



OLD SOUTH
MEETING
HOUSE

THE
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Summer
2014



VOLUME
TWENTY-SEVEN
ISSUE TWO

“For Generations Yet To Come”

Preserving Old South Meeting House

“MAY THE OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE STAND FOR GENERATIONS YET TO COME, in the busy mart of trade, an inspiration and an object lesson to the youth of Boston, and all of America!”

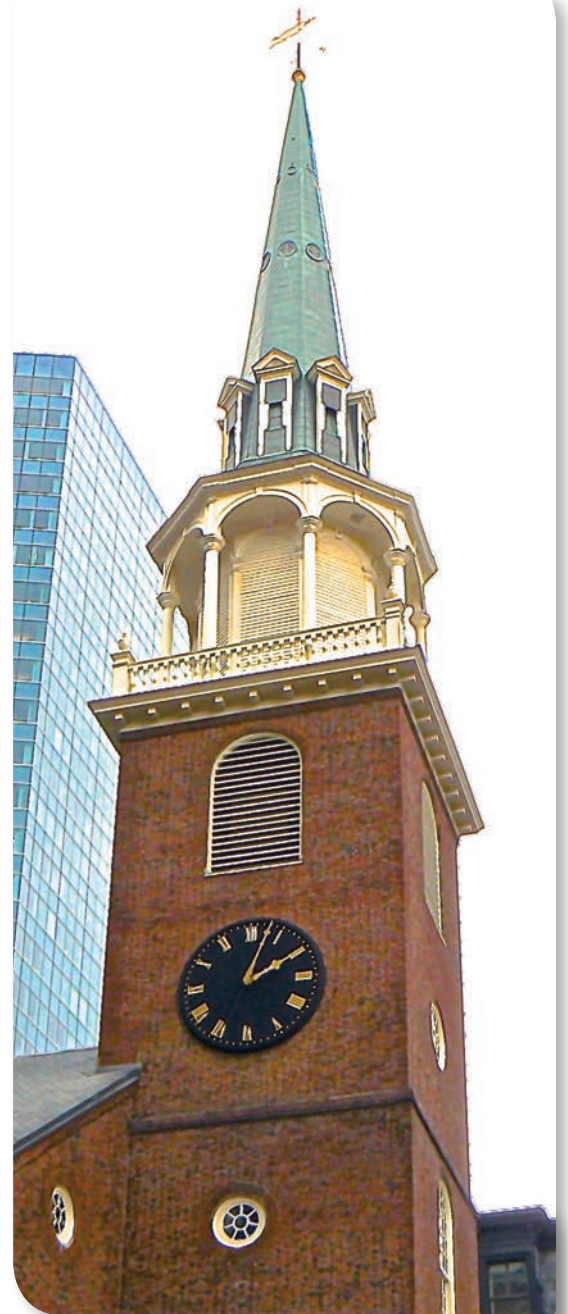
— Albert W. Mann, 1917,
Walks and Talks about Historic Boston

Built in 1729 as a Puritan meeting house, the Old South Meeting House is one of the nation's most important colonial landmarks, an architectural gem and a cultural anchor in Boston's thriving Downtown neighborhood. The imposing 1729 brick structure was the largest building in all of colonial Boston, and today the steeple is the oldest still standing in the city.

The 100,000 visitors, residents and commuters who pass Old South Meeting House each day now enjoy a beautifully painted and restored steeple, bell tower and windows, thanks to skillful planning and dedicated work by a team of experts and specialists on a major \$800,000 preservation project completed this spring. Funded through the National Park Service Repair and Restoration Program, the project focused on critical exterior preservation needs of the 18th Century landmark. The steeple and all exterior wooden elements were meticulously restored and painted including 85 windows, 96 balusters, four urn finials and eight 16 foot high columns on the steeple. One entire column had to be replaced but whenever possible, existing wood was painstakingly preserved. In addition, the failing wooden front entryway flooring was replaced with a brick floor.

"We at the National Park Service are honored to make this critical investment to support the stewardship of Old South Meeting House so that this public treasure continues to be open as a museum for the benefit and enjoyment of

(continued on page 4)



Did you know?

The 1729 Old South Meeting House steeple is the oldest still standing in Boston. The original 1723 steeple at Old North Church came down twice in hurricanes—first in 1804 (replaced in 1806); then again in 1954 (replaced again in 1955).

