



MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

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Admission Policy Change
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The Value of Your Membership at the Museum of African American History Has Just Increased

Boston and Nantucket, MA, Effective immediately, the Museum of African American History will charge admission to their campuses in Boston and Nantucket. After much deliberation, MAAH's Board of Directors and executive leadership have determined that this change to its current admission policy is necessary in order to preserve and maintain the four historic sites the Museum stewards. Museum members and children 12 and under will still be admitted for free under this new policy. Adult visitors will be charged \$5.00 and seniors 62 and older and youth between the ages of 13 to 17 years old, will be charged \$3.00 for admission to the Museum.

The Museum's Black Heritage Trail's and campuses in Boston and Nantucket attract over 250,000 local, regional and international visitors every year. Beverly Morgan-Welch, the executive director of the Museum stated, "We will not turn anyone away! Because admission to the Museum has been free for so many years, there will be considerable grace applied to this policy to make certain that anyone who was unaware of the fees or unable to pay will be admitted."

In celebration of Black History Month, the Museum in partnership with The TJX Companies is offering incentives to membership. Anyone who renews a membership, becomes a new member, or purchases a gift membership by March 15, 2010 has the opportunity to win one of five \$500 TJX Gift Cards good at any local T.J. Maxx, Marshalls, HomeGoods or A.J. Wright store. For additional information about the opportunity to win a TJX gift card or to purchase a membership please visit the Museum's campuses in Boston and Nantucket or connect on-line at the Museum's website, www.maah.org.

People from all over the world come to see the Museum's historic sites and to learn about the free 18th and 19th century African American communities in New England that shaped our nation's history. The Museum shares the powerful and enduring stories of the enterprising men and women, who through their bravery, creativity and zeal, advanced the cause of freedom in America. These inspirational accounts of courage, ingenuity, and community action are embodied in the Museum's four historic sites. Through their admission fees, visitors will help to ensure that these precious historic structures will continue to educate and enliven others for years to come.

About the Museum:

Founded in 1967, the Museum of African American History is New England's largest and most visible African American history museum with four historic sites and two Black Heritage Trails®. The Museum campuses in Boston and Nantucket feature historic sites that were the nexus of the free 18th and 19th century African American community. The African Meeting House (1806), a National Historic Landmark®, and the Abiel Smith School (1835), sit side by side on Boston's Beacon Hill. On Nantucket's York Street sit the African Meeting House (1820's) now pristinely restored with a coved ceiling reflecting its maritime heritage, and the Seneca Boston-Florence Higginbotham House (c. 1774).

The African Meeting Houses in Boston and Nantucket are the oldest in the nation and the crown jewels in the Museum's collections of historic sites and artifacts. In these unpretentious yet majestic buildings, ordinary Americans accomplished the extraordinary, establishing educational opportunities as well as cultural, religious, social and political organizations including anti-slavery societies. Massachusetts was home to the most powerful and safest of black abolitionist communities and, at times, to the largest number of self-emancipated slaves. The members of this formidable and effective community improved their own lives and shared their resources with those who arrived via the Underground Railroad network.

To plan a visit the **Museum of African American History** go to www.maah.org.