The Alliance is turning 40 this year! Help us celebrate with your best photos of the city. Our favorite shots will be published in our 2018 Alliance Annual and projected onto the big screen at our biggest event and party of the year. Top judge will be Peter Vanderwarker, Boston’s premier architectural photographer, Alliance Board member, and coauthor of the Boston Globe Magazine Cityscape series and the book, Boston Then and Now.

1. See + share photos at #PreservationBucketList

2. To compete, tag your photo with a #PreservationBucketList number

3. Prizes will be awarded for best photos and creative interpretation of The Bucket List. Anyone can participate, but Board of Directors, Young Advisors, and Staff are not eligible for prizes or publication in the Annual. Multiple submissions are encouraged!
Find THE BEST skyline view
Historic sites like Fort Hill Tower (Roxbury), Bunker Hill Monument (Charlestown), Piers Park (East Boston), Peter’s Hill (Jamaica Plain), and the Boston Children’s Museum (Fort Port Channel) will set you up for a great shot. So many options, and the competition for this one is sure to be stiff. Better get started now!

Book an ARCHITECTURAL CRUISE
One of the best ways to see Boston is from the water. Get on a boat, where knowledgeable guides (try Boston by Foot, in partnership with Boston Society of Architects and the Charles River Boat Company) can chronicle the evolution of Boston’s built environment. Want to venture on your own? Head to Georges Island Visitor Center at Fort Warren, which won a Preservation Achievement Award for rehabilitation/restoration of Boston’s architectural heritage, or the Liberty Wharf, a Preservation Achievement Award winner for new construction in harmony with Boston’s built environment. Both will give you great views right along the Harbor.

Be HEROIC
Between 1960 and 1976 Boston became a laboratory for some of the most renown architects working in concrete modernism. Use the heightened drama of raw concrete from architectural giants such as Pei, Corbusier, Sert, and Rudolph to your advantage. Want to see them all and don’t know where to start? The Brutalist Boston Map, written by authors of the 2017 Preservation Achievement Award winning book, Heroic: Concrete Architecture and the New Boston, is available at bluecrowmedia.com.

Go on a GHOST hunt
In the late 1800s into the mid 1900s, advertisements were painted directly onto brick buildings in ways that make current advertising look tame. Now these faded advertisements are admired for their nostalgia, sense of place, and the continuum on which they place local commercial history. Something else to look for? Dates and original names etched into buildings that now have a different use.
5. Get lost in the DETAILS

Three deckers, carriage houses, puddingstones, chimney stacks, eyebrow windows, stained glass, doors, doorknobs, cornices, porches, pavers, manhole covers, cobble roads, weather vanes—these are some of the architectural details that make Boston, Boston. Show us the elements in your everyday life that remind you what’s so distinctive about Boston’s built environment.

6. Visit a famous PARK

Boston Common and the Public Garden are quintessential Boston parks. We’re partial to the Brewer Fountain (oldest public sculpture in the Common and winner of a 2011 Preservation Achievement Award) and the Shaw Memorial (considered by some to be America’s greatest public monument.) But if you want to get really adventurous, start a hunt. Follow Frederick Olmsted’s famous Emerald Necklace down to Ralph Waldo Emerson’s actual stomping grounds in what is now Franklin Park. Green Monster more your speed? Capture the magic of Fenway Park, America’s oldest and most beloved ballpark (and one of our big advocacy wins) as you cheer on the Red Sox.

7. Document Historic Elements of the T

Boston is home to the first subway system in the United States, and T encompasses it all: bus, rapid transit, ferryboat, light rail, heavy rail, regional rail and trolleybus. Whether you travel from Mattapan or Downtown, Brighton or West Roxbury pay attention the shiny, industrial parts of your commute. Send us those elegant/gritty views from underground, above ground, and along the water.

8. Take a long view with Boston’s BRIDGES

The longest advocacy project at the Alliance has to be the Northern Avenue Bridge. But there are additional bridges you don’t want to miss. Zakim Bridge and Congress Street Bridge are two Preservation Achievement Award winners. Document these and other Boston favorites on your way to and from the city.
9. **TAKE A (Self) PORTRAIT in a Historic District**

Boston has nine Historic Districts. Check out the City of Boston GIS Landmark Map to see them all. Then take an afternoon to visit your top picks. Look for: Aberdeen, Back Bay, Bay State Road/Back Bay West Area, Bay Village, Beacon Hill, Fort Point Channel, Mission Hill, South End, and St. Botolph.

10. **Find MILESTONES “Fame for Travellers”**

Stretching from Boston to Manhattan, eighteenth century milestones marked the progress of travelers and mail carriers. Today, you can still find milestones in Dorchester, Roxbury, Jamaica Plain, Brighton, Brookline, Cambridge and other surrounding neighborhoods and towns. Pay special attention to Brighton Milestone Marker #6 of Upper Boston Post Road (now 142 Harvard Ave), which won a Preservation Achievement Award in 2013. Also look for the newly restored Parting Ways Stone in Roxbury.

11. **Wander through the HEART OF THE CITY**

Architect and writer Robert Campbell calls “the unembarrassed mix of old and new” a part of Boston’s people and its history. Visit the historic Ladder Blocks—one of Massachusetts most endangered historic resources—the Financial District, or the Freedom Trail to document your take on the past, present, and future of downtown Boston.

12. **Document INTERIORS**

Some of Boston’s finest collections of art and architecture can only be fully appreciated once inside. Have you seen the largest collection of Tiffany windows in a single church? The only surviving example of a Pierre Puvis de Chavannes mural outside of France? What about attending a performance in one of downtown Boston’s historic (and award winning) theaters? Make this the year you get to know the historic places that until now you’ve only admired from afar.
Support LEGACY, LOCAL, AND SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS in historic buildings

Studies have shown that older, mixed-use neighborhoods are more walkable, have a higher concentration of creative jobs, and a higher proportion of women and minority-owned businesses. Highlight the shops and pubs that make Boston’s neighborhoods vibrant and full of character.

Grab dinner in the NORTH END

Join the Young Advisors when they go for a progressive dinner. Or make it a date with friends. You might try the cash only bakery on Prince Street, family style on Hanover, or with pizza and a pitcher at Regina’s. While you’re in the neighborhood, visit the Old North Church and Paul Revere’s House, which just received a Preservation Achievement Award for the expansion and renovation of its Education and Visitor Center in 2017.

Find your NORTH STAR

Measuring 60 X 60 feet, Boston’s North Star is visible for miles, and from various angles across the city. Find your favorite view of the Citgo sign. Alternatively, is there another view shed you’d be lost without? One that you couldn’t imagine Boston losing? Send us those quintessential Boston views.

Prizes:

1st place: $100
2nd place: $75
3rd place: $50

Honorable Mention: $25 (awarded for best interpretation of most categories)
The Boston Preservation Alliance is a nonprofit 501 (c) 3 organization that protects, promotes, and preserves Boston’s historic places. Through advocacy and education, we bring people and organizations together to influence the future of Boston’s historic buildings, landscapes, and neighborhoods.

The Alliance believes Boston’s architectural heritage is a national treasure, contributing to the quality of life for Boston’s residents and visitors as well as to the economic vitality of the city.

While committed to preserving the best of Boston’s historic built environment, the Alliance recognizes the importance of growth and development to a vibrant economy and advocates for a harmonious balance between old and new.

With individual, organizational, and corporate members throughout the city and beyond, the Alliance provides a respected voice for preservation in Boston.

We love hearing from you!

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