



## Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry

John Eliot Square • 10 Putnam St. • Roxbury, MA 02119  
Tel: 617-318-6010 • Fax: 617 318-6022 • [www.uuum.org](http://www.uuum.org)

October 2023



View of Jeep Jones Park, down the street from UUUM and part of our Educational Institutions Tour.

Autumn brings a new burst of energy at the UU Urban Ministry - young people arrive in our afterschool program, Meetinghouse restoration work continues, and we launch our annual Community Conversations series on housing.

But we also are planning for new growth, too. Like the bulbs to be planted in our peace garden this month, we are laying the groundwork for programs that will blossom next year.

Through the winter, we will be planning a new phase in our economic work. We'll meet with alumni from our Roxbury Youth Program, community members and partners to listen to barriers to thriving economically in Roxbury and Boston.

We'll be building new tours to launch in the spring - to continue highlighting the richness of this community and bringing visitors to local businesses.

And we'll be visiting member congregations to more deeply engage friends in our work.

As the leaves turn, and the night falls early, we dig into this rich soil with you, and dream of what's ahead.

With gratitude and anticipation,

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

## Program Updates

### Roxbury Youth Programs (RYP)



Roxbury Youth Programs (RYP) is back for the fall semester. We are happy to have students back in the building for after school homework assistance and tutoring. In addition to RYP staff, we welcomed the return of students from Boston College's PULSE Program who will be working with our young people.



Plus, we are [now accepting applications for the Fall Semester of the RYP Internship program](#). RYP Internships equip young people ages 13-22 with skills in leadership, self-efficacy, and creativity through a lens of community history and social change. If you know a young person who might be interested, please share this opportunity.

## Welcome Reggie!

We are happy to welcome Reggie Walker to UUUM in the role of interim manager of community engagement and the tours program. Reggie will be working to cultivate relationships within the Roxbury community, and will be heading up the UUUM Tours Program.

Thank you to the group who joined us this past Saturday for, The Trees of John Eliot Square; A historical perspective walking tour. Stay tuned for information about our next season of Roxbury walking tours.



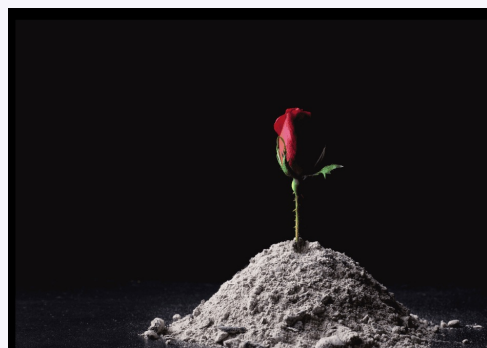
The group from this past Saturday's The Trees of John Eliot Square; A historical perspective walking tour, led by historian and UUUM board member Thomas Plant.

## Renewal House

### "Beauty From Ashes"

*The stories of Renewal House residents told through art*

Renewal House, our emergency domestic violence shelter is at an undisclosed location for the safety of its residents. But the upcoming "Beauty From Ashes" art show will share the stories of the residents through artistic expression with our community.



Stay tuned for information about the "Beauty From Ashes" art show at the UU Urban Ministry.

## Exclusive Opportunity for the UUUM Community

### Special Roxbury Food & Brew Tour

On **Saturday, December 2nd from 10:00am - 1:00pm**, The Urban Ministry is partnering with entrepreneur Collin Knight from [Live Like A Local Tours](#) for a Roxbury Food & Brew Tour. Knight, a Roxbury-native, designed the tour to highlight Nubian Square culture, food, and history.



Join UUUM Partnerships Manager, Subu Karmacharya, for this experience highlighting Nubian Square's history, culture, food, and breweries from a passionate local's perspective. Enjoy an experience that features some of the best of Roxbury [and stay to do some holiday shopping in Nubian Square!].

#### Get Your Tour Tickets

There are only 25 spots available for this tour. [Buy your tickets now!](#)

#### Questions?

[CLICK HERE](#) for more tour information, or email [development@uum.org](mailto:development@uum.org).



## Upcoming Events

### Community Conversations Returns



## COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

# Byron Rushing

## Housing and Racism in Boston: A History



**Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.\***

*\*This event will be held in-person at UUUM and virtually*

Historian Byron Rushing, who served in the Massachusetts House of Representatives for over-thirty-years, was also the president of the Museum of African-American History in Boston.

Through his life he has been a champion for justice, and will speak about the history of racism in the Boston-area, and how that has affected housing for the city's BIPOC residents—both in the past and in current day Boston.

Questions? Email [development@uuum.org](mailto:development@uuum.org)



**Event sponsored by:**

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### [Community Conversations: Housing and Racism in Boston: A History \(w/ Byron Rushing\)](#)

**When:** Tuesday, November 16th; 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

**Where:** In-person at the UU Urban Ministry and virtually

We are excited to share details about our 4th annual Community Conversations series!

This year our theme is how housing has contributed to racial inequity, especially in Boston. We will examine various aspects of this topic (public housing, affordable housing, new models of housing).

Join us in-person on Tuesday, November 14th as we welcome historian Byron Rushing to discuss the history of housing and racism in Boston. There will also be a virtual option to watch the event.

