

Sounds of Music

HISTORIC BOSTON-EDISON PRESENTS

A SEASON OF LATIN SOUNDS

SEASON 9 | 2019 HOUSE CONCERT SERIES

MARCH 2019

Dates to Remember:

MARCH 15

Sounds of Music Tickets
On Sale

MARCH 20

General Membership Meeting

MARCH 21

HBEA Happy Hour

MAY 4

Sounds of Music | Concert 1

MAY 16

HBEA Happy Hour

MAY 22

HBEA Annual Meeting

Visit historicbostonedison.org
for additional event details!

2019 Sounds of Music House Concert Series

We are proud to announce the 9th season of house concerts in Boston-Edison! This season will highlight a variety of Latin music.

Saturday, May 4 | The Latin Classical sounds of Protea will be showcased. The ensemble is Dennis Carter on flute, Lisa Raschiatore on clarinet, and Mariah Boucher on piano. The Detroit Metro Times listed them as "a new trio of top-drawer local musicians" and indeed, their musical energy onstage is electric and energetic. Protea will present a variety of classical music from various Latin composers.

Saturday, August 3 | Our Summer Jazz Party takes a musical journey to Cuba as we present "Havana Nights" with the LL7 Latin Jazz Ensemble led by percussionist Greg Freeman. Be prepared to listen *and* dance!

Saturday, October 5 | We will take yet another musical journey – this time to Brazil. Michele Ramo (pronounced "Mi-KAY-lay RA-mo") and his World Music Ensemble, featuring Heidi Hepler on vocals, will have us longing for the beautiful beaches of South America!

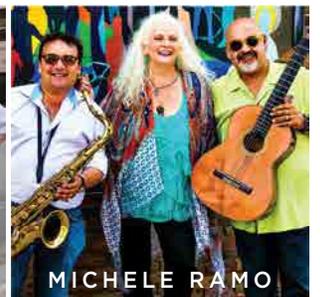
All concerts begin at 7:30 pm and include a full dinner buffet with drinks and dessert. Tickets are \$50 or \$45 if purchasing all three concerts. Single ticket price increases to \$60 ten days before the concert. Tickets available at historicbostonedison.org/house-concert-series



PROTEA



LL7 LATIN JAZZ ENSEMBLE



MICHELE RAMO

After a two-year absence, we welcome the return of the Young People's Concert! Be sure to check our website for updates on this FREE concert, including location and performing artist. The Young People's Concert will be from 3 pm to 4 pm.



Dianne Bostic Robinson
HBEA President

Mission Statement

The mission of the Historic Boston-Edison Association is to protect the historic character and values of our homes by:

- Offering programs that support safety and community beautification;
- Hosting events that encourage a greater community bond among neighbors; and,
- Promoting culture and civic engagement for residents that live within the District and beyond.

Vision Statement

Our vision for the Boston-Edison District is that it remain a historic community that is beautiful, inclusive, and safe for neighbors and visitors.

The Music of the Boston-Edison Family

"Family is like music, Some high notes, some low note, but always a beautiful song."

While working on my master's degree in social work I studied the "family systems theory." Family systems theory is "a view of the family as a dynamic, interactive unit that undergoes continual evolution in structure and function.... the social interactions, patterns, and interdependence that exist between members of families."

I consider Boston-Edison a family. A family of families, choosing to be a part of this neighborhood. Looking over the Board's mid-year review of our goals, developed with your input, I was excited about what we had accomplished in meeting our mission.

If you have not had the time to join our family more closely in the past, make this your year to participate in some way. Trust me, once you interact with the rest of your Boston-Edison family you will be stimulated to interact even more.

It's a joy to see our young ones grow from one year to the next and realize that soon they are high-school seniors or college grads. We grow together and inspire one another when we share in the happiness of a new business opportunity or celebrate a neighbor's new job. Even finding out about a neighbor's finally completed home project can become a stimulus to finish our own project.