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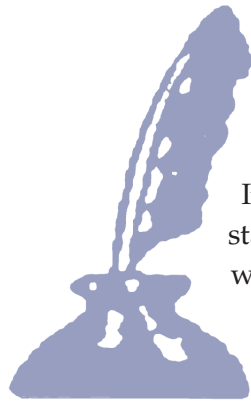
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*... visitors have
been a critical part
of preserving
Old South Meeting
House since 1876.*

Director's Note

It is summer at Old South Meeting House, and our hard-working staff is welcoming visitors from across the country and around the world to experience this wonderful landmark firsthand.

Many people do not realize that visitors have been a critical part of preserving Old South Meeting House since the dramatic struggle to save this historic landmark from destruction in 1876. Starting that year, visitors flocked to the Meeting House for events, performances, programs and exhibits, contributing their admission towards the cause of saving this beautiful building. They saw a dramatic performance by Louisa May Alcott, gazed at the actual Star Spangled Banner (loaned for temporary exhibit) and marveled at a demonstration of Thomas Edison's new invention—the phonograph. In

December 1877, the Old South Meeting House was so crowded with visitors that *The Chicago Tribune* reported it was "the chief place of entertainment at all hours of the day and evening." Every penny of the 25 cent admission went towards saving Old South Meeting House from destruction and keeping it open as a museum and active meeting place.

Today we are still working to preserve Old South Meeting House and our visitors are still among the leading supporters of this important effort. So on behalf of the entire board and staff we thank every single one of you who visits Old South Meeting House and pays your admission—you join the ranks of those people throughout history who have contributed towards saving this national landmark. We couldn't do it without you!

Emily Curran, *Executive Director*

General Information

ADMISSION

Adult \$6, Students and Seniors \$5, Children (6-17) \$1
Members and Children under 6, free.

The Freedom Trail Ticket (includes admission to Old South Meeting House, Paul Revere House & the Old State House) Available year round. Adults \$13, Children \$3

MUSEUM HOURS

Open daily.
9:30 AM – 5:00 PM April - October
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM November - March
Closed November 27, December 24-25, and January 1.

MUSEUM SHOP

Our shop features beautiful, unique and affordable items for all ages, including books, maps, games, New England-made goods and exclusive Boston Tea Party souvenirs.

EVENT RENTALS

Create your own history at Old South Meeting House, a unique venue for your meeting, party, reception, or wedding, conveniently located in downtown Boston. For more information, please visit our website at www.osmh.org.

FUNDING

Old South Meeting House is an independent, non-profit museum funded by individuals like you; The Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency; MassDevelopment; The Lowell Institute; The Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati; and other public and private foundations and corporations. Supported in part by a grant from the Boston Cultural Council, a local agency funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.



For more information, call (617) 482-6439, email info@osmh.org or visit www.osmh.org



"Like" us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/OSMHBoston



Follow us on Twitter:
www.twitter.com/OSMHBoston



Watch our videos on YouTube:
www.youtube.com/OSMHBoston

Special Programs for Our Members Only

For our members and their guests, we plan special tours and events throughout the year. To take part, become a member today! For the latest information, please like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 10:30 AM TO 12:00 PM

Reinventing Boston: A City Engineered

A Walking Tour with Boston by Foot



A walk through Boston is a walk through time! The eclectic urban landscape is composed of layers of history whose story is revealed by the clues left behind. From the first subway to Long Wharf through the Big Dig, Boston has led the nation in transforming its cityscape. Join us to discover the layers of Boston and the hows and whys of its changes: the invention of the telephone, the first American subway, the rise and fall of interstate highways, the recovery of the harbor, and perhaps even a forgotten body of water that was once Ben Franklin's favorite swimming hole. *Plan for: 1.5 hours of walking and standing on city sidewalks*

\$5 each for OSMH members and one guest

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 10:30 AM TO 12:00 PM

Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site

Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903) is recognized as the founder of American landscape architecture and the nation's foremost parkmaker. In 1883, Olmsted moved his home to Brookline, Massachusetts and established the world's first full-scale professional office for the practice of landscape design. Don't miss this opportunity for a special guided tour of both the Olmsted Historic Design Office and the grounds, learning about the firm's design process and Olmsted's theory of design. Following the tour, you can explore the new self-guided exhibits in the Olmsted home which speak to the legacy of Olmsted, his sons and other associates and highlight the breadth and depth of a firm that had its hand in over 6,000 landscape projects across North America. *Plan for: One hour tour inside and outside with level changes*



\$5 each for OSMH members and one guest

Attention Members!

