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Spoke & Word, July 2022: BNB Doubles Training and Employment Opportunities for Marginalized Youth

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# SP<sup>oke</sup>KE -&-WORD

*Bikes Not Bombs  
July 2022*

## **Bikes Not Bombs Doubles Training and Employment Opportunities for Boston's Black and Marginalized Youth**



Click [here](#) to expand the press release outlining our growth over the past year!

Bikes Not Bombs has seen a lot of growth over this past year. Over that time we have **doubled our training and employment opportunities for Black and other marginalized youth in the Boston area** through a recently formalized, multi-tiered Youth Pathways program where young people living in Boston's most disenfranchised neighborhoods develop life and work skills under the mentorship of professional bike mechanics.

To learn more about our program expansion and commitment to Youth Pathways, [click here](#).

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**35th Annual Bike-A-Thon:**

## A Ride for Social Change



35<sup>th</sup> Annual

# BIKE-A-THON

*A bike ride for social change*

#BAT2022

## Sunday Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

*Rain Date, September 25<sup>th</sup>*

Visit [bikesnotbombs.org](http://bikesnotbombs.org) for more information.



**More than 300 riders have signed up for our Bike-A-Thon this year. Will you be joining us?** There's still time to register, fundraise, and get your training miles in!

The Bike-A-Thon will be held on Sunday, September 11th, 2022 and depart from Stony Brook Field in Jamaica Plain. View all routes, volunteer information, and event details at our Bike-A-Thon [website](#).

[Register for the Bike-A-Thon](#)

### Training Rides:

We are offering one more [training ride](#) in preparation for the Bike-A-Thon:

- August 21st: Arrive at 6:30 AM, promptly leaving at 7 AM (choice of 35 or 63 miles).

To register for the training ride, click [here](#).

### 10% Discount at the BNB Bike Shop for all REGISTERED Bike-A-Thon riders:

Are you registered for the Bike-A-Thon? Get your bike tuned up in time for the September 11th ride! **All registered riders will receive 10% off** all new and used parts, apparel and accessories at the BNB Bike Shop. New bikes and labor excluded.

**Please bring in your bike no later than August 27th, 2022 in order to ensure we can tune-up every rider and avoid backups in the shop.** Call or visit the shop to schedule an appointment in advance.

## Thank You to our 2022 Bike-A-Thon Sponsors:

Silver Saddle

### Breakstone, White & Gluck

Massachusetts Personal Injury and Malpractice Lawyers



KRYPTONITE®

Bronze Brake



LAMPLIGHTER

— BREWING CO. —



bikesnotbombs.org/bike-a-thon-/sponsors

## Save the Date: Ride for Black Lives XIII: Youth Lead the Way



**On Saturday, August 20th, we ride in tribute to our youth.** At the 13th edition of the Ride for Black Lives, we will have a robust program featuring youth speakers, a community assets panel discussion, and more. We will roll out promptly at 10:45 AM.

*"It's time that we do away with the notion that young people are the future. We need fresh ideas now. We need fresh perspective now. The only way that happens is when we establish and embrace a culture where [youth] leadership is valued."*

– Elijah Evans, Executive Director of Bikes Not Bombs (at Brookline High School commencement, 2022)

Route and program details (including speakers) coming soon and will be updated on this [event page](#). Total ride distance approximately 10 miles and the ride is family friendly, with marshals placed along the route to keep riders together and safe.

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## Youth Apprentice Spotlight: Joseph Pires



*Joseph Pires,  
Senior Youth Apprentice*

Joseph Pires is a Bikes Not Bombs veteran and Senior Youth Apprentice. Since starting with Bikes Not Bombs as a youth participant back in 2016, Joseph has worked with just about every team at Bikes Not Bombs including Bicyclists Organizing for Community Action (BOCA), the bike shop, and Bike School. He is truly a Joseph-of-all-trades.

Joseph says he has learned a lot and enjoyed his time as a Youth Apprentice. “I get to do so much and have access to so many opportunities,” Joseph told us. “Joining the board of the Boston Cyclists Union, being a leader in my community, expanding my network, and learning how to utilize and benefit from my experiences to then create new ones.” This summer, Joseph will be assisting the BOCA team including events such as Chain Reaction on top of helping with general Bike Shop duties like metal recycling and operations.

