

Artweek 2018 Takes Over the Commonwealth

[ArtWeek](#) is back and its bigger than ever!! For the first time ever, the program has expanded to every corner of the Commonwealth, offering over 500 events between April 27-May 6. Visitors and locals alike are invited to interact with artists and to experience their work firsthand through immersion and engagement. Artweek provides insight into the creative process, and the emotive responses - both deliberate and visceral – engendered by such intimate access to art and its production.

How many ArtWeek events can you experience over the next nine days? It may be difficult to count for occasionally you may enter an ArtWeek milieu and hardly realize that you are part of the scene, an object on the canvass, a player on the stage. That's the beauty of ArtWeek, at times bold, at times subtle, always immersive. So, while we cannot hope to suggest a perfect or precise number of ArtWeek events to enjoy, indulge us as we recommend 5 events in the [Greater Boston area](#).

Pathways to Freedom- On view throughout ArtWeek, Boston Common Parkman Bandstand

A classic, community-based ArtWeek undertaking, happening all day on Friday, April 27 and Sunday, April 29, Pathways to Freedom features renowned sculptor Julia Vogl conversing with hundreds of people, of myriad backgrounds, across Boston on topics of immigration, ancestry, experience and freedom. Influenced and inspired by the tales she hears, Vogl will create an epic visual representation on Boston Common to evoke these stories through public art. During event hours Vogl will be onsite to discuss the project with the public.

Boston #StandsWithImmigrants- April 28 & May 4, Across Boston

Sophisticated cinema projectors will illuminate Boston landscapes and edifices with the faces of immigrants. Boston #StandsWithImmigrants provides an opportunity for education and empathy. Bostonians can express their solidarity with immigrants, and their appreciation for the ongoing contribution of those who risk so much coming to these shores. Subject's portraits will appear over two nights across Boston, with the Public Garden emerging as a central location for portrait projections and for people to learn more about Boston and immigration.

True Colors: Out Youth Theatre- May 2, BPL Newsfeed Café

True Colors is a program of the Theatre Offensive, an LGBTQ playwright and production company dedicated to the expressive empowerment of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youths, joined by their straight comrades, all aged between 14-22. The True Colors Troupe will put on an original performance at BPL's Newsfeed Café on May 2, with post-show discussion providing deeper insight into LGBTQ youth experiences.

CIC BOSTON: Global Arts, Eats & Beats (West Africa)- May 4, CIC Boston, 121 Devonshire St

Global Arts, Eats & Beats is a special ArtWeek edition of CIC Boston's Opening Hearts and Minds Across Borders and Cultures program, a wholistic celebration of culture from across the globe, from the distant past to our current day. The focus on May 4 will be on West African culture and creativity – including music, food, dance, and art exhibitions. Opening Hearts and Minds events are predicated on themes of global inclusivity, solidarity, and camaraderie through expressive arts.

Harmony & Hope: Responding to Violence with Music- May 6, First Church, 10 Putnam St, Roxbury

Beautiful music interspersed with poignant tales and powerful messages from those who have suffered from the effects of violence and who are seeking to end its terrible toll. A musical performance of classical string quartet and gospel ensemble will occur alongside spoken word delivered by those resolved to bring peace to troubled hearts and troubled areas. This ArtWeek event uses artistic expression to illustrate the transcendent power of our common humanity, and how that awesome force may vanquish violence.