Don't miss out on this special limited time offer: get discounted tickets for **The 241st Anniversary Boston Tea Party Reenactment**, presented by Old South Meeting House and Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum, **Tuesday, December 16** at 6:30pm; doors open at 6:00pm.



Early bird tickets are only \$15 from July 1st to August 31st! You will save a full \$10 off the regular price admission of \$25. This event sells out so don't wait; take advantage of the sale ASAP! To purchase your tickets, visit <http://gottea.bpt.me>

SPACE FOR MEMBER EVENTS IS LIMITED AND FILLS QUICKLY. REGISTER EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT. ADVANCE REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT IS REQUIRED.

To reserve, please fill out and mail the form below or call (617) 482-6439 ext. 10.

Details on where and when to meet will be provided upon confirmation.

(Please cut along dotted line)

Become a Member

Please choose your membership level

- \$35 Individual \$ _____
- \$60 Family \$ _____
- \$100 Friend \$ _____
- I am a current member

REINVENTING BOSTON – WALKING TOUR

- ____ No. of tickets (member of OSMH x \$5) \$ _____
- ____ No. of tickets (guest x \$5) \$ _____

OLMSTED HISTORIC SITE

- ____ No. of tickets (member of OSMH x \$5) \$ _____
- ____ No. of tickets (guest x \$5) \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Sign Up for Old South Meeting House Member Tours and Special Programs

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Day Phone: _____

Email: _____

- Sign me up for your email newsletter!**
- Enclosed is my check made payable to the Old South Association.

Please charge my: Visa Mastercard Amex

Card No. #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Mail your completed form to: Old South Meeting House, Attn: Member Events
310 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

If you have questions about your membership status, please call (617) 482-6439 ext. 10



OLD SOUTH
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“For Generations Yet To Come”: Preserving Old South Meeting House

(continued from page 1)

all,” said Cassius Cash, Superintendent of Boston National Historical Park.

This 21st century project continues the legacy of preservation that began when the Old South Meeting House was rescued from the wrecking ball in 1876. Slated for demolition in order to sell the valuable downtown property for development, the Old South Meeting House was saved by a coalition of people who rallied support and funding to buy both the building and the land beneath it. They founded

the Old South Association as an independent non-profit in 1877 to preserve the Old South Meeting House and its continued active use as a museum and meeting place.

The historic site remained open to visitors throughout restoration work despite being enveloped in scaffolding for over 3 months. To access the 180 foot high steeple, complex scaffolding had to be engineered and erected on city sidewalks and MBTA property. Above the busy pedestrian corner of Washington and Milk Streets,

preservation work was on show daily during the project. “There are always people staring at us. I’m constantly waving at kids on field trips,” carpenter Graham Lawson said.

The project brought together numerous experts to ensure the preservation work was carefully executed. Planned by Milner Associates of Pennsylvania and overseen by project manager Craig Chenevert of Boston National Historical Park, the project was carried out by Cornerstone Construction of Reading, Massachusetts,

which assembled a special team to lead the restoration work. Cornerstone Construction selected master carpenters Graham Lawlor and Dave Mason for the extensive specialized work on the wooden elements.



Emily Curran, Executive Director of Old South Meeting House said, “We appreciate that every person involved brought a personal commitment to their work to preserve this irreplaceable landmark. This project helps ensure future generations will continue to discover the roots of America’s proud history of democracy and dissent here.”

Revolutionary Events. Unforgettable Memories.

Transform your next event from ordinary to extraordinary at Old South Meeting House, the perfect blend of history, location and charm.



An unparalleled venue for a variety of occasions, this grand historic space can accommodate everything from weddings and receptions for an intimate group, to world-class corporate conferences, theatrical events, concerts, book lectures and more. Let us work with you on your special event, email events@osmh.org or call 617-482-6439.



