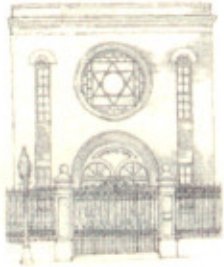


THE VILNA SHUL

BOSTON'S CENTER FOR JEWISH CULTURE



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January 29, 2009

Ms. Katy Abel
The Boston Museum
55 Court Street
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Ms. Abel,

What a delightful visit I had with you and Richard! More importantly you brought a hopeful message that Boston will soon have a museum dedicated to telling the FULL story of our most historic city. In my role as Executive Director of the Vilna Shul, Boston's Center for Jewish Culture, I can tell you that far too few people are aware of the breadth and depth of Boston's history. The Jewish part of the story is further hidden due to the community's relatively recent arrival. Most Bostonians, Jewish and non Jewish, do not realize that it was only in 1844 that Jews were first allowed to be buried in Massachusetts and only in 1852 that the first synagogue was built.

We completely support your goal to become a portal through which residents and tourists alike can explore, connect and understand the how the HUB came to be what it is today, a world-class city of vast diversity in culture and community. Your merge with the Boston History & Innovation Collaborative demonstrates that as an organization you are willing to work cooperatively to help enhance and refine our region's role as a center of history and innovation.

I look forward to participating in and supporting the Boston Museum in whatever way I can. Together we can fill in the gaps in the city's history so that all can fully appreciate this city. Together we can increase the visibility and viability of all of the historic and cultural resources in the region.

Thank you again for the update. The completion of this project will bring great benefits to residents, tourists and the cultural institutions of Boston.

Sincerely,

Steven M. Greenberg
Executive Director