

International Sports Heritage Association
Special Projects Grant
The Sailing Museum & National Sailing Hall of Fame
365 Thames Street, Newport, RI 02840

Project Title: Courtyard Boat Exhibit: New Boat Stands/Dollies

Project Summary

Opened in May 2022, The Sailing Museum & National Sailing Hall of Fame is an educational non-profit organization that serves as Newport, Rhode Island's newest cultural attraction. In the space once used as the Press Room for the America's Cup, the heritage of sailing is celebrated, the legends of the sport honored and new sailors and innovators inspired. Interactive educational exhibits bring STEAM concepts alive through sailing.

The museum is housed inside an historic 1894 Armory building constructed for the Rhode Island militia. While the soaring interior space beautifully suited the needs of an institution celebrating the dynamic sport of sailing, we soon found that the building's exterior stone facade and imposing oak doors didn't exactly communicate "come inside and experience the magic that happens when wind and water meet." To that end and to continue introducing ourselves to the landscape of busy downtown Thames Street, we knew we needed a sailboat.

One of our partners, the Herreshoff Marine Museum, donated its millimeter yacht which we colorfully vinyl-wrapped in blue and green wave patterns of the TSM logo. While this meant our boat was successfully introduced as a wonderful courtyard addition, the problem soon became the cradle that was transferred with the boat. After only four months of use, the hardboard masonite cradle (that had been in continuous use outside in its previous location) disintegrated. We needed proper boat stands fabricated of extremely durable materials that would be easy to maintain.

With funding from the ISHA Special Projects Grant we were able to purchase two *Brownell Boat Stand* Adjustable Boat Dollies to complete our exhibit installation. The dollies even allow us to move the exhibit inside when necessary.

Now when visitors travel up and down this busy thoroughfare, the colorful sailboat in the front courtyard instantly connects sailing to place. For the casual passerby, it reinforces the idea that they are in a sailing capital, a place where waterways and the sport of sailing are an integral part of its heritage. It encourages exploration beyond the massive wooden doors.

Project Cost:

Adjustable Boat Dolly, Model # 12634820:	\$819/each
Total cost for two:	\$1638.00 + \$21.95 shipping
Staff time to assemble:	included
<u>Total Project Cost:</u>	<u>\$1659.95</u>

West Marine order confirmation attached

*The museum enjoys tax exempt status as a RI nonprofit so the \$114.66 sales tax was removed from the order (*explanatory email attached*).