The 241st Anniversary Boston Tea Party Reenactment

*What is rebellion?
What is patriotism?
Where do you stand?*



Find out on December 16th

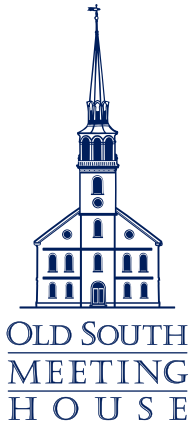
as we take you back in
time 241 years to the
Boston Tea Party, one

of America's most iconic public protests. Join patriots and loyalists at Old South Meeting House as they argue over the latest tax imposed by the crown, the tax on tea. Then parade to the waterfront with the Sons of Liberty and watch as they destroy the tea in one of the most fraught acts of vandalism in America's history.

The 241st Anniversary Boston Tea Party Reenactment

presented by

Old South Meeting House and
Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum



Tuesday, December 16th
Doors open at 6:00 PM

Early bird tickets are \$15 from July 1st to August 31st!
Regular price admission is \$25.

Don't wait; take advantage of the sale ASAP!

To purchase your tickets, visit <http://gottea.bpt.me>.

Become a member of Old South Meeting House!

Help support the education programs and preservation of this unique landmark, plus receive benefits all year long, including:

- Free admission to Old South Meeting House museum
- Free admission to "Middays at the Meeting House," lecture and concert series
- A 10% discount on all purchases in the Museum Shop
- Invitations to special members-only events
- Additional discounts and events

Membership levels (choose one):

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual (\$35) | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributor (\$250) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family (\$60) | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor (\$500) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend (\$100) | <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership Circle (\$1000) |

Enclosed is my check made payable to
Old South Association.

Please charge my VISA / MC / AmEx

CARD NUMBER _____

EXPIRATION DATE _____

NAME AS SHOWN ON CARD – PLEASE PRINT _____

SIGNATURE _____

NAME OF MEMBER(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

Membership (see above) \$ _____

Additional donation* \$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Please return completed form to:

Old South Meeting House, Membership Office
310 Washington Street, Boston MA 02108
Or Fax to: (617) 482-9621

** Donations are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law.*

Questions? Please call the membership office
at (617) 482-6439 ext. 10.

Thank you for your support!

Thank you for your support in 2013

The following individuals and organizations generously supported the programs, operations and preservation of Old South Meeting House through 12/31/2013 with contributions of \$100 and up.

We apologize for any inaccuracies or omissions that may have occurred.

Boston Tea Party Patrons

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Kenneth D. Tarbell
John L. Thorndike
Rosemary Torpey
Brian Troy
Robert & Susan Vincent
Roseda Warren, *in memory of Lowell A. Warren*

** In kind support*

Old South Meeting House Annual Fund

Be part of a revolutionary history & a vibrant future. Your contribution today will provide critical funding to reach more than 75,000 visitors each year with programs and exhibits, help preserve a beautiful 1729 National Historic Landmark and deliver acclaimed education programs to over 10,000 children and teachers. Thank you — your gift of any amount will make a measurable difference.

Yes, I/we want to support Old South Meeting House and its living legacy of freedom!

Please fill out the form below or give securely on-line at www.osmh.org/support-us

Please choose one:

- \$50 Donor \$100 Friend
 \$250 Contributor \$500 Benefactor
 \$1000 Leadership Circle \$5000 Patron
 Other \$ _____

This gift is made:

- In memory of _____
 In honor of _____
 I/we prefer to remain anonymous.
 My employer will match this gift.
Please send me the appropriate forms.

Please charge my gift to: VISA Mastercard American Express

ACCOUNT NO. _____ EXP. DATE _____

NAME AS SHOWN ON CARD—PLEASE PRINT. _____

SIGNATURE _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

- Enclosed is my check made payable to Old South Association.
 I wish to make a gift of securities. (Please contact Emily Curran, Executive Director, at (617) 482-6439.)

NAME _____

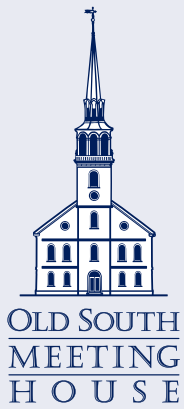
ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

Thank you for your support!

Old South Association in Boston is a 501(c)3 organization and your contribution is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.



CALENDAR

Summer 2014

MAY 26- SEPTEMBER 1



Old South Meeting House is a Blue Star Museum, offering free admission to active duty military personnel and their families with valid ID. To learn more about this partnership among Blue Star Families, the National Endowment for the Arts, and more than 2,000 museums across America, please visit www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums.