Joseph graduated high school this year and is headed off to Roxbury Community College where he will be involved in their Year Up program. Joseph will study business and finances and aspires to be an investment strategist and wealth manager. We know Joseph will succeed in anything he puts his mind to! Thanks for all your hard work and dedication, Joseph. We appreciate you so much.

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## 12th Annual Mattapan on Wheels: Recap



*BNB's Bicyclists Organizing for Community Action (BOCA) team at the 12th Annual Mattapan on Wheels ride*

On Saturday July 23rd, Bikes Not Bombs joined the Mattapan Food and Fitness Coalition for their 12th annual Mattapan on Wheels Bike-A-Thon. The event was a major success and a lot of fun with 68 riders in attendance.

Bikes Not Bombs's Bicyclists Organizing for Community Action (BOCA) apprentices helped sweep, marshal and cork intersections, ensuring a safe ride experience for all.

The event concluded with riders joining Youth in Crisis' annual Hoops and Scoops event where bikers cooled off with some ice cream or sat in the shade at Ryan's Playground in Mattapan. We really appreciate the Mattapan Food and Fitness Coalition for our continued partnership and for promoting healthy living and bicycle riding!

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## **Volunteer Night**



For the first time in the last year, we opened our doors for [Volunteer Night](#). Already, just about every available spot was taken up for the month of July. People are excited to volunteer with us and help us achieve our mission!

If you didn't get a chance to volunteer this month, we have Volunteer Nights planned throughout the rest of the summer. If you are interested in contributing to our mission, working with your hands, or getting more familiar with bicycles, [sign-up here](#).

**Pre-registration is required.**

[Sign Up for Volunteer Night](#)

Reach out to Andrew Ahern, Community Engagement Coordinator, at [andrew@bikesnotbombs.org](mailto:andrew@bikesnotbombs.org) with questions about Volunteer Night.

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## Donor of the Month: Emmett Schaefer

Emmett Schaefer, a long-time Jamaica Plain resident, is our [Donor of the Month](#). Emmett first learned about Bikes Not Bombs when he met BNB co-founder Mira Brown in the early 1990's. Emmett recalls that he could not have found a better person to introduce him to BNB. At that point, he was really getting into biking, commuting from Somerville and then JP to UMASS Boston, where Emmett taught sociology for many years.

Emmett recalls being very inspired by Mira's commitment to Bikes Not Bombs. Emmett says he was always an activist, and that the



Emmett Schaefer  
July 2022 Donor of the Month

idea of being an activist around bicycles was extremely appealing to him. A long-time BNB supporter and donor, in 2016 Emmett began making an automatic, recurring monthly donation. “I love that BNB trains youth to repair bikes, connects with young people of color to get a bike for themselves, reaches out to people who otherwise might not step into a bike shop, and works with other countries to ship bikes and set up bike shops. What is there not to like?”

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## Bikes Not Bombs x Clinch Industria: New BNB Bags and Accessories

New Bikes Not Bombs-themed bags and accessories by Clinch Industria are available now, **exclusively in our bike shop**. We have handmade backpacks, messenger bags, cycling caps, and wallets all decked out in our newest logo artwork. These items will go fast but we have another order arriving just in time for the school year. You can purchase any of these products at the bike shop or by visiting [shop.bikesnotbombs.org](http://shop.bikesnotbombs.org).

While you're there, make sure to check out our newest [refurbished bicycles](#). **We restock refurbished bikes every week** to ensure a range of sizes and styles, all at an affordable price. Come by the shop and test one out yourself!





Wallet

Phone Case

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## BNB is Hiring for Multiple Positions

Bikes Not Bombs is hiring for a few full-time positions. Read below for more information:

**Bookkeeper and HR Coordinator**: the person in this role will be responsible for maintaining BNB's day-to-day accounting systems and for accounting reconciliations and reports. Additionally, working alongside the Executive Director and Staff Leadership Team, the Bookkeeper and Human Resources Coordinator provides administrative, human resources, and executive operational support across all staff teams. 40 hours/week. Salary range: \$50,000 - \$70,000.

