SCHOOL on WHEELS MASSACHUSETTS

Educate Kids
Empower Families
End Homelessness



Fall 2026 Newsletter





ANNUAL GALA

MAKE A GIFT



Dear Friends,

It's been a wonderful start to fall at School on Wheels!

We're coming off a banner Pack it Forward summer backpack season, our Tutoring Program is in full swing for the new school year, and our Bridge Mentoring students are settling into their academic and vocational training programs.

We're especially excited about celebrating our Tutoring Program at the Rising Together Gala on Thurs., November 12th at Granite Links in Quincy.

We hope you'll join us for this lively and special evening!

Below, you'll find updates from all three of our programs and the many ways your support is making a difference.

We're fortunate to have such a caring community behind our mission, and deeply grateful you're part of it.

With gratitude,

Athena

Athena Giannaros
Executive Director

Rising Together Gala

Tutoring News



This fall we have volunteer opportunities if you have time to spare one hour, once a week in the following communitites:

Boston, Brockton, Brookline, Fall River, Middleboro, New Bedford, Quincy, Rockland, Taunton and West Newton.

We also host a virtual tutoring session on Monday evenings.

Fall tutoring sessions are underway and we're grateful for the volunteers who give so freely of their time and heart every week.





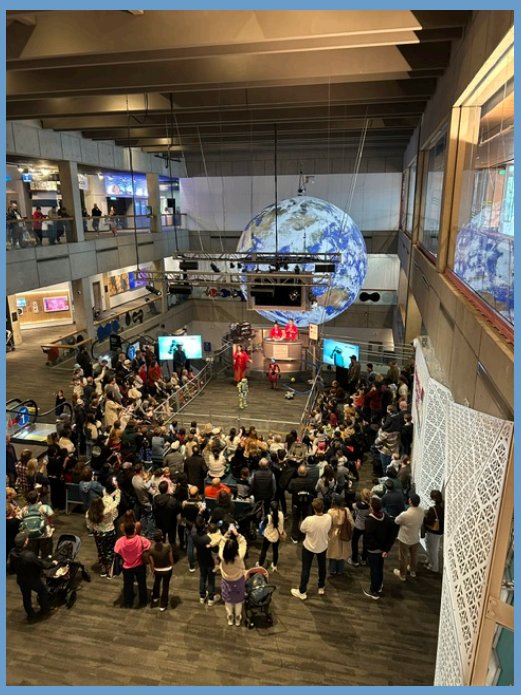
On November 12th we'll celebrate our Tutoring Program at the Rising Together gala at Granite Links in Quincy.

Join us HERE.



Learn About Tutoring

Bridge Mentoring News





Our mentors and mentees recently spent a day at the Museum of Science, courtesy of Mass Mentoring Partnership and their *Yawkey Mentoring Moments* initiative. Students toured exhibits, enjoyed lunch and were treated to a spectacular show at the planetarium.

The group then met scientists who work behind-the-scenes curating some of these fascinating exhibits.

"These experiences offer students meaningful opportunities they might not otherwise have," said Bridge Mentoring Director Brittany O'Hare. "We're so grateful for our affiliation with Mass Mentoring Partnership and the opportunities they provide our students," she added.



Our annual Life Skills Seminar brought mentors and mentees together this fall for a day of hands-on learning. From preparing healthy meals to exploring budgeting and time management, participants gained valuable skills to support their everyday lives. A big thank you to everyone who helped make this important and fun day possible!







Visit Our Bridge Mentoring Program

Backpacks & Tools for School

Backpack distributions happen throughout the year!

Consider hosting a drive or volunteering with your family, office or friends.

We're especially in need of middle and high school level backpacks and school supplies.

Every backpack packed reminds each student that they matter and the community values their education and believes in their potential.

Click any of the photos to join us for good!





1,000 Backpacks Collected!