JULY



Boston Harborfest

Celebrate America's rich colonial and maritime history at OSMH!

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2 TO SUNDAY, JULY 6, 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM DAILY

Patriot or Loyalist?

Think you know where your allegiance lies? Take our fun quiz to find out which side you may have favored in colonial Boston.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2 TO SUNDAY, JULY 6, 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM DAILY

Scavenger Hunt: Where the Boston Tea Party began!

What was so controversial about tea in 1773? Explore clues to discover how the Boston Tea Party started at the historic Old South Meeting House in a fun scavenger hunt for ages 6 and up.

All Harborfest activities are **FREE** with museum admission, and **FREE** to our Museum Members.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 11:00 AM

No Tax on Tea! A Colonial Tea Tax Debate

On December 16, 1773, more than 5,000 people crowded into Old South Meeting House to debate the tea tax. Now it's your turn to recreate the debate that started a revolution with the Boston Tea Party!

THURSDAY, JULY 3, 12:00 PM AND 2:00 PM

Whispers of Revolution

Want to learn about the backroom intrigue that was the planning of the Boston Tea Party? Join us as we eavesdrop on a Patriot and a Tory during preparations for one of America's most famous acts of dissent--and imagine yourself in Boston on the eve of revolution.

FRIDAY, JULY 4, 9:30 AM TO 5:00 PM

FREE admission today for children 18 and under.

THURSDAY, JULY 24, 6:30 PM

The Race Underground: The Incredible Rivalry That Built America's First Subway



Book talk with *The Boston Globe's* Doug Most

Travel to the 19th Century creation of underground subway travel! Journalist, editor and author **Doug Most** will share his favorite stories about the "rascallions and risk takers, engineers and entrepreneurs, dreamers, darers, and doers" behind the building of America's first subway systems. Book sales & signing to follow. **FREE and open to the public**

AUGUST

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 10:30 AM

MEMBER EVENT: Reinventing Boston Walking Tour

(See page 3 for details.)

MONDAY AUGUST 18

Phillis Wheatley Day



Discover the remarkable life and poetry of Phillis Wheatley, who joined OSMH as a full member on this day in 1771. Kidnapped from Africa as a child and sold as a slave in Boston, she became an international celebrity with the publication of her book in 1773.

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 4:30 PM

Boston Charter Day
FREE ADMISSION FOR MASSACHUSETTS RESIDENTS
Celebrate Boston's 384th Birthday!

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 10:30 AM

MEMBER EVENT: Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site Tour
(See page 3 for details.)

2014 Paul Revere Memorial Association Lecture Series

Eighteenth-Century Massachusetts Furniture: Form, Function, and Fabrication

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 3, 6:30 PM

High-Style Craftsmanship and Patronage in Marblehead on the Eve of Independence

Judy Anderson

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 10, 6:30 PM

Seat of Empire: Refurnishing Boston's Historic Council Chamber

Dr. Nathaniel Sheidley

WEDNESDAY, SEPT., 17, 6:30 PM

Restrained Elegance: Boston Furniture in the Rococo Style

Gerald W. R. Ward and Katherine Lane Weems

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 24, 6:30 PM

The Best Workman in the Shop: Cabinetmaker William Monroe of Concord, Massachusetts

David F. Wood

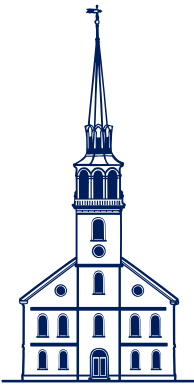
General Information

- All events take place at Old South Meeting House, unless otherwise noted, 310 Washington Street, at the corner of Washington and Milk Streets, Boston, MA 02108 (617) 482-6439

- Accessible by T. Use State or Downtown Crossing Stops.
- Wheelchair Accessible.
- Open daily. April—October 9:30—5:00 PM
November—March 10:00—4:00 PM

- Discounted parking is available at several local garages.