**Development Manager**: the person filling this role will play a major role in keeping the Development Team organized to achieve our fundraising goals and plays a key role managing our growing portfolio of foundation grants and government contracts. This role is a great opportunity for a strong writer with previous development experience to deepen their knowledge of grants management, build leadership skills, and advance their career in non-profit fundraising and development operations. 40 hours/week. Salary range: \$50,000 - \$60,000.

BNB also seeks a full-time bicycle **Mechanic & Sales Associate** with experience working in retail shops to assist with retail and service operations at our Roxbury location. Primary duties include completing repairs and rebuilds (refurbishing donated bicycles for sale), setting clear performance standards and providing training for how Bike Shop staff, Youth and Volunteer Apprentices do business with customers, work on repairs, and rebuild bicycles for sale. 40 hours/week. Hourly wage: \$19 - \$24.

Bikes Not Bombs is also hiring Youth Apprentices to work in the fall. For eligibility requirements, please visit our **Youth Apprenticeships page**.

Please consider applying or help spread the word!

[View Open Positions at Bikes Not Bombs](#)

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# **Celebrating BNB Staff: New Hires, Transitions, and Departures**

## **New Staff:**

Please join us in welcoming the following people to our Bikes Not Bombs staff. We cannot wait to see what we will accomplish together!

- Abeo Powder - Youth Organizer, Healthy Living
- Andrew Ahern - Community Engagement Coordinator
- Elyse Oliver - Youth Development & Transitions Manager
- Jeannie Lee - Bike School Mechanic Instructor
- Montell Khaldi - Youth Organizer, Mobility Justice
- Neil Decoteau - Mechanic & Sales Associate
- Noah Hicks - Roxbury Bike Shop Manager
- Sam Keezell - Bike Donation & Operations Coordinator
- Santos Carasquillo - Director of Bike Shop & Training Center
- Teresa Lourie - Mechanic & Sales Associate

## **Promotions:**

The following staff members have taken on new roles at Bikes Not Bombs. Congratulations!

- Andrés Gutierrez -> Advanced Mechanics Coordinator
- Dan Seiden -> Assistant Director, Sales & Service
- Gabriel Méndez -> Training & Service Manager
- Kim Wutkiewicz -> Executive Operations Manager

## **Departures:**

We would like to thank the following individuals for their dedication to Bikes Not Bombs -- it has been a pleasure to be in this work together!

- Ben Goodman, Director of Bike Shop & Training Center - final day August 20, 2022
- Eric Mearns, Bike Collections Consultant
- Joseph Butler, Bookkeeper & HR Coordinator
- Tess Stogner, Bike School Coordinator at Jamaica Plain

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**Bike Match Recipient:  
Carmen Picardi**



*Carmen Picardi, Bike Match Recipient*

Carmen Picardi is one of our latest recipients to get a bike through the Bike Match program.

Carmen initially reached out to us about getting a bike in order to help him get around the city and commute to work. Since receiving a mountain bike, Carmen has used it for exercise and daily trips to the Charles River. The bike is already having an impact on Carmen's health and well-being. He told us he has noticed some weight loss, improved blood pressure, and overall life satisfaction now that he can ride a bicycle. He says he is very satisfied with his new bike.

Carmen was extremely thankful for the bike we matched him with and really appreciates the work Bikes Not Bombs is doing. He told us, "The bicycle has opened a lot of doors for me. I think Bikes Not Bombs is a terrific organization who help seniors citizens get a bike. Whenever I get a chance to talk about Bikes Not Bombs to friends and family, I tell them how you helped me and the great work you are doing. You really help folks like me who are low-income in helping me get around." We appreciate it Carmen! We hope to see you riding around Boston sometime.

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[Donate to Bikes Not Bombs](#)





**Our Contact Information**

Bikes Not Bombs  
284 Amory Street  
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130  
617.522.0222  
<http://bikesnotbombs.org>

**Bike Shop & Training Center Hours:**

Monday: Closed  
Tuesday: 12pm - 7pm  
Wednesday: 12pm - 7pm  
Thursday: 12pm - 7pm  
Friday: 12pm - 7pm  
Saturday: 11am - 5pm  
Sunday: Closed