RICHARDSON INSURANCE



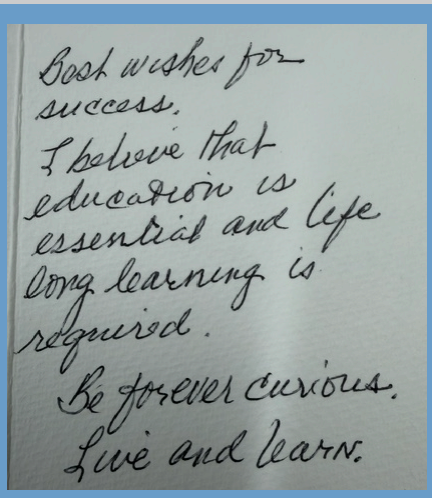
BROAD INSTITUTE

See ALL of our 2026 Pack it Forward Volunteers via Social Media!



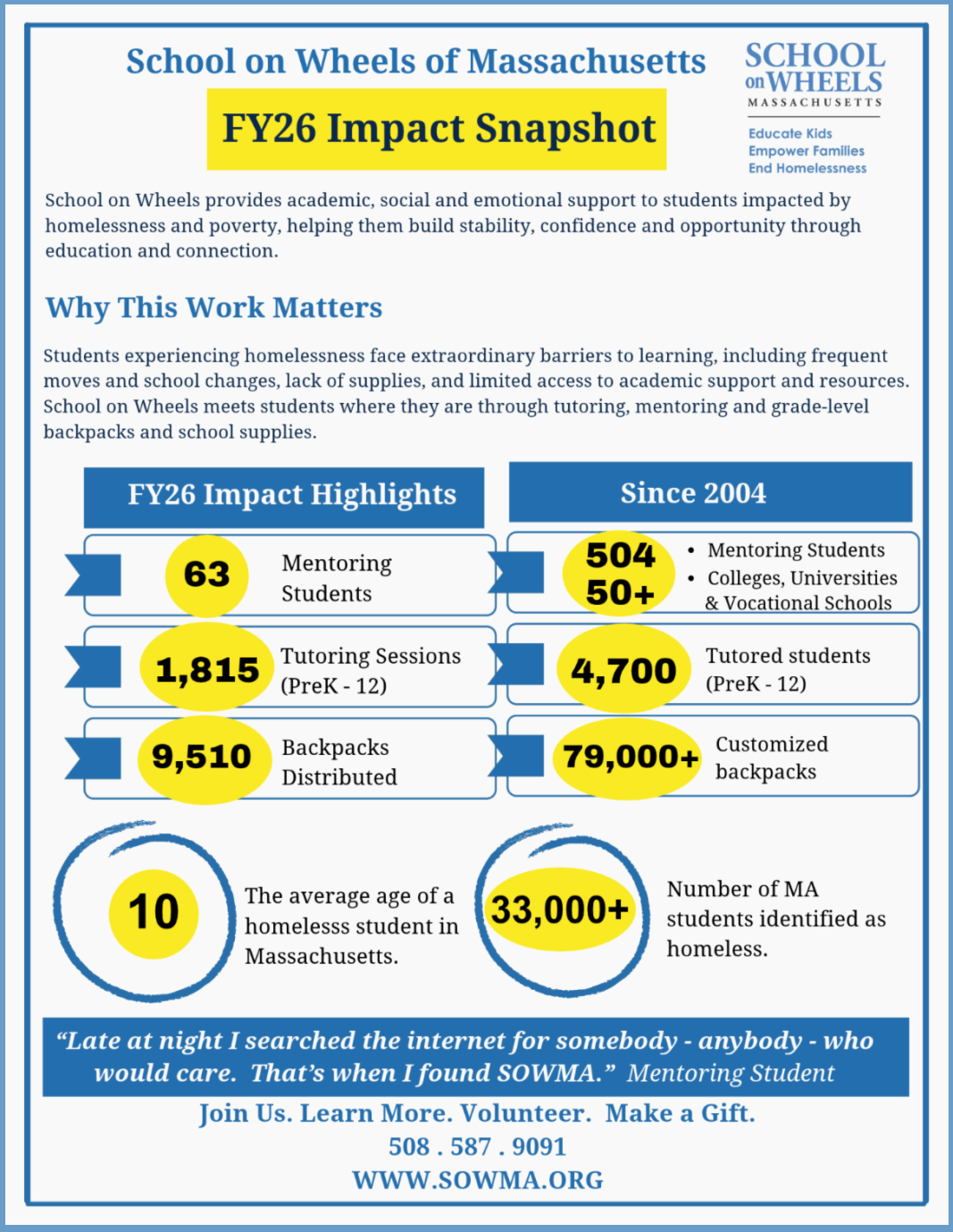
90-year-old artist Delores Staton is sharing her creativity from the heart! Delores hand-painted dozens of inspirational notecards, each featuring a personalized, handwritten message for students in our program. This is a beautiful reminder that a few words and a heartfelt gesture can make a lasting impact - and keepsake. Thank you, Delores, for using your talent to inspire and uplift our students.





