



*Inauguration* OF THE  
*Honorable Michelle Wu*  
AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE  
OATH OF OFFICE TO THE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL  
ABOUT THE INAUGURATION

## SPEECH DETAILS

*Mayor Wu reflected on accomplishments from her first term:*

- Gun violence is down to the lowest levels on record.
- Coordinated a citywide response to permanently end the encampments in the Mass and Cass area.
- Created the most affordable homes in a generation and launched a first-ever citywide rezoning process.
- Cut approval times in half to get new houses built, created new funds to finance acquisitions and offset construction costs.
- Launched new programs to help more Boston families become first-time homeowners than ever before.
- Expanded access to youth sports citywide.
- Added seats to provide 5,000 free, high-quality pre-k, and expanded Boston's child care ecosystem by nearly 2,000 seats.
- Taught more than 20,000 kids how to swim and ride bikes.
- Made museums and cultural institutions free for every Boston kid and their family.
- Increased graduation rates and attendance.
- Made generational investments in the Boston Public Schools—focusing on access to quality curriculum, high expectations and academic rigor—surpassing 28 other districts over the course of the first term.
- The district is on track to offer early college classes to every high school student by the fall of 2028.
- Saved residents and businesses more than \$230 million on energy bills.
- Cut retail vacancy rate nearly in half compared to two years ago.
- Made three bus routes fare-free.
- Repaved 102 miles of roadway, made it faster to fix sidewalks, and built more miles of protected cycling infrastructure than ever before.

*Mayor Wu shared her priority for the next four years:*

Mayor Wu's priority in term two will be building the Boston Public Schools (BPS) into the best public school district in the country, so that BPS is the first choice for every family in Boston. She explained this means operational excellence, academic rigor, and high expectations in every classroom. Mayor Wu will continue to make the hard decisions and substantive changes to deliver high-quality teaching and learning for every student, close to home. To build the best district, the City will continue to rightsize the district, improve transportation and ensure that in every neighborhood, students have access to high quality education close to home. The Mayor announced the City will revisit the school assignment process. Mayor Wu also announced that the District will provide quality before- and after-school programming at every BPS school by the start of the 2027 school year.



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## PROGRAM DETAILS

***The Honor Guard was made up of members of the Boston Police, Boston Fire and Boston EMS.***

Four Boston Public Schools students led the Pledge of Allegiance:

Jack Shapiro, Boston Latin Academy - Senior Captain (Football)

Michael Ekweanya, New Mission High School - Senior Captain (Basketball)

Emily Ramirez, Madison Park Technical Vocational High School - Senior (Volleyball)

Heinrich Saint Paulin, Boston International Newcomers Academy - Senior (Soccer)

***The National Anthem was sung by Baird Lashley, Emergency Medical Technician, Boston EMS.***

Clergy a part of the interfaith prayer:

Father John Unni, Saint Cecilia Parish Center

Imam Abdulqadir Farah, Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center

Rabbi Elaine Zecher, Temple Israel

Pastor Mirna Concepcion de Rodriguez, Nueva Vida United Methodist Church

Bishop William E. Dickerson II, Greater Love Tabernacle

***The Boston Poet Laureate Emmanuel Oppon-Yeboah performed an original work written for the inauguration.***

[Link to video that was a part of the program.](#)



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**BIBLE FROM THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY  
USED FOR MAYOR WU'S SWEARING IN:**

***The Holy Bible, containing the Old and New Testaments printed  
in Philadelphia by Robert Aitken in 1781-182***

This Bible was endorsed by the Continental Congress in September of 1782.

First complete edition of the Bible (Old and New Testaments)  
printed in English in the United States.

First – and the only – edition of the Bible endorsed by Congress.

Printed a year before peace between Britain and the fledgling United States had been formally contracted. British printers had long held monopolies on printing Bibles, but all importation of English Bibles had been cut off by the war.

The adoption of this project, carried out by an American printer, was seen as both a patriotic statement and a symbol of the burgeoning culture of the United States.

***This Bible at the Boston Public Library.***

Purchased in May 1941 from the posthumous auction of Alfred Edward Newton's books.

BPL librarians researched it, bought it, conserved it, cataloged it, have made it available to generations of visitors, and will soon digitize it.

Despite being very rare and very valuable, BPL makes this book freely available to all who wish to use it.

Mayor Wu took her first oath of office with this Bible in November of 2021.



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Sarah G. Kim, Associate Justice, Massachusetts Superior Court swore in Mayor Wu. Mayor Wu swore in the Boston City Council.

The audience is made up of about 2,000 attendees, including community, cultural and faith leaders, as well as leaders from the healthcare, business, high education, and arts sectors.

Boston Symphony Hall was the first concert venue in the world to be designed by renowned architects and a Harvard physics professor, who invented a formula used to give this space the perfect reverberation time: 1.9 seconds.