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ALLSTON BRIGHTON

Allston Board of Trade to celebrate 80th year at annual fund-raiser

Posted by Matt Rocheleau May 14, 2012 03:55 PM

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

The Allston Board of Trade will celebrate its 80th anniversary at an annual fund-raising dinner Tuesday co-hosted along with fellow and neighboring nonprofit, the Brighton Board of Trade.

“Eighty years of public service is a tremendous milestone for the Allston Board of Trade,” the organization’s president Scott A. Matalon said in a statement. “Eight decades of dedication to the health and vitality of our community is a testament to the honor and charity of the Allston business community.”

A combined annual dinner for the Allston and Brighton boards of trade is scheduled for May 15 at 6 p.m. at the WGBH headquarters in Brighton.

Proceeds from the event will benefit two local charities and the educational scholarship programs run by each of the boards of trade, organizers said.

The event will host and salute local businesses, institutions, charities, civic leaders, and elected officials. There will be a reception followed by a dinner.

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Kevin McCluskey, a former Harvard University spokesman, will be the master of ceremonies.

The [Allston Board of Trade](#) was founded in 1932. Its mission is to help support and improve commerce and the general quality of life in Allston.

The organization represents locally-based businesses, professionals, industries and institutions with support from the city, community, elected officials and local charities. Membership is open to business owners and employees, professionals and institutional representatives in the Allston area for an annual fee.

The Allston Board of Trade says it recently awarded scholarships totaling more than \$8,500 to over a dozen high school students from the neighborhood and donated more than \$4,000 to the Brighton Food Pantry. The organization donates to other local charitable causes and contributes more than \$4,000 annually to neighborhood holiday lighting, officials said. It supports many of its member's requests for city licensing variances.

“Allston and Brighton are one large community and celebrating our work together, recognizing our people together, and supporting our local charities together underscore our combined commitment to our entire community,” said a statement from Jason Patnode president of the [Brighton Board of Trade](#), which was established in 1945.

Tickets for Tuesday's dinner are available from both organizations for \$70 per seat or \$130 for two seats. Tickets can be purchased online at www.abot.org, or from Anne Faldetta, at a.faldetta@genzyme.com or 617-562-4518.

E-mail Matt Rocheleau at mjrochele@gmail.com.

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