Volunteer With Our Backpack Program

A Year of Learning, Connection and Impact!



In FY26, School on Wheels of Massachusetts continued making meaningful connections through our three core programs:

- 63 students supported through Bridge Mentoring
- 1,815 tutoring sessions helping students build skills and confidence
- 9,510 customized backpacks distributed to students in need

Since 2004, we've supported more than 4,700 students through tutoring, helped 504 mentoring students pursue their educational and career goals, and distributed 79,000+ backpacks.

These numbers represent far more than milestones. They reflect the power of education, the importance of human connection, and what happens when a community believes in its children.

At A GLANCE

- **Tutoring On Site Locations: Boston, Brockton, Brooklilne, Fall River, Middleboro, New Bedford, Quincy, Rockland, Taunton, West Newton, Virtual**
- **Backpacks & Tools for School: 10,000+ students received a new, customized backpack, books and "Tools for School" during the 2025 - 2026 academic school year**
- **Bridge Mentoring: 504 students have received high school, college, vocational and career guidance through our Bridge Mentoring Program**

Join Us - For Good!



Many thanks to this foresome :) for orchestrating a delightful day of golf on the grounds of Black Rock Country Club. The Maraia's host the annual tournament in memory of brothers Stephen and Albert Maraia to carry forward their passion for helping those in need.

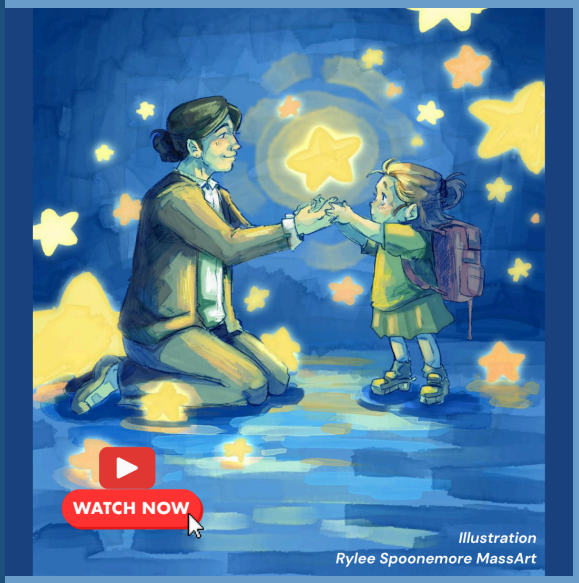
S/A Maraia Golf Tournament



Behind every mile is a story, and a very personal reason to keep going.

Meet the team who made strides this summer as part of the Falmouth Road Race. Check out the story behind each of our runners and why they've joined Team SOWMA!

Falmouth Road Race 2026



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The mission of School on Wheels of Massachusetts is to support the academic, social and emotional growth of students impacted by homelessness and poverty.

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