



# Lawn on D

Public Art

420 D Street, Boston

**Sasaki Associates**  
in partnership with  
**MCCA**

Urban/Civic Space

Pavilion with Art  
Installations

2.7 acres

2014

[www.LawnOnD.com](http://www.LawnOnD.com)

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**Context** – Located in the heart of Boston’s Seaport District, the Lawn on D plays an integral role in the process of creating a new and lively district that sets the tone for civic impact in the city. The site is situated directly next to the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center creating a dialogue between areas. The park’s central location between the Boston Harbor and Fort Point, and its status as one of the few parks in downtown, allows it to draw a large amount of visitors. High traffic events and complementary games, such as Corn hole, Kenga, Ping-Pong, Bocca and Tic-Tac-Toe, are offered Thursday through Sunday. Entry is generally free, except during ticketed events.



## Program

The mission of the Lawn on D is to be an “experimental event space designed to encourage public engagement, foster creativity and test opportunities for integration with the BCEC.” To achieve this, the BCEC offers arts, music, games, food and beverage as well as community driven programming for the enjoyment of everyone.

The Massachusetts Convention Center Authority teamed up with Sasaki Associates and HR&A to create a flexible, vibrant and temporary urban space for public use and interaction. The park is composed of two areas: the plaza and the lawn. Both offer manifold opportunities for active and passive recreation, along with seating options, food and drink in a relaxed beer garden atmosphere.



**Public Art** – Lawn on D acts as a forecourt to the BCEC, where temporary art installations and projects take place. In summer 2015, Australian artist Amanda Parer's *Intrude* of LED-lit, oversized inflated rabbits drew enchanted crowds. Ongoing installations include *Swing Time 2.0* by Höweler + Yoon Architecture, designed to highlight the effects of motion and encourage participation. This interactive playscape is composed of 20 illuminated ring-shaped swings suspended from a structure with photovoltaics supporting LED lighting. Custom fabricated from welded polypropylene, the swings are designed in three different sizes so that the community can engage, exercise, and play with *Swing Time* as individuals or in groups. LED lighting within the swing is controlled by a custom microcontroller, signaling the swing's activity level.