



Every Word Counts

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Erin DeMarco, ReadBoston
617.918.5289

ReadBoston Storymobile Inaugural Visit to Historic Bunker Hill Monument

The ReadBoston Storymobile will make a special appearance at Charlestown's famous Bunker Hill Monument as part of a week of special events on Tuesday, August 16 at 11:00 a.m. This inaugural visit to the Monument will feature stories read by a park guide dressed as an 18th-century Boston colonist, ever-popular and knowledgeable National Park Service rangers to help children become Jr. Rangers, and a free book for all participating children.

The Storymobile's week of special events offers children extended summer visits from August 15 through August 19 to very special Boston locations. In addition to the Bunker Hill Monument location, the Storymobile will also make stops at places such as Fenway Park and Boston College's Alumni Stadium.

One of the first built in the United States and standing 221 feet tall, Bunker Hill Monument was erected to commemorate the Battle of Bunker Hill, the first major conflict between British and Patriot forces in the Revolutionary War, fought there June 17, 1775. The Bunker Hill Museum, across the street from the Monument includes many exhibits about the battle. Bunker Hill is part of the Boston National Historical Park, maintained by the National Park Service, and one of the 16 sites along the Freedom Trail.

ReadBoston's Storymobile program is one of the largest of its kind, hiring professional local storytellers to entertain and educate Boston's children during the summer months. Not only does each child enjoy watching a story brought to life each week through tales and song, but they get to choose a book to bring home and keep. The goal of the Storymobile program is to promote literacy as a year round endeavor that doesn't end when the school doors close for summer. Throughout the summer children at ReadBoston Storymobile sites receive six free books through the program to incorporate into their own personal home libraries.

The ReadBoston Storymobile program rolls through the streets of Boston weekdays through August 12, visiting 78 locations citywide. The Storymobile program is open to all children. For additional information, including a full schedule, visit www.readboston.org

WHAT: ReadBoston Storymobile Special Events Summer Program

WHEN: Tuesday, August 16- 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

WHERE: Bunker Hill Monument, 43 Monument Square (at High Street), Charlestown, MA

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About ReadBoston:

ReadBoston was founded by Mayor Thomas Menino and other city leaders in 1995 as a non-profit children's literacy organization with an ambitious goal: to ensure that every child in Boston can read at grade level by the end of the third grade. Third grade has been chosen as the standard because until the third grade a child learns to read; after the third grade a child reads to learn. Children who can read at grade level by the time they enter the fourth grade are likely to continue to experience educational success, graduate from high school, secure post-secondary education, and enjoy higher levels of professional challenge and financial security.

About the National Park Service:

The purpose of Boston National Historical Park is to preserve, protect, and interpret for the benefit and inspiration of all people, the historic structures and properties of outstanding national significance located in Boston and associated with the American Revolution and the founding and growth of the United States.

Boston National Historical Park is an association of sites that together give the visitor a coherent view of the city's role in the nation's history. In downtown Boston, Old South Meeting House, Old State House, Faneuil Hall, the Paul Revere House and Old North Church bring to life the American ideals of freedom of speech, religion, government, and self-determination. In Charlestown, visit the Bunker Hill Monument, the site of the first major battle of the American Revolution, the Charlestown Navy Yard, one of the nation's first naval shipyards and the USS Constitution, the oldest commissioned warship afloat in the world. For Boston National Historical Park information, please call 617.242.5616, or visit www.nps.gov/bost.

About the Freedom Trail Foundation:

The Freedom Trail® Foundation is dedicated to marketing, promoting and helping to preserve the Freedom Trail through varied tourist services and activities, educational programs, and marketing and public relations efforts. Marked by a red brick or painted line, Boston's 2.5 mile Freedom Trail connects 16 of the country's most significant historical landmarks weaving its way through Boston's proud past in the midst of this vital, modern city. The Foundation's Preservation Fund supports preservation, rehabilitation and capital projects for official sites which help avoid, minimize or mitigate adverse effects of the elements and manmade wear and tear of Boston's and America's precious 18th century sites. For Freedom Trail Foundation information, please call 617.357.8300 or visit www.thefreedomtrail.org.

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