



## Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry

John Eliot Square □ 10 Putnam St. □ Roxbury, Massachusetts □ 02119  
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June 2023

### From Our Executive Director & Senior Minister



In the peace garden this week, while a local musician played and an artist set up a painting station, one-by-one new and old friends came. A new neighbor joined, Longtime community elders. And youth from our afterschool program pulled up chairs, too. And while they painted together, they met and re-met and talked and laughed.

This is the sweetness of this season, the easy way community can gather in the warming days.

At the UU Urban Ministry we make space for connection - because relationships are at the heart of everything, including the work for change and justice. So thank you for the ways your support this work, in all the ways that happens. Thank you for donating to programs that support young people, and create space for the arts.

Thank you for helping us build a peace garden, and restoring our buildings. Thank you for supporting our work to build partnerships for a better Greater Boston. Thank you for showing up and being part of knitting community across all the ways

we are divided.

Hope to see you in the garden in the season ahead.

In faith,

Mary Margaret

[Click Here to Support the UU Urban Ministry](#)

## An Evening of Celebration and Performance



Last week, we came together for an evening to celebrate Boston's newest landmark, First Church in Roxbury. We were happy to welcome 100+ guests to our space to celebrate the history of the building and what it means today to the Roxbury neighborhood.

Joining us was Rev. Mariama White-Hammond, the City of Boston's Chief of Environment, Energy, and Open Space, who shared inspiring words about activating historic spaces, like ours, for the betterment of life in the city. It was an honor to have her join us.

The evening also included honoring five people from our community who have been champions of the church building over the years. The honorees included: Ernest Coston, Jon Ellertson, Thomas Plant, Byron Rushing, and Joyce Stanley.



Those in attendance were also treated to "Arias on the Steps", world class vocal performances assembled and led by Marshall Hughes, UUUM board member and vocalist extraordinaire.

It was a wonderful celebration of the historic First Church in Roxbury and of this community that we call home.



Those honored for playing a part in the Meetinghouse's history. From left to right: Thomas Plant, Joyce Stanley, Jon Ellertson, and Ernest Coston (Byron Rushing not pictured).

## Restoring Roxbury's Meetinghouse - In Photos

**AFTER**



The scaffolding that had been up from the floor to ceiling (as seen below) has now been taken down. You can see the painting work that has been completed on the walls and ceiling.

## BEFORE





## Upcoming Events

**Jazz in the Peace Garden**



UU Urban Ministry presents...

# JAZZ

## *in the Peace Garden*

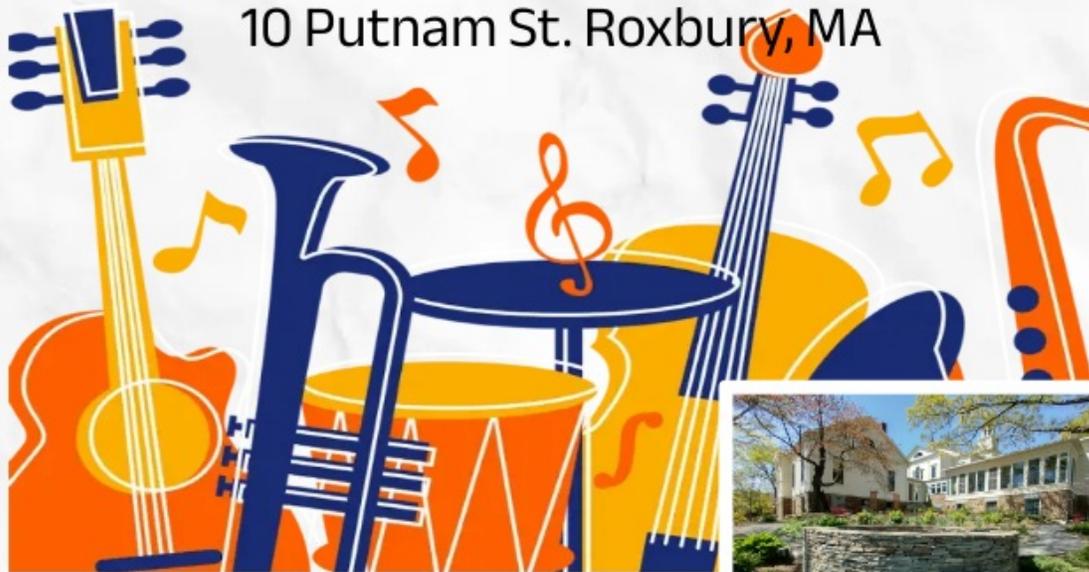
Tuesdays - 4:30pm - 6:00pm

June 6, 13, 20, 27

July 11, 18, 25

UUUM Peace Garden

10 Putnam St. Roxbury, MA



Made possible, in part by support from:



### [Jazz in the Peace Garden](#)

**Tuesdays, June 13, 20, 27; July 11, 18, 25**

**Peace Garden, 10 Putnam St. Roxbury, MA**

If you're in the neighborhood on one of the above listed Tuesdays in June and July, join us in the Peace Garden from 4:30pm - 6:00pm to enjoy live music and an art activity!

