

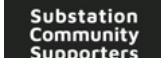


Let's make a very big drawing of the very special people, creatures and green things that live in your neighborhood.

Join your friends, family and neighbors for a joyful 45 minutes of movement, collaborative drawing, and live music, culminating in a shadow puppetry performance that brings the group's newly-created world to life.



This program was developed with support by a grant from the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture and the City of Boston and Substation Community Supporters.



The Big Draw was such a wonderful, engaging event. I brought three children, ages 10 - 12, and we all had a great time. Doing creative activities alongside toddlers, teenagers, and other elementary students put everyone on the same playing field while allowing for individuality. —Gena Muvali, parent participant



MARKETING INFORMATION

For Event Listings:

The Big Draw: people, creatures, and green things by Bonnie Duncan & Meg Rotzel

Let's make a very big drawing of the very special people, creatures and green things that live in our neighborhood. Bring your friends, family and neighbors for a joyful 45 minutes of movement, laughter and collaborative drawing, live music, and even a shadow puppetry performance! No drawing experience needed.

Social Media stock phrases:

- * How BIG can you draw?
- * Wanna know what a drawing by 50 people looks like? I do.
- * Pencils UP! Let's draw!
- * MOVE! DRAW! DANCE!
- * 1 30-foot piece of paper, 2 dozen markers, 50+ willing drawers, and one neighborhood.
- * Gather + Move + Draw = JOY
- * Come draw all the colors of your neighborhood!

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BIG DRAW

- * Participants are given Drawing Names of their choosing. We see an Ester turn into a Marigold and a Rashawn turn into a Zip!
- * Families and groups of friends are given the task of making shapes, flowers, and animals together using movement.
- * Participants are invited to create a 30+ foot long collective drawing with Meg, following Bonnie's careful verbal prompts. Participants share marking tools and build drawings together.
- * Meg and Bonnie bring the drawing to life! The epically long collective drawing is turned into a "crankie" that is performed with shadow puppets.



WHAT IS A CRANKIE YOU ASK?

A crankie is a long drawing that is rolled up onto two spools and loaded onto a crankie box. Think TV, but make it a drawing that scrolls past the aperture of the crankie box. The illustrated scroll is hand cranked, images move across the crankie box's aperture and we use shadow puppetry to bring our stories alive. The crankie is an old art form, sometimes called a moving panorama—in our case we collectively draw our community setting, our streets and hills, the places we call home.

MARKETING IMAGES & GRAPHICS:

<https://bit.ly/thebigdrawIMAGES>



WHAT EXACTLY HAPPENS AT THE BIG DRAW?

The Big Draw is an intergenerational community event where participants are verbally guided with care (and flair!) through a movement warm-up, a collective drawing experience, and ends with a puppetry performance. Each moment is carefully crafted so that participants can enjoy and savor creating and celebrating something special in community with their neighbors, friends, and families.

RECOMMENDED AUDIENCE

The Big Draw is designed for intergenerational groups, ages 4 & up.

Settings for The Big Draw include: community spaces, schools, museums, theater organizations, libraries, community or corporate groups, and any other space where people intentionally gather.

Participants under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

Length of event: 45 minutes

Participants numbers: 12-75 participants with a ratio of one adult to every 4 children. Participant maximum is determined by the space used for The Big Draw so get in touch if your community make-up is outside of the numbers listed.

Space needs: At least 50 feet by 50 feet of open interior space with a clean, safe floor. No height constraint. *space requirement can be flexible depending on expected participant numbers*

Materials note: Participants will be using tempera sticks, a water-based quick drying, easily clean-up marking crayon. We will tape down fiberboard paper under all art making surfaces. All tape used is archival, removable, and safe for all surfaces.

We will bring all materials with us. If we are traveling by plane from Boston, we will send a list of materials that need to be procured in advance. The presenting organization will keep the final drawing!

Sound & Electrics: The Gottabees provide amplifier, microphone, and all sound equipment unless your space is equipped with a sound system. Power within 15 feet of performance space with at least 3 electrical outlets is needed.

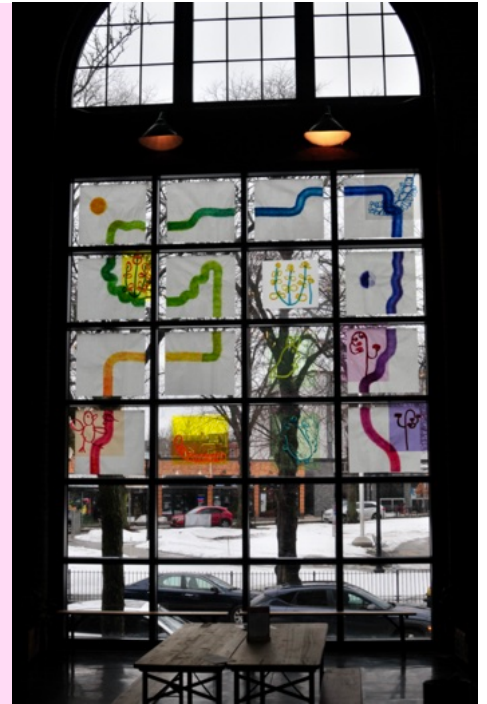
Lighting: Adequate general lighting of experience area. Focused stage lights (lighting looks & cue sheet provided to venue) can be added, if available, for final performance.

Set-up / Breakdown time: 60 minutes for set up with arrival to space 1.5 hour prior to performance or house open; 30 minutes for breakdown

Stage management: At least 2 people from the partnering organization must be present and assist during this event. The Gottabees will provide 1-2 people to help with stage management when possible.

MORE ABOUT THE BIG DRAW

The initial seed of this project was inspired by Meg and Bonnie’s own desire and need to bring their community together by celebrating their Boston neighborhood & its neighboring green spaces: the plants, animals & people who call its hills home. During an artist residency sited at The Substation in Roslindale, MA during the winter months of 2025, Meg and Bonnie highlighted the neighborhood’s habitats & vitality via participatory theater workshops with live music for area families as well as a four-week residency in a local kindergarten. The project concluded with a monumental public art drawing created by Meg presented in the heart of Roslindale on The Substation’s prominent window that overlooks Adam’s Park during the dark winter months.



ABOUT THE GOTTABEES

Headed up by Bonnie Duncan, The Gottabees aim to return their audiences and participants to a state of wonder and delight. They are passionate about community and family joy and have been guiding families through stage performances, interactive experiences, and audio adventures since 2013. They have performed in 20 states, 6 countries, for over 48,000 people and were awarded an UNIMA-USA Citation of Excellence.

thegottabees.com

ABOUT MEG

Meg Rotzel is a multidisciplinary artist and curator based in Boston, MA. Her artwork is rooted in the practices of noticing, drawing, and recording through image. Using a variety of media including graphite, ink, watercolor, ceramics and found objects, she assembles artworks that explore phenomenons of seeing, sensing, and making sense.

megrotzel.com

RESIDENCY OPTION!

The Big Draw can also be shared as a multi-visit residency in school communities, from kindergarten to college or a multi-session series for adult communities.



As artists and educators, they embraced our kindergarten students, captured their attention and ignited their imaginations. —Lindsey Minder, assistant principal, Conservatory Lab Charter School

LET’S COLLABORATE!

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