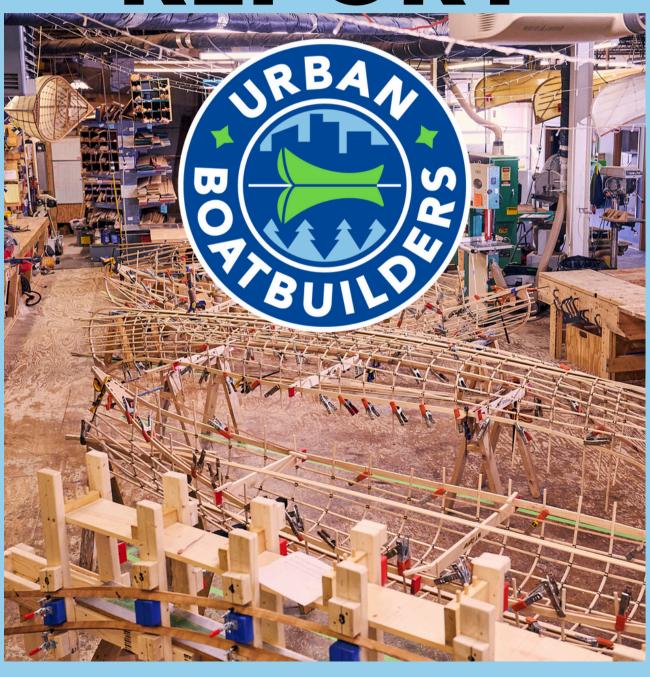
2024 ANUAL REPORT



MISSION

Urban Boatbuilders empowers youth to succeed in work and life through woodworking and experiential learning.



VISION

Our vision is to create a world in which all youth have access to an education that empowers them to use their hands, heart, and mind to be engaged community members and environmental stewards.

MAJOR PROGRAMS

For 30 years, UBB has been connecting young people in the Twin Cities experiencing economic, racial, and social inequities to meaningful opportunities through our apprenticeship and partnership programs – empowering young people to build technical and leadership skills, increase engagement in their educational and employment pathways, and connect to caring peers and adults.

Partnership Program

Academically enhanced woodworking with hands-on, experiential learning for students at schools, summer camps, after-school programs, and more. Instructors guide youth on design concepts and problem solving while working toward a shared goal of building longboards, canoes, kayaks, and paddles. Each project culminates in a celebration where youth test out the final products they created with their own hands. We aim to help students build skills, increase educational engagement, and ignite their love of learning.

Apprenticeship Program

Paid employment training for underserved young people facing barriers to employment. Leading three cohorts a year, apprentices work as a team to build a boat. At our woodworking workshop on University Avenue in the St. Antony Park community, trained staff lead apprentices through a research-based curriculum that facilitates social-emotional and career- and future-readiness learning in addition to technical woodworking. Weekly workshops cover competencies such as financial literacy, how to practice self-care and coping mechanisms, and how to network. Apprentices tour businesses, colleges, and trade schools to learn about career pathways and connect to potential employers. We aim to help apprentices prepare for their next step in life.

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Urban Boatbuilders works with organizations and individuals primarily in the Twin Cities metro (Minneapolis, Saint Paul, surrounding communities), in Minnesota. We have also worked on special projects in other areas of Minnesota and consulted with other boat building organizations in the United States.

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2024 IMPACT

99%

of apprentices that complete the program are on track to finish high school/GED, in higher education or vocational training, or employed

55

personal apprentice projects completed

49%

of apprentices returned for one or more cohorts

71

Partnership Program projects completed, including 36 longboards and 28 paddles

14

40

Mock interviews with apprentices

Skin-on frame canoes built

190

Ribs steam bent

11

Career-readiness field trips & workshops attended