



**Massachusetts
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Alternative Space Pilot Project

Call for Artists

Mayor Walsh, Massachusetts Eye and Ear, and the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture invite artists and arts groups to submit their proposal for the use of space within the Starr Center at Massachusetts Eye and Ear for arts rehearsal space. The selected artists or group will enter into an agreement with Massachusetts Eye and Ear for a year of free rehearsal space according to the space availability and requirements stated below. This Call for Artists is for free rehearsal space only and does not come with any funding.

Application: [click here to apply online.](#)

Call for Artists Timeline

Released: April 3, 2017

Deadline to submit proposals: 5:00 pm Friday, May 5, 2017

Space Walkthrough (open to the public): Thursday, April 20th, 1:00pm

Artists/Organizations selected: End of May 2017

Who should apply / Eligibility

This call is open to individual artists, nonprofits, and artist groups. You do not need to be a non profit organization to apply. Boston residency is preferred.

Space Description and Requirements

- *Space:* There are two available spaces on the second floor of the Starr Center at Massachusetts Eye and Ear at 185 Cambridge St in Boston MA.

The Auditorium

The auditorium is a lecture hall, with a flat carpeted performing area (level with the floor, not a stage). Chairs are available.

The Break-out Room

The break-out room measures 2,300 square feet and can accommodate 120 people. This room is carpeted and has a ten foot high ceiling. Chairs and tables are available.

- *Artistic disciplines:* These spaces are ideal for rehearsal space for performing arts groups, including those in the disciplines of music, dance, and theater.



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- *Hours:* Both spaces are available Monday - Friday, from 9am - 9pm or on weekends from 9am - 5pm. A regular weekly schedule will be determined with the artists and Massachusetts Eye and Ear.
- *Storage and Loading:* There is limited storage in both spaces (cabinets and a closet). Storage is not guaranteed to be secure. Both spaces are accessible by elevator.
- *Transportation and Parking:* Massachusetts Eye and Ear is very conveniently located between the West End and Beacon Hill, off Cambridge Street. The building is served by two nearby MBTA stops: the Charles/MGH stop on the Red Line and the Bowdoin Stop on the Blue Line. Massachusetts Eye and Ear can provide a limited number of parking passes to their parking lots, a 5 - 10 minute walk from the building.

Site Visit and Space Walkthrough

We encourage interested applicants to see the space firsthand. Massachusetts Eye and Ear and the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture will host a walk through of the spaces on Thursday, April 20th, 1:00pm. This walkthrough is open to the public and all interested applicants. Please meet in the lobby of 185 Cambridge Street, next to the Whole Foods.

Project Background

In June 2016, the City of Boston issued Boston Creates, the city's cultural plan. The Alternative Space Pilot Project was announced as one of the first implementation steps, responding to the lack of affordable rehearsal and work space for artists. This program will make use of underutilized private space as rehearsal space for arts organizations and artists. The Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture will help match arts organizations and artists to the available spaces for rehearsals on a regular basis, for a minimum of a one-year commitment.

Artist Selection and Process

Applications will be reviewed by the selection committee, based on the evaluation criteria below. Once an artist or group is selected, a rehearsal schedule and space details will be finalized through a signed agreement between the artist(s) and Massachusetts Eye and Ear. The artist(s) will have access to the space for one year from signing. The Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture will serve as a resource throughout the year to both Massachusetts Eye and Ear and the selected artist(s). Periodic check-ins may be scheduled with all three parties as needed.

Selection Committee

Erin Duggan Lynch, Director of Communications and Corporate Relations, Mass. Eye and Ear
Julie Hennrikus, Executive Director of Stagesource Boston
Wanda Strukus, Chief Programming Officer at Boston Center for the Arts



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Evaluation Criteria

1. Space match - is the applicant a good fit for Massachusetts Eye and Ear and the available space?
2. Expression of need - does the applicant sufficiently demonstrate a space need?
3. History of presenting or working in Boston - does the applicant demonstrate a history of sharing artistic work with the public and contributing to the arts and culture sector in Boston?

Application Checklist

- Contact information for group or individuals using the space
- Application narrative:
 - Artist/Group/Organization description and background.
 - Description of your artistic practice space needs.
 - Description of how you will use the space at Massachusetts Eye and Ear.
 - Description of how you have shared your work with the public in the past, including how your practice has engaged residents, venues, organizations, etc, within the City of Boston.
- Artist CV or resume for everyone using the space, or links to artist's individual websites.
- Work samples:
 - Including images, video, MP3s, or other files that show evidence of your artistic practice. This may include video of a performance, images of artwork, press clippings, recordings, handbills, etc.