Please join us by participating some in the many activities planned this year, volunteer to help, or share our wonderful neighborhood with family and friends. In doing so we build upon the richness of the beautiful song we are creating together.

Your Servant Leader,

Dianne Bostic Robinson
HBEA President

Staying Safe and Secure

Security plays a role in our lives 24 hours in everyday of our lives. We are encouraging all residents in Boston-Edison to play a small role in keeping our neighborhood safe and secure. These are some of the initiatives of Boston-Edison for 2019:

- Make updates on vacant homes in the district
- Enhance security patrols
- Present workshops on staying safe in our neighborhood
- Provide crime stats to all residents
- Increase neighbor engagement
- Increase partnership with local law enforcement to address needs and concerns
- Propose a plan to make Boston-Edison the first Green Light Neighborhood in Detroit

Neighbors Making a Mark

HBEA President Dianne Bostic Robinson, of Chicago Boulevard, is serving her second term as the president of the Louise Saks Parliamentary Procedure Unit in Birmingham, Michigan. As president she serves on the Board of the Michigan Unit of Registered Parliamentarians, and the Michigan State Associations of Parliamentarians. She continues her studies to become a registered parliamentarian.

Dr. Akosua Barthwell Evans, of Boston Boulevard, has been named to the Board of Governors of the Yale Alumni Association. She is a longtime Boston-Edison resident and president of the West Boston Boulevard Block Club Association. Two alumni are appointed annually to the group's Board of Governors.

Spring General Membership Meeting

You won't want to miss the Spring General Membership Meeting. It's scheduled for 7-9 p.m. March 20 at Sacred Heart Major Seminary. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

The agenda includes:

- New Neighbor Welcome
- Updates from Town Hall Meeting Suggestions
- Neighbor Discussion on Future General Membership Meeting Topics and Speakers
- Committee Updates
- Presentations from Local Community Organizations

Remember, we will have a table of activities to keep your young ones occupied during meeting time. Older youth are welcome to participate in the meetings and assist in new neighbor giveaways. Don't forget you will have a chance to claim a winning raffle ticket!

Invited speakers include a representative of the Historic District Commission Staff or Volunteer, City Council President Pro-Tem Mary Sheffield, District Manager Melia Howard, County Commissioner Jewel Ware and our precinct commander and neighborhood police officers. Also, we will have a presentation on several developments around our District.

This will be a great opportunity to hear about the activities being planned for 2019 and how you can become involved. Board members and volunteers will be available at designated tables to describe each activity, what volunteer tasks are needed and how you can become involved. Some of the exciting activities include an expanded Sounds of Music Concert Series that will bring back the Children's Concert. Other planned activities that you can become involved with as part of a committee or as a "day of" volunteer include:

- April 13 - Easter Egg Hunt
- May 16 - Happy Hour
- July-18 - Backyard Happy Hour
- July 13th - Ice Cream Social & Movie in the Park
- August 10-11 - Attic Sale Weekend
- August 10 - Opera in the Park
- August 25 - Picnic in the Park
- Early October - Oktoberfest
- December 14 - Holiday Home Tour Preview
- December 15 - 45th Annual Holiday Home Tour

Detroit Soul Restaurant Featured in Hour Detroit

Congratulations to West Boston neighbors Jerome and Yovonda Brown on recently being featured in Hour Detroit for their very popular restaurant, Detroit Soul.



They were also previously highlighted on the NBC affiliate Local 4 News' "Tasty Tuesday" segment. The restaurant, located on East Eight Mile Road, prides itself on serving healthy versions of traditional soul food. More information at www.detroit soul.net.

Happy Times at HBEA Happy Hour and Holiday Parties



Preview Party and Holiday Home Tour Break All Records

The Preview Party and Holiday Home Tour raised over \$40,000 this year! A big special thank you to all of the many volunteers and especially our homeowners Alan Brown and Alto Torres, Molly Leebove, Brent and Lisa Virkus, Tony Pekalski and Yvonne Sebree, Frank Kong and Colin Knapp, and Jim Draper and Brian St. Germain that were a part of this fantastic weekend. The Historic Boston-Edison Association can only be successful with the help of so many great neighbors and friends.