### Help Bring Community Conversations To Life



## COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

### Become a Community Conversations Sponsor

Community Conversations are discussions covering social justice topics that impact the BIPOC community in the Boston-area. These events are made possible, in part, with the support of our member congregations. Sponsorship of these conversations ensure both a successful event as well as supporting the work of UUUM programs. As a Community Conversations sponsor, you can make a

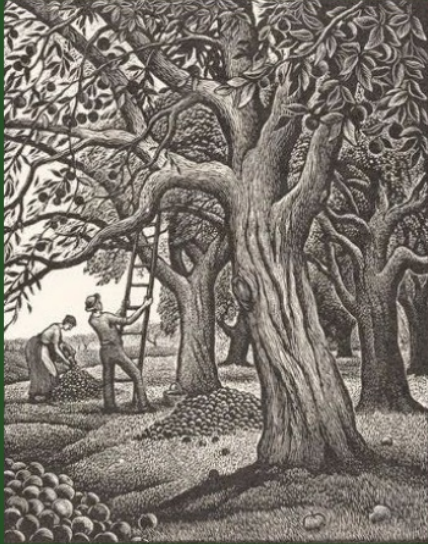
direct impact on making our mission and vision a reality, and we hope you'll join us.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the schedule for the upcoming **Community Conversations series**, and more information about becoming a sponsor.

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## Roxbury Russet Festival

# Roxbury Russet Festival



Presented by  
Roxbury Heritage State Park  
and the Shirley-Eustis House  
in partnership with the Roxbury Historical Society

Saturday, October 21, 2023  
11am-3pm

**Roxbury Heritage State Park**  
Dillaway-Thomas House  
183 Roxbury Street, Roxbury, MA 02119

and

Evening Lecture with  
Roxbury Russet Expert John Bunker  
First Church Roxbury, 6-7:30pm  
10 Putnam Street, Roxbury

For more info contact:  
[roxbury.heritage@mass.gov](mailto:roxbury.heritage@mass.gov) or 857-399-1225

## Festival Activities (11am-3pm):

- Apple pressings
- Live music
- Scavenger hunt
- Hands-on crafts
- Mini-exhibit of apple history
- Cider donuts, sweet cider, & apples
- Heirloom apple display with John Bunker
- Apple tree care with UMass Extension
- Info tables on urban farming & more
- Self-guided tours of Dillaway-Thomas House

## Evening lecture (6-7:30pm):

*The Roxbury Russet, America's Oldest Apple: A History of Apples in Eastern Massachusetts* with John Bunker, agricultural historian, orchardist, fruit explorer, and author of *Apples and the Art of Detection*. Find more information on Bunker [here](#).

Sponsored by:

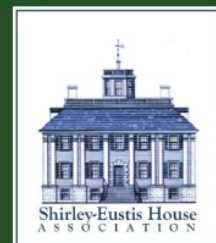
**MA Department of Conservation & Recreation**

**Roxbury Historical Society**

**Shirley-Eustis House Association**

**Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry**

dcr  
Massachusetts



## Roxbury Russet Festival

**When:** Saturday, October 21st

**Where:** Dillaway-Thomas House; 183 Roxbury St., Roxbury (across the street from UUUM)

This FREE event features apple pressing, music, crafts, an evening lecture, and

more! [CLICK HERE](#) for the event information.

### Volunteer Opportunity

Our friends organizing the Russett Festival are seeking volunteers to work in the following slots:

- 2 people to help serve snacks and cider to attendees
- 1-3 people to rove throughout the festival
- 1-3 people to help with setup
- 1-3 people to help with cleanup

If you are interested in lending a hand, [email Rachel](#) from the event committee.

### Join Us in the Peace Garden



### [Bulb Planting in the Peace Garden - Volunteer Opportunity!](#)

**When:** Saturday, October 21st; 3pm-5pm

**Where:** 10 Putnam St., Roxbury, MA

Help plant bulbs that will grow into beautiful flowers in the spring!

Join us in the peace garden after the Roxbury Russett Festival. If you are able to join us and volunteer, please let us know. Email Subu: [development@uum.org](mailto:development@uum.org).

If you decide to volunteer last minute...that's okay, too!

### Hope to See You On Sunday



# Invite UUUM to Preach



**Rev. Mary Margaret Earl**

*Executive Director and  
Senior Minister*

Each year, Rev. Mary Margaret Earl [and members of the UUUM team] are invited to preach [speak] at UUUM member congregations - and others. Mary Margaret will share a sermon with a social justice message that is both a call to action and reflection. Staff members speak about the programs and mission of the Urban Ministry, and ways to join us in this work.

We are now open to requests for preaching for the 2023-2024 church year. If you are interested in inviting us or learning more, please email Annie Stubbs: [astubbs@uum.org](mailto:astubbs@uum.org).

We appreciate the invitations to join you and hope to see you soon!

## The 2023-2024 Calendar is Filling Up

If you are interested in having Rev. Mary Margaret Earl preach at your congregation on an upcoming Sunday, or in having a member of the UUUM Team join you to discuss our mission, work, and ways your church can get involved, email Vinnie: [vmyles@uum.org](mailto:vmyles@uum.org).

## Photos From Our Boston Landmark



The stairs at the main entrance of the Meetinghouse are being repaired as part of the work to enhance accessibility to the building.

## Words for your consideration...

"I for one believe that if you give people a thorough understanding of what confronts them and the basic causes that produce it, they'll create their own program, and when the people create a program, you get action."

— Malcolm X

## Stay Connected with Us

### Stay connected and up-to-date about:

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

### Follow us on social media!

[UUUM on Facebook](#)

[UUUM on Instagram](#)

[UUUM on Twitter](#)

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