



*Promoting the
Development of
Sustainable,
Affordable Studios
and Live Work
Spaces in
Massachusetts*



Goal

To support the development of sustainable, affordable studios and live/work spaces for artists in Massachusetts.



Why Artist Space?

- Studios and live work spaces -- spaces to create -- are one of the most fundamental material supports for any artist
- Permanent, affordable space is in short supply in Massachusetts
 - *Challenges in places like Boston, though, may be opportunities in places like Lowell, for example*
- Real estate projects are challenging, and the market is complex
- The need for grounded, practical technical assistance is evergreen -- through up real estate cycles and down
- More and more communities looking at artist spaces as tools for downtown revitalization -- but it is not a silver bullet!



Key History

- **MCC's Previous Work in This Area**
- **Urban Institute Study: National Framework**
- **Local Needs Assessment: Focused on Artist Space**
- **Local Coalition and Consensus Building**
- **Staffing**
- **Fundraising and Marketing**
- **Launch**
 - **Technical assistance services launched 2004**
 - **Websites launched 2006**
 - **Predevelopment Recoverable Grant Program, 2008**



Funders and Partners

- Leveraging Investments in Creativity (LINC)
- Massachusetts Cultural Council
- New England Foundation for the Arts
- The Boston Foundation
- Boston Redevelopment Authority
- Barr Foundation
- LEF Foundation
- Boston Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)



Three Primary Constituents

1. Artists

2. Developers

3. Municipalities

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artspacefinder™

The definitive place to help you find or list space to create
in Massachusetts and the Boston Metro area.



Welcome to artspacefinder! Click on Find Space to start searching. Once you get the listings, **BE SURE TO LOOK AT BOTH SETS OF LISTINGS** by tabbing across the top of the page:

1. "Space Available Now" listings are artist spaces for rent or purchase now. They stay on the site for 30 days.
2. "Directory of Artist Space" is a permanent directory of artists spaces in the state. They may or may not have availability.

- *HINT: If you are an artist looking for workspace, be sure to also look at community art centers/multi-use listings. Click Find Space now!*

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What's New?

The **latest news** for Artists!

New **artist space** listings!

Looking for a Venue?

[Matchbook.org](#) lists performance venues across New England!



[BigRED&Shiny](#) has a great list of venues!

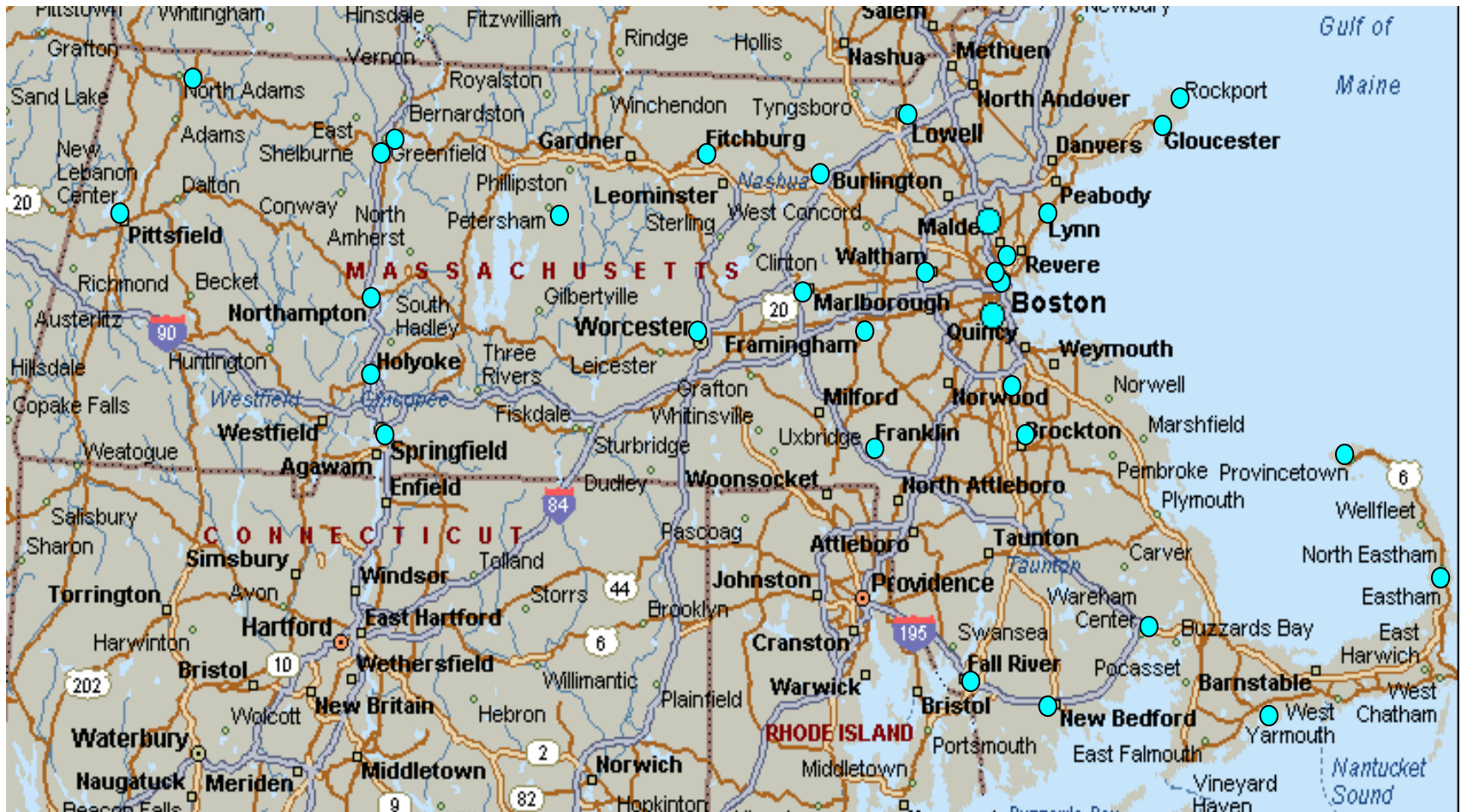
Featured Space: Marston Lofts

7 artist Live/work loft condos in Lowell, MA! Large spaces.

Key Performance Measures To Date

- **65** artist space projects in 30 communities statewide
- **475** planned units (155 units are complete or in construction) of artist live/work spaces
- Over **700,000 s.f.** of workspace, community arts spaces, gallery spaces, and other creative industry spaces

Covering the Map



Western Avenue Studios, Lowell

Private Developer

Proponent:

- Artist co-op to purchase

Program:

- 200,000 s.f.
- 150 work studios
- Gallery and community space
- Adding 68 live/work, 21 work units



Gorse Mill Studios, Needham

Artist Developer: The Potter Shop

Program:

- 100,000 sf
- 34 for sale work units
- Community gallery

Progress:

- Ribbon cutting
October, 2008
- 2/3 units already sold



Malden Convent

City-driven Project



Proponent:

- City of Malden

Program:

- 9000 sf
- 4-5 live/work units
- 10 work studios
- Gallery/Community space

Other Projects



Charlestown

Dorchester

Cambridge

Springfield

Salem

Jamaica Plain



Other Projects



**Northampton
Brockton**



**Lynn
Gloucester**



**North Adams
Ayer**



The Future...

1. Now regarded as a permanent program of Massachusetts Cultural Council
2. Integration with new Cultural Facilities Fund
 1. Landmark legislation passed in 2006
 2. 120 Capital Grants and Planning Grants totaling \$24 million in first two years
3. Statewide policy efforts

Questions?