We would like to thank our generous major sponsors Brickworks Property Restorations, Henry Ford Health Systems, Greg Sikora Design, and Robinson Realty. Grateful appreciation also goes to our sponsors and donors Kenan Bakirci - Max Brook Realtors, Jorgensen Ford, Little High Flyers, Savvy Chic, Batch Brewing Company, Beans and Cornbread, Events on the Blvd., Priscilla Franklin Signature Occasions, Saks Fifth Avenue, Tymes, and The Whitney. Without their assistance, we could never have been able to raise so much to support the beautification efforts and events throughout the neighborhood.

Red Carpet Affair at the Motown Mansion Preview Party

The Preview Party Committee did an amazing job after being charged with the task to “think big.” Over 100 guests enjoyed an evening of great food, a tour of beautiful homes, cool music, bowling, billiards and the generous hospitality of Motown Mansion homeowners and hosts Alan Brown and Alto Torres.

The evening began with a welcome performance by Vision, the Detroit School of Arts Male Ensemble, followed by a tour of the beautifully decorated Michelson Mansion (famously known as the Motown Mansion) pool house, ballroom, and first floor. Dinner was catered by Bacco Ristorante and guests were transported on donated buses from Henry Ford Health Systems to four lovely homes.

Upon return to the Motown Mansion, guests enjoyed a performance by the “313: The Live Experience” band, multiple decadent dessert tables, gourmet coffee, and “The Red Affair” cocktail. Our guests enjoyed the two-lane bowling alley, billiards, and tours of the mansion’s second floor until midnight. Swag bags included gifts from Saks Fifth Avenue, Thyme, and a special holiday ornament.

Preview Party Committee: Dianne Bostic Robinson (chair), Zackary Pashak (vice-chair), Alan Brown, Patricia Pickett, Dr. Sheryl Hinton, Michelle May, Deniera Davis, Anita Gary, Gaye Butler, Anne Sempowski Ward, Pam Miller Malone and support of Amy Peterson.

44th Annual Holiday Home Tour

We welcomed over 700 guests from near and far to Boston-Edison for the 44th Annual Holiday Home Tour. Our tour guides shared stories of the neighborhood’s past, our gracious homeowners and hosts opened their homes, and together we all made our guests feel at home in Boston-Edison. We could not do this without the assistance and dedication of everyone involved! Whether you were a featured home owner, one of the hundred plus volunteers, a cookie baker, or a friendly neighbor, THANK YOU!

Holiday Home Tour Committee: Michael Mowers (co-chair), Patricia Pickett (co-chair), Dianne Bostic Robinson, Katherine Brummel, Cleo Hamilton, Erik Hill, Michelle May, Cassi Meitl, Marcia Pilliciotti, Jack Seavitt, Greg Sikora Mowers, Yvette Stewart, with help from Gerald Polk, Angela Polk, Byron Osbern, Jim Hamilton, Linda Almon, Bob DeLaura, Tom DeLaura, Christine Bossler, Melissa Jasper, and countless others who made the event a success.

Start planning now to participate and volunteer in the next year’s Preview Party and 45th Annual Holiday Home Tour December 14 and 15, 2019! Interested in being one of our featured homes, or know of a great home on your block? Email hht@historicbostonedison.org





Red Carpet Affair at the Motown Mansion





BLOCK CLUB BUZZ

Chicago Blvd East Block Club (CBEEBC) Holiday Decorating Contest

This past holiday season, the Chicago Blvd East Block Club (CBEEBC) held its 2nd annual decorating contest to encourage a special holiday spirit on Chicago Blvd from Woodward to the Lodge. With over 25 contributing homes, CBEEBC hopes everyone enjoyed the extra cheer and is thankful to all who participated. Cash prizes were awarded to three homes based on combined scores from several volunteer judges. Special congratulations to the LaBarrie, Hollier, and Power families for their outstanding vision and execution!