**The Makanda Project**



## JAZZ ON THE GREEN

2023 SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Featuring:

# THE MAKANDA PROJECT

**SAT. JULY 15<sup>th</sup>**  
1 P.M. - 4 P.M.

**SAT. AUG. 5<sup>th</sup>**  
1 P.M. - 4 P.M.

**SAT. SEPT. 9<sup>th</sup>**  
1 P.M. - 4 P.M.

More information to come!

Updates and event info can be found on the UUUM website:

[www.UUUM.org/attend](http://www.UUUM.org/attend)

Events are FREE! | All are welcome | Bring a lawn chair or blanket

UU Urban Ministry - Greenspace  
10 Putnam St. | John Eliot Sq.  
Roxbury, MA 02119  
[www.uuum.org](http://www.uuum.org)



### [The Makanda Project](#)

**Saturday, July 15th**  
**Saturday, August 5th**  
**Saturday, September 9th**

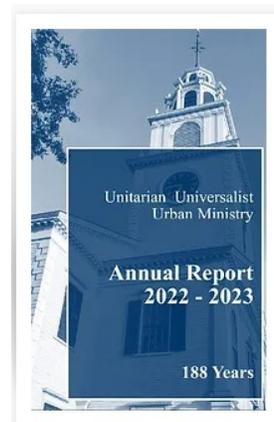
Join us for the 2023 Jazz on the Green Summer Series, featuring The Makanda Project. We are happy to again be hosting these concerts free of charge on our greenspace, and invite you to join us!

Bring a lawn chair or blanket and stay for an afternoon of great music!

**In Case You Missed It**



If you missed the UU Urban Ministry's 188th Annual Meeting, it was recorded and is available on our website. Below is a link to the YouTube recording of the Annual Meeting, as well as our most recent Annual Report.



## In the Community

**UUUM Joins MIT Hackathon to Tackle the Racial Wealth Gap**



On Saturday, May 20th, members of the UU Urban Ministry team, and students from our Roxbury Youth Programs took part in the "Hacking the Archive" event - spearheaded by Dr. Karilyn Crockett who recently joined us for [Community Conversations](#).

[Check out the recent article from The Bay State Banner](#) that covered the event.

### Supporting Our Friends in the Community



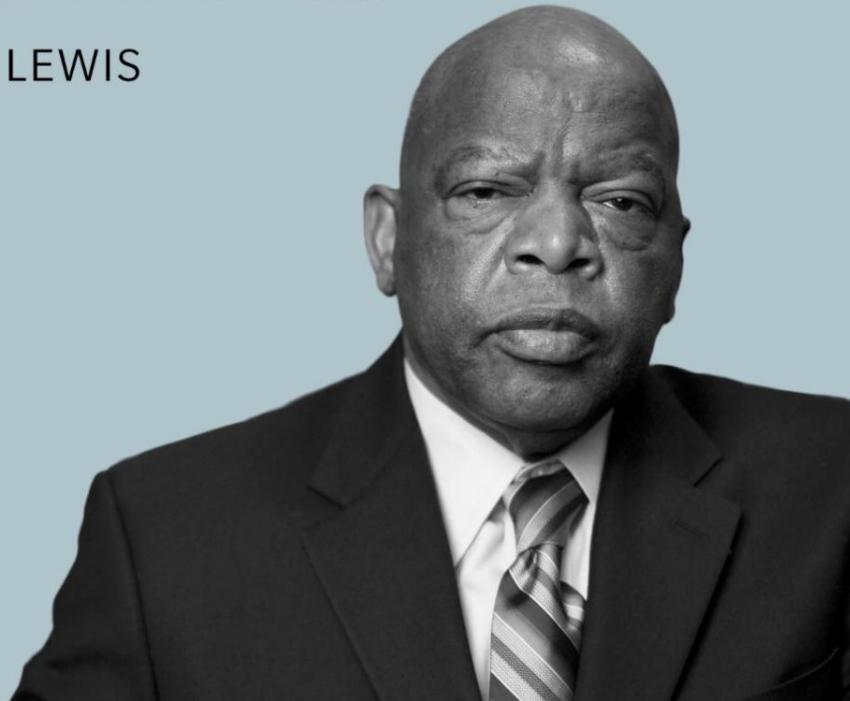
On June 1st, our friends from [City Life/Vida Urbana](#) held events statewide to support renter's rights. Above, Rev. Mary Margaret Earl and Tali Smookler from UU Mass Action joining City Life's event outside the Massachusetts State House in Boston.

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Get in good trouble,  
necessary trouble,  
and help redeem the  
soul of America.

— JOHN LEWIS



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- all things UUUM
- our member congregations
- opportunities and resources in Roxbury and the Boston-area

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