



Spoke & Word, January 2024

Elijah Evans, Bikes Not Bombs <elijah@bikesnotbombs.org>

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Reply-To: elijah@bikesnotbombs.org

To: Julia Karr <julia@bikesnotbombs.org>

SPOKE -&-WORD

BIKES NOT BOMBS

January 2024

Bikes Not Bombs in Puerto Rico



Three BNB staff had the incredible opportunity to visit Vieques, an island municipality in eastern Puerto Rico. Partnering with local community organization [La Colmena Cimarrona](#), our staff provided some of BNB's signature programming, including a four-day, train-the-trainer style program and a 'Chain Reaction' free bike repair event.

To top it all off, they also arranged a family-friendly, group bike ride through **Vieques National Wildlife Refuge**, land that was previously used as a US Navy firing range for over six decades. Through this work, we hope to empower communities, inspiring them to use the bicycle as a vehicle for social change. Vieques is a place filled with immense potential, and we look forward to continuing our work with them!



Call for Volunteers! Upcoming Container Loading to Nevis Earn-A-Bike



Bikes Not Bombs is scheduled to ship a container of bicycles and parts to our partner, **Nevis Earn-A-Bike in St. Kitts & Nevis**, from February 8th through Sunday, February 11th. We are thrilled to kick-off our first container loading of 2024 and need your help!

Sign Up to Volunteer!

Join us on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and/or Sunday at our warehouse in Dorchester ([10 Harvard Street in Dorchester, MA 02124](#)) to help us with this important work. Volunteer roles will consist of flattening bikes, sorting parts, counting bikes, and much more. Bikes Not Bombs staff will be present to guide and direct volunteers. View more information about what to expect and how to [sign up here](#).

Volunteer Night Spotlight: REI

We were excited to welcome back REI to one of our weekly [Wednesday Volunteer Nights](#) this month!

A group of a dozen REI employees and customers learned about BNB's mission and work, including the important role that our volunteers play in making our programming possible. They helped us strip bikes, sort parts, and complete other organizing tasks that help our bike donations team process thousands of bikes a year.



Hosting REI again this year strengthens our partnership, as we have worked with REI in numerous ways: REI has hosted bike drives, supported our Bike-A-Thon, and hosted Youth Apprentices in summer work placements. We look forward to continuing to collaborate with them!

Winter Group Ride Series

A promotional poster for the Winter Group Bike Rides. It features a light blue background with a faint illustration of people riding bikes in a park. The text is in bold black and blue fonts. At the bottom, there is a QR code and the City of Boston logo.

WINTER GROUP BIKE RIDES!

January 20 | February 3 | March 2 | April 6

*Upcoming ride on Saturday, February 3 will be in **Dorchester/Roxbury!***

A family and beginner friendly bike ride through the neighborhood, ending with **free hot chocolate!**

Don't have a bike? Register online to request a Bluebike for the ride!

For more info and to register, email bostonbikes@boston.gov

CITY of BOSTON

Over 30 riders braved the freezing temperatures for Boston Bikes' first **Winter Group Ride** with BNB on January 20th! Bundled up for temperatures in the low teens, riders explored Jamaica Plain on a five-mile, family and beginner friendly route from, riding from BNB to Jamaica Pond, Arnold Arboretum, and Franklin Park, before heading back to BNB for delicious hot cocoa provided by our neighbor [Ula Cafe](#).

We're excited to partner with Boston Bikes on this series and hope you'll join us for the next three rides. Check out the next ride [this Saturday, February 3rd](#) for a ride through Roxbury & Dorchester. Visit [Boston Bikes](#) for event details and RSVP links. We hope to see you there!

City of Boston Bike Benefits Launch

We also celebrated the launch of a bike benefits program with the City of Boston! Through the **Bike Repair and Maintenance pilot program**, employees are provided with a voucher to cover the cost of an annual bicycle tune-up, helping make active transit more affordable and accessible to the City's workforce.

Many of the riders who joined us on the first winter ride were employees taking advantage of the program, braving the cold to drop off their bikes for a tune-up after a chilly ride.



Are you interested in creating a similar benefit at your workplace? Get in touch! Contact Mike Arkin for any inquiries: mikea@bikesnotbombs.org

Bike Shop News: Launching the Shop Newsletter



For all of you cold weather riders out there, we've got you covered! Now through February 29th, [save 20% on fenders and shoe covers and 40% off winter gloves](#).

Winter riding not your thing? We can still get you ready for warmer days ahead: schedule your tune-ups now to beat the crowds in the spring & save with our specials: [\\$20 off our basic & standard tune-ups, or \\$40 off a complete overhaul](#).