The CBEEBC also is inviting everyone to participate in a tour of the Piquette Plant and a narrated bus tour of auto baron homes in the Historic Boston-Edison neighborhood on Sunday, June 16, 2019.

For more information and tickets, contact CBEEBC2010@gmail.com.

WBBBCA to Host Fifth Annual Garden Party Event

The West Boston Boulevard Block Club Association (WBBBCA) will host its fifth annual Garden Party Fundraiser on Sept. 7, 2019, from 4 - 6 p.m. Funds from the popular Garden Party have been used to finance median improvements, alley clean-ups, and holiday decorations on West Boston Boulevard between Linwood and the Lodge.

The Garden Party, hosted by Dr. Akosua Barthwell Evans, features live music and delicious food. For additional information and to purchase tickets, please email abevans@barthwellgroup.com.



Excitement builds in the 1400-1500 Edison Block Club

The 1400-1500 Edison Block Club is as strong as ever. Members have participated as docents, tour guides, and bus monitors for the Holiday Home tour. Members are not only having fun but relishing in engaging with the Historic Boston-Edison Association, engaging with the community and showing off the jewel that is Boston-Edison. During the 2018 holiday season members had a joyful time of fellowship at the group's annual Christmas dinner celebrated at the Traffic Jam and Snug restaurant near Wayne State University.

Best yet, excitement is in the air with the announcement of additions to the Smith, St. Germain and Willner families. Along with the excitement, block club members are sending prayers to these families for healthy children and safe deliveries.

The group also extends condolences for the loss of one of our foundation residents, Ruth Bivins, who was well known and beloved throughout the community.

The group will resume meetings in March to set its agenda for another great year of community involvement.

NEIGHBOR NEWS

Ophelia Burnett Northcross | A Pioneering Woman

Ophelia Burnett Northcross, a resident of Boston-Edison who lived on Longfellow for over 50 years passed away recently.

She and her husband, Dr. David Northcross Jr. ran and managed Mercy General Hospital, the first privately-owned African American hospital in Detroit. The hospital was founded by David's parents in 1917. Ophelia entered Tuskegee Institute at age of 17 to earn a degree as a registered nurse. She had been accepted at Children's Hospital in Detroit, but when she arrived for work they told her they did not hire "colored" nurses. Fortunately, she met a nun who hired her at Mercy Hall Hospital. She later hired on at Burton Mercy Hospital, a hospital for "colored" people. After marrying Dr. Northcross, she worked as a nurse at Mercy General Hospital. While David Northcross served in the army during WWII, for a while she and her mother-in-law ran the hospital. Ophelia later ran the hospital alone until her husband's return from service.

After the hospital closed in 1976 she worked for the Department of Public Health as a Public Health nurse.

Due to her rich history in Detroit, the Boston-Edison area and her accomplishments in health care, she was featured in the Kellogg African-American Health Care Project. Her daughter, Dr. Gale Northcross, lived in Boston-Edison for many years before moving to California.

Ophelia Northcross will be missed by family and friends and all who enjoyed hearing the stories about her experiences and how her family succeeded during segregation and Jim Crow.

News to share?

Has a baby been born?
Did you get engaged
or married?

Did you just move in and
want to introduce yourself?

Did you or a family
member do something
awesome?

LET US KNOW!

We're looking for news
from you to share with
your neighbors!
Send an email to
newsletter@historicbostonedison.org

Historic Boston-Edison Association Board of Directors | 2018-2019 Directory

Zone A | Woodward-Hamilton

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Zone C | Rosa Parks (12th)-Linwood

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President Dianne Bostic Robinson; **1st Vice President** Michael Mowers; **2nd Vice President** Patricia Pickett;
Secretary Deniera Davis; **Treasurer** Raymond Landsberg



Historic Boston-Edison Association
PO Box 02100
Detroit, MI 48202

SPRING GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Wednesday, March 20, 2019
7:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Major Seminary

Boston·Edison

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