New Bedford Creative Placemaking

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In 2016, New Bedford was the first city in Massachusetts to pass legislation to create an Arts, Culture & Tourism Fund. From the city’s hotel lodging taxes, $100,000 per year (plus inflation) are put into this fund.

In 2017, the city contracted the New Bedford Economic Development Council to manage the fund.

In 2018, NBEDC oversaw the city’s first strategic Arts & Culture Plan.

In 2019, the Creative Consortium was formed (27 community leaders) to begin implementing the plan.
Wicked Cool Places

The city of New Bedford’s grant program for creative placemaking: uniting willing property/business owners, artistic/cultural groups, design/preservation specialists, and business/development experts to help transform New Bedford’s overlooked or undervalued places. Wicked Cool Places enhance community development, arts entrepreneurship, and ongoing investment in the rich arts and culture of the city.
Funded by
The City of New Bedford’s
Arts, Culture & Tourism Fund
with additional support from
Bristol County Savings Bank,
Mass Cultural Council, and MassDevelopment

2018–2019 (pilot phase)
12 projects, $50,000

2019–2020
13 projects $82,000
next round Spring 2020

Apply: newbedfordcreative.org/wicked-cool-places/
Contact: artsnewbedford@gmail.com
Wings Court Lighting Design
Wings Court Lighting Enhancement Project
A Service-Learning Project by the
Interior Architecture + Design Department at UMass Dartmouth
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LOCATION: CENTRAL PARK AND FURNITURE INTEGRATION AREA
TEAM MEMBERS: Heather Kelly, Molly O’Donnell, Caroline Gresh
PROFESSIONAL MENTOR: Alex Sierkierski

The central zone of the park will be lit to accomplish a feeling of Wings Court being New Bedford’s backyard.
Wings Court Lighting Enhancement Project
A Service-Learning Project by the Interior Architecture + Design Department at UMass Dartmouth

**LOCATION:** Union Street Entrance

**TEAM MEMBERS:** Lauren Matte & Rebecca McBride

**PROFESSIONAL MENTOR:** Will Lewis - Lewis Lighting Design

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Union Street Entrance - Proposed Lighting Plan

Existing Site Photos

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This project is funded in part by Wicked Cool Places, New Bedford’s creative placemaking program, financed by the city’s Arts, Culture, and Tourism Fund.
Partnerships + Collaborations

UMass Dartmouth College of Visual and Performing Arts: faculty, students, professional mentors

City of New Bedford Departments: City Planning (DCP), Public Infrastructure (DPI), Housing and Community Development (OHCD), Parks, Recreation & Beaches (DPRB), Facilities and Fleet Management (DFFM)

New Bedford Creative & New Bedford Economic Development Council
Thank you!

Q&A

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