

BOXFORD CABLE ACCESS TELEVISION (BCATv)
501(c)(3) Non- Profit
www.BoxfordCableTv.com

Boxford Cable Access Television Corporation, Inc (BCATv) is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit public charity, which currently operates 3 local cable television stations accessible by the residents of Boxford:

- Public Access Comcast: Ch 8 Verizon: Ch 45
- Government Access Comcast: Ch 22 Verizon: Ch 39
- Educational Access Comcast: Ch 99 Verizon: Ch 40

During 2019 we videoed and broadcasted 203 public meetings that occurred at Boxford Town Hall and other meeting venues. Meetings that are held in Meeting Room 1 at Boxford Town Hall are typically broadcast live on Ch 22/39 and streamed on www.BoxfordCableTv.com. Meetings in Meeting Room 2 are also broadcast live, if there is no meeting in Meeting Room 1.

Our staff of 25 paid interns, ranging from students 12 years of age to college age, plus a resident enjoying retirement, videoed 466 local events in 2019. These events reflect each videographer's individual interests, such as music, sports, lectures, parades, school events, etc. Most of these videos can be viewed in High Definition on our website: www.BoxfordCableTv.com.

We also aired over 50 religious services donated by a local house of worship, as well as another 715 videos of various subject matters of local interest provided to BCATv at no charge by other cable stations and independent producers.

During this past year we continued to live broadcast on our website many events, such as the Masco Senior Week activities; Masco Soccer, Basketball, Field Hockey, Baseball, and concerts; Spofford and Cole School events, such as Sticks & Stones, and band concerts; BAA Men's Softball games, and the BTA/BOLT Running Festival. These live broadcasts incur minimal extra cost and are very well received by the general public.

BCATv sponsored Ben Coughlin from Boxford and Evan LeClair from Topsfield in the Masco Senior Internship Program, which runs for 5 weeks following April school vacation. Brad Sweet was their on-site mentor. Using our green screen equipment, Ben and Evan produced 8 episodes of "The B&E Show", which was a spoof talk show featuring many of their friends as guests.

4 years ago, we established a scholarship fund for graduating seniors who have made significant contributions to BCATv over the years. Using proceeds from ongoing DVD sales, we awarded a \$500 scholarship each to Samantha Bertinato, Ellie Scheirey, Ben Coughlin and Ross Cooper of Boxford, Ben Demers of Topsfield, and Quentin Callewaert of Byfield. All 6 have been regular contributors starting as early as 8th grade. We also received a \$200 corporate scholarship contribution from a local Boxford resident which has been added to this fund.

Having 6 contributing seniors graduate does present a challenge trying to replace them, especially trying to cover Masco Fall and Winter events. We do have several new young recruits who have started to contribute on a regular basis, and we look forward to recruiting more.

In January 2019, Max Simonelli received a Mass Media eXchange (MMX) award in the “scripted category” for a horror video he produced at BCATv studio the summer of 2018.

This January our “Cole Sticks and Stones” video from November 2019 was one of three finalists in the “music category”. We submitted a total of 3 videos from 2019, including an episode of the “The B&E Show” plus a pilot episode of “West and Delta” created by Alex Simonelli.

This past summer we sponsored a lecture/concert series, “How Blue Can You Get?”, that ran 7 weeks, including 5 lectures by Boxford resident Charlie Sawyer, and 2 concerts by his blues band “2120 South Michigan Avenue”. Boxford, Topsfield, Middleton and Georgetown libraries all worked together to host a lecture and/or concert. Salem 5 Cents Savings Bank made a generous contribution towards the cost of this undertaking. The concert at Georgetown library was recorded using 5 cameras and can be viewed on www.BoxfordCableTv.com.

Due to the Town Hall envelope renovation project, equipment upgrades in Meeting Room 2 and Conference Room 1 have been put on hold until the project has been completed.

The Town of Topsfield renewed BCATv’s contract to manage the Topsfield Cable Access Media (TCAM) station through June 30, 2020. (We have already submitted a proposal to Topsfield for Fiscal 2021.) BCATv has been providing 24/7 programming as well as live coverage of select government meetings. All additional costs related to this contract are paid for by Topsfield cable subscribers, plus Topsfield shares approximately half of the cost of BCATv produced Masco events, Tri-Town sporting events, and concerts that are broadcast in both towns.

Jonathan Rivers continues to remotely schedule the TCAM channel on a weekly basis. Noah Demers from Topsfield has religiously setup equipment at Proctor School for Topsfield School committee Meetings. We installed at Topsfield’s expense, a similar Hi Def remote controlled 2 camera system in the Selectmen’s meeting room at Topsfield Town Hall. Noah and Brad use this system to record the bi-weekly Topsfield Selectmen’s meetings.

2019 was a very busy year for all of us at Boxford Cable Tv and 2020 looks to be even busier!

Respectfully submitted,

Brad Sweet, General Manager and Controller
Rick Rivers, President; Melissa Scheirey, VP; and Doug Dillon, Treasurer - Boxford Cable Access Television Board of Directors