Interested in getting more shop news and promotions? Want to learn more about the staff behind the tune-ups? Subscribe to our shop newsletter! We're bringing it back in 2024, with quarterly updates on the best products, services, and tips & tricks from our bike shop staff. Make sure your **email preferences (linked at the bottom of this email)** include **Shop News!**

Save the Date: Bike-A-Thon 2024



Save the date for Bikes Not Bombs **37th Annual Bike-A-Thon!**

This year's ride for social change will take place on **Sunday, September 8, 2024**.

More details will be available soon, but mark your calendars now!

Photo by Artemisia Luk

Are You a BNB Alum?

Are you a Bike School graduate or former Youth Apprentice? We want to connect with you! Sign up for our new Alumni Newsletter, where you'll find job and volunteer opportunities, community events and workshops, and more! Make sure your **email preferences (linked at the bottom of this email)** include **Alumni News!**

Reach out to Beatriz Pleites, our Alumni Engagement Coordinator, for more information.

You're Invited: Film Screening & Fundraiser

You're invited to a screening and fundraiser for

HOLDING UP **THE SKY**

A Documentary Film & Education Project

Promoting Racial & Criminal Justice Reform

Friday, Feb 23rd, 6:00-8:30pm

Church of Our Savior, 25 Monmouth Street, Brookline, MA

www.holdinguptheskyproject.org

Join the BNB community for a stimulating evening at the [Church of Our Saviour](#) in Brookline, MA for a screening of a documentary: ***Holding Up The Sky***, directed by filmmaker and BNB supporter Bob Nesson. This deeply moving story about the lives of two formerly incarcerated men fills us with hope and inspiration— and presents a strong case for re-examining assumptions about race and rehabilitation.

The filmmakers are also seeking audience feedback before final editing. Come to this screening to give critical feedback and share your opinion on this moving story. [Learn more and reserve your spot here!](#) Questions? Email holdinguptheskyproject@gmail.com for more information.

BNB is Hiring!



Do you or someone you know have a passion for social justice, youth development, and bicycles? Lucky for you, Bikes Not Bombs is hiring!

Research suggests that qualified women and Black, Indigenous and people of color may self-select out of opportunities if they don't meet 100% of the job requirements. We encourage individuals who believe they have the skills necessary to thrive at Bikes Not Bombs to apply.

Positions are listed below.

Repair & Refurbish Mechanic

Bikes Not Bombs is seeking full-time Repair & Refurbish Mechanics to work in our organization's flagship social enterprise, the Bikes Not Bombs Bike Shop and Vocational Training Center.

Primary duties include executing repairs and rebuilds of customer-owned bicycles; refurbishing donated bicycles for sale; assisting operations with sorting, refurbishing, and processing donated bicycles, components, and accessories; mentoring and modeling professionalism for apprentices; training other staff, volunteers, and youth in bicycle mechanics; and assisting sales team members with the correct estimation of repair quotes.

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

Join the Bikes Not Bombs Board of Directors!



The Bikes Not Bombs Board of Directors is seeking candidates to join our dynamic team.

The Board of Directors is responsible for guiding and providing oversight to the organization as a whole, including approving the annual budget, hiring and supporting the Executive Director, participating in strategic planning and fundraising, and other responsibilities.

We are currently recruiting folks who possess knowledge or expertise in the following areas: human resources, program development, managing change, fundraising, nonprofit leadership, management, and racial equity. We know that there are many more skills that aren't on this list, but these areas are critical for developing an effective Board of Directors.

Racial equity is central to the mission of BNB and is highlighted in our [2025 Strategic Plan](#). We seek to more fully represent our community and constituencies, particularly **Black and other marginalized people in Boston** so as to amplify those voices ensuring equitable participation in the overall leadership and direction of the organization. We actively encourage people with a strong connection to our programs, mission, and the communities we serve to apply.

If you are interested in applying, please send an email describing your interest, and a copy of your resume to elijah@bikesnotbombs.org in order to receive an official application form.



Donate to Bikes Not Bombs



Our Contact Information

Bikes Not Bombs

[284 Amory Street](#)

[Jamaica Plain, MA 02130](#)

[617.522.0222](#)

<http://bikesnotbombs.org>

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Bike Shop & Training Center Hours:

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 12pm - 7pm

Wednesday: 12pm - 7pm

Thursday: 12pm - 7pm

Friday: 12pm - 7pm

Saturday: 10am - 5pm

Sunday: Closed