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310 WASHINGTON ST.
BOSTON, MA 02108

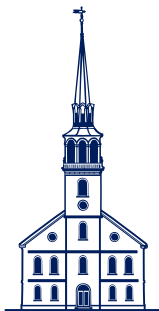
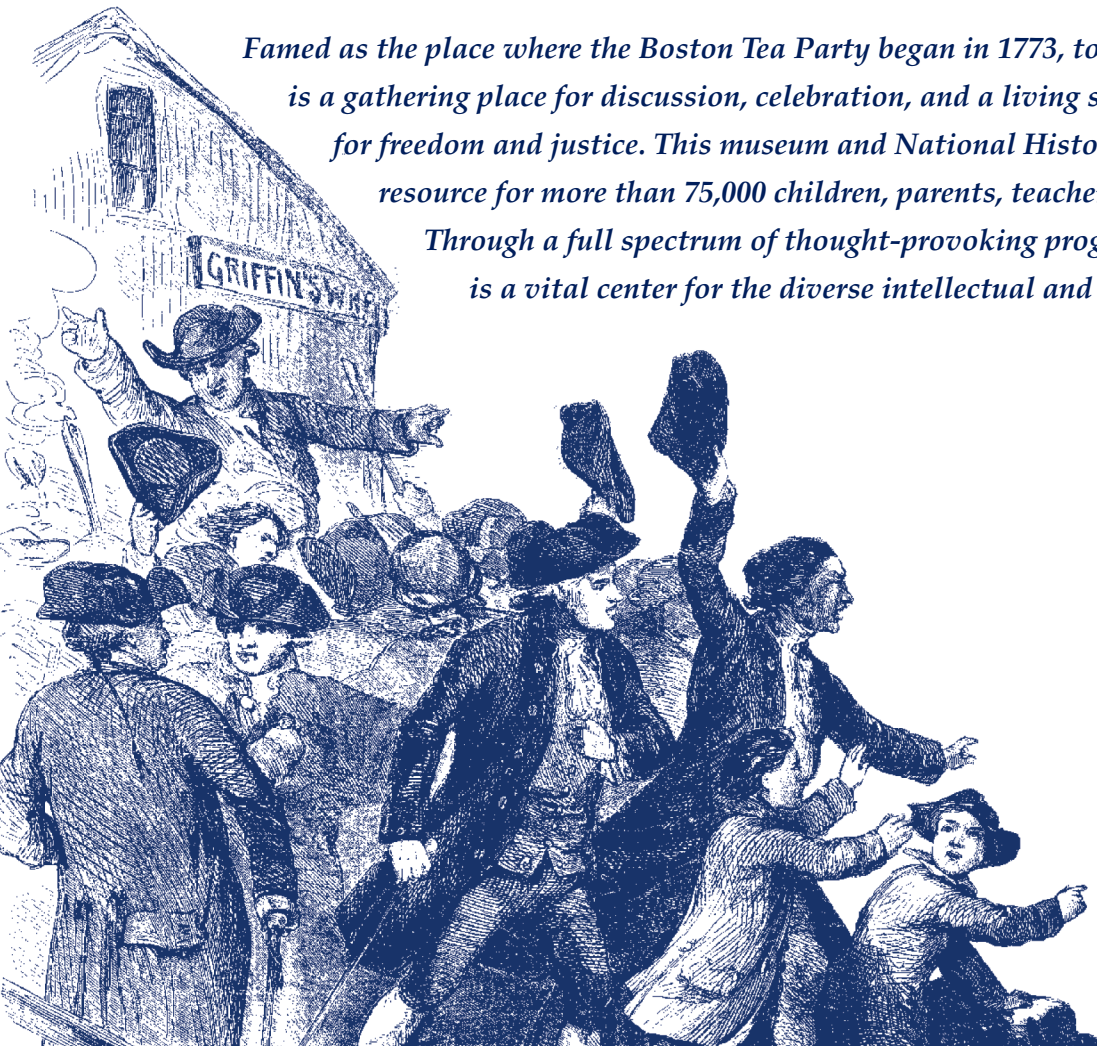
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**RISK TAKERS
AND DOERS**
This Summer at
Old South Meeting House

DETAILS INSIDE.

*Famed as the place where the Boston Tea Party began in 1773, today **Old South Meeting House** is a gathering place for discussion, celebration, and a living symbol of our country's quest for freedom and justice. This museum and National Historic Landmark is an important resource for more than 75,000 children, parents, teachers, visitors and citizens each year. Through a full spectrum of thought-provoking programs Old South Meeting House is a vital center for the diverse intellectual and cultural life of Boston.*



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