

What the locals say

"It's just a chance to get out of the office."

Carlie Tacoma, taking her lunch break along the Charles

crafted by participants of a yearlong program established to allow families and children in the Boston Public School System to learn how to build boats. John Rowse, a former public school teacher who founded the program, explained that the boat-building and river activities have given students a chance to develop important skills outside of the classroom. "[Then] we take the boats and rent them out to the public in the afternoons," Rowse said.

CARRIE BATTAN/METRO



Top, the Hatch Shell is home to many outdoor concerts throughout the course of the summer. Bottom, John Rowse, right, runs Boston Family Boat Building. He is pictured with children in a tent near the boathouse on the Esplanade teaching them to build a rowing skiff, and think spatially.