational	\$10,000
Returning	Cornell Coley	Drumming that illustrate cultural contexts and social development of Brazil	Family/Intergenerational	\$6,220
Returning	Daniel Callahan	Staying Authentic While Marketing Your Work	Adults (18+ years old )	\$6,983.98
Returning	Daniel Callahan	MassQing Workshops	Family/Intergenerational	\$9,711.97
New	Darya Pinton	Dans Se Lavi program	Family/Intergenerational	\$5,115.00
Returning	David Hirschberg	Take Back the Kitchen cooking classes	Family/Intergenerational	\$7,875
Returning	Faith Johnson	Art + Meditation workshops for adults and seniors	Adults (18+ years old )	\$3,943.72
New	George "Chip" Greenidge	Greatest MINDS Conference and Inter-Generational Dialogues -Let's continue the discussion on Education, Race, Economic Mobility in Boston	Adults (18+ years old )	\$10,000

Returning	Gina Gagliano	The annual Greater Roxbury Book Fair	Family/Intergenerational	\$10,000.00
New	Horace Bowens	The CHESS & CRAFTS PROJECT	Family/Intergenerational	\$6,300
Returning	Isaura Oliveira	JOY as RESISTANCE: Afro-Brazilian Dance Workshop Series	Family/Intergenerational	\$9,869
New	Jennifer Cailan	The Play Reading Book Club (PRBC)	Family/Intergenerational	\$7,500
Returning	Joel Mackall	Community Guide to Using AI (Rooted in Black Traditions of Innovation	Family/Intergenerational	\$7,360
Returning	John Kordalewski	Makanda Project	Family/Intergenerational	\$10,000
Returning	Julia Viskushenko	Chess Wizards	Children (5-12 years old)	\$7,500
New	Karen Craddock	Telling Lives, Living Histories	Family/Intergenerational	\$10,000
Returning	Leslie R. English	Sewing 101 Boot Camps	Older Adults (60+ years old)	\$9,999
New	Malaika Ogukwe	Women's Health and Wellness Empowerment Series	Adults (18+ years old )	\$10,000
Returning	Maria Cabrera	Taste of the Arts	Family/Intergenerational	\$4,004
New	Maria McKnight 'Atoni the Artist'	Native America sand art	Older Adults (60+ years old)	\$10,000
Returning	Michelle Coleman	Chakras and Chair Yoga (title TBD)	Adults (18+ years old )	\$7,750
New	Rosalyn Delores Elder	The contributions of African Americans in the areas of sports and entertainment have been widely acknowledged.	Adults (18+ years old )	\$3,600
	S.Matt Read	Roxbury Makes Comics! (previously Comics Camp: Roxbury)	Teens (13 -18 years old)	\$7,500
New	Shakeita Haynes	Young adult females looking to embrace the power of self-care	Teens (13 -18 years old)	\$10,500
New	Sophia Turcotte	MathStar	Teens (13 -18 years old)	
New	Steph Davis	"Go Back And Get It: Healing Cultural Lineages and Celebrating the Africanity of African Americans through Xylophone Traditions" and Black Utopia	Adults (18+ years old )	\$10,000
New	Vashti Massaquoi	The study of Cosmetology	Adults (18+ years old )	\$10,000

# New Business

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*Evelyn Arana Ortiz, Committee Chair*

\* Schedule next meeting



# Public Comment

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- People will be chosen in the order they were received and allowed 2 minutes to speak.
- The Moderator will unmute your mic when you are called on.
- Comments made in the Zoom Chat during meeting will not be acknowledged.
- If follow up is required, please send your contact email or phone number to the Clerk of the Board at [pcarver@bpl.org](mailto:pcarver@bpl.org)

# Adjournment

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***Please visit [bpl.org/Board of Trustees](http://bpl.org/Board of Trustees)  
for upcoming meeting  
details/information***

*\*Subject to change*