Questions? Contact:

Kara Elliott-Ortega

Director of Planning and Policy

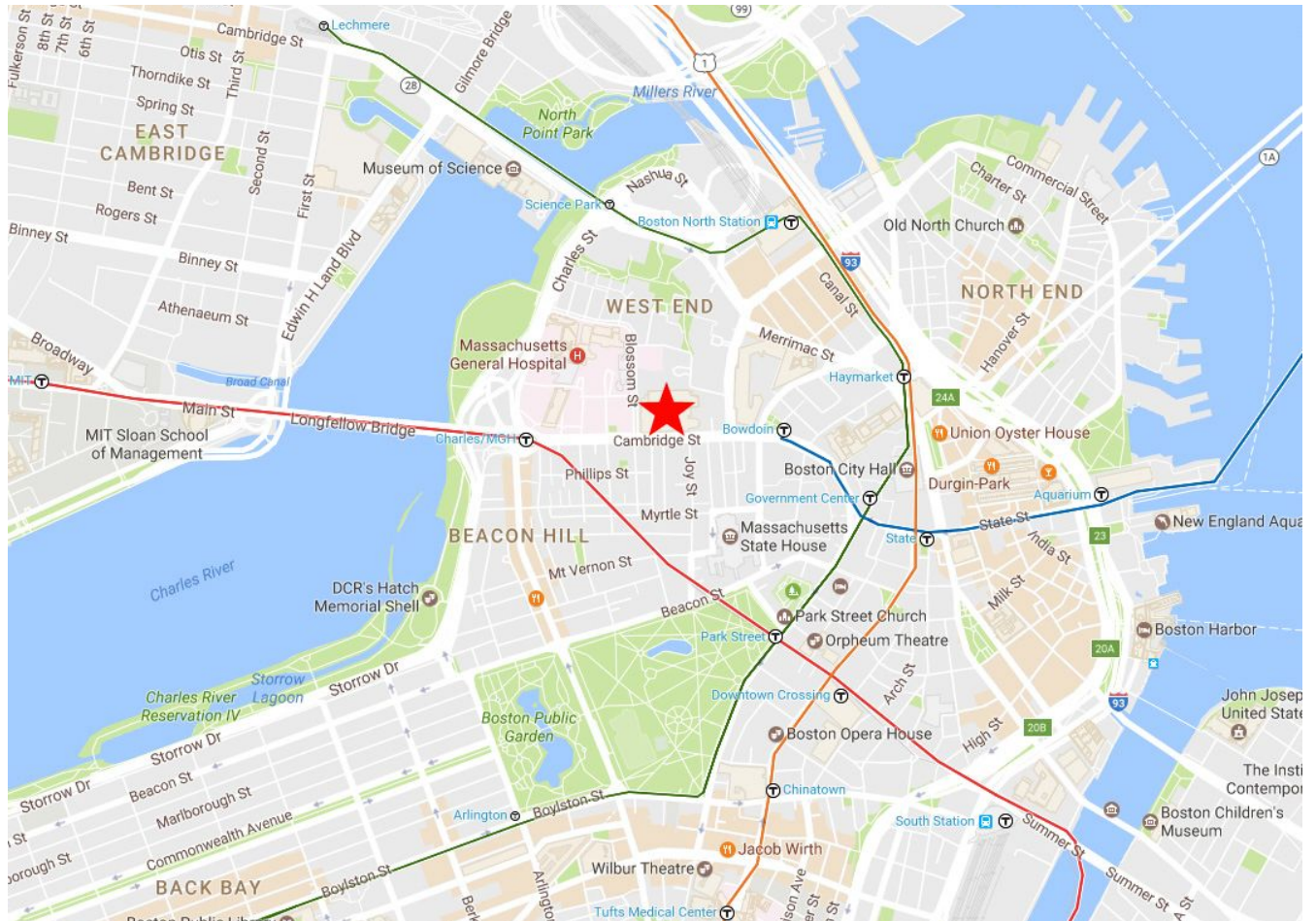
Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture

kara.elliott-ortega@boston.gov, 617-935-2437



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Map of Massachusetts Eye and Ear location





**Massachusetts
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The Auditorium





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The Break-out Room



Note: The break out room may be booked with or without tables/chairs.