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2001

Letter to Governors; Feb 7, 2001

Buffalo Quarters Historical Society

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CITY OF BUFFALO
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

February 7, 2001

ANTHONY M. MASIELLO
MAYOR

Honorable George Pataki
Governor
Executive Chamber
State Capitol
Albany, New York 12224

RE: Request to invite and join Governors of 15 former slave states to kickoff luncheon for Underground Railroad's Freedom Memorial Walk in Buffalo on **August 18, 2001**

Dear Governor Pataki:

Buffalo's Broderick Park marks the terminus of the Underground Railroad and is the site for the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society's annual re-enactment of slave crossings to Canada. Each year, Americans and Canadians gather on both sides of the Niagara River for programs featuring spiritual songs, historical readings, and performances. This international event grows every year and I sincerely hope you can join us by participating in this year's re-enactment on August 18, 2001.

As you know, the City of Buffalo is working with Erie County to revitalize Broderick Park's role in Buffalo's world-class parks system and also to showcase its unique place in American history. The major educational enhancement to the park will be the Freedom Memorial Walk that will commemorate the Underground Railroad and its mission with engraved Freedom Bricks and inscribed granite Freedom Blocks.

Please join the City of Buffalo, Erie County, Fort Erie Ontario's Mayor Wayne Redekop and the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society in inviting the Governors of the 15 former slave states to a luncheon on August 18, 2001 at which we will kick off the "Buy-A-Brick on the Freedom Walk" campaign.

We seek from you a personal invitation to each of the Governors and hope you will urge them to join you in personally presenting their Freedom Blocks to the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society and to pay tribute to those who risked everything for freedom.

We have invited Oprah Winfrey to emcee this event and are working with her staff and our local CBS affiliate to provide the Oprah show with footage of past re-enactments for a feature segment.

I have taken the liberty of enclosing the names and addresses of the 15 Governors, informational brochures on the Freedom Memorial Walk, as well as an invitation for each of the Governors signed by myself, Erie County Executive Joel Giambra and Lillion Batchelor, founder of the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society.

We would sincerely appreciate your assistance in securing the participation of these Governors and the ensuing prestige this event deserves. I understand you will be in Buffalo on February 9th to mark Black History Month, and hope that you or a member of your staff can meet with Ms. Batchelor (716-834-2584) to discuss this project.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anthony M. Masiello
Mayor of Buffalo

Enclosures



County of Erie

February 7, 2001

Honorable Don Siegelman
Governor
State Capitol, Room N-104
600 Dexter Avenue
Montgomery, AL 365130



City of Buffalo

RE: Invitation to present Alabama's Freedom Block at luncheon for Underground Railroad's Freedom Memorial Walk in Buffalo on August 18, 2001

Dear Governor Siegelman:

Buffalo is home to the terminus of the Underground Railroad and each year, the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society hosts a re-enactment of slave river crossings from the United States into Canada. With music and drama, the stories of runaway slaves and the abolitionists who helped them unfold for Americans and Canadians gathered on both sides of the mighty Niagara River.

Buffalo's Broderick Park was the last stop on the Underground Railroad for untold numbers of courageous runaway slaves who braved the swift currents that feed Niagara Falls. To commemorate Broderick Park's unique role in American history, a Freedom Memorial Walkway of engraved Freedom Bricks and inscribed granite Freedom Blocks is being constructed at the very site at which men and women set out to live free or die.

We invite Alabama to be part of this historical and educational effort by purchasing a Freedom Block inscribed with your memorial to those who risked death for freedom. As Governor of one of the fifteen former slave states, we invite you to personally present Alabama's Freedom Block at a luncheon on August 18, 2001 at Rich Renaissance Atrium.

Oprah Winfrey has been invited to emcee this event and the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society is working with her staff and our local CBS affiliate to provide the Oprah show with footage of past re-enactments for a feature segment.

We recognize how full your schedule is but we sincerely hope that you will be able to personally attend this historic luncheon and present Alabama's Freedom Block. Following the luncheon, we hope you can join us for a re-enactment featuring spiritual songs, historical readings and performances, culminating in a crossing to Canada for a reception hosted by Fort Erie Ontario Mayor Wayne Redekop.

We have enclosed for your review an informational brochure on the Freedom Memorial Walk. A volunteer will contact your office in the next few weeks to determine your interest and availability.

The prestige of this historic, international event will be enhanced by your presence. We hope you will join us on August 18, 2001 and that you will consider bringing your family and staying overnight so that we might have the opportunity to share some of Buffalo's unique amenities, a taste the Niagara Frontier's historic significance -- and a visit to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Niagara Falls.

Very truly yours,

Anthony M. Masiello
Mayor of Buffalo

Joel Giambra
Erie County Executive

Lillian Batchelor
Founder, Buffalo Quarters
Historical Society



County of Erie

February 7, 2001

Honorable Mike Huckabee
Governor
State Capitol
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: Invitation to present Arkansas' Freedom Block at luncheon for Underground Railroad's Freedom Memorial Walk in Buffalo on August 18, 2001

Dear Governor Huckabee:

Buffalo is home to the terminus of the Underground Railroad and each year, the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society hosts a re-enactment of slave river crossings from the United States into Canada. With music and drama, the stories of runaway slaves and the abolitionists who helped them unfold for Americans and Canadians gathered on both sides of the mighty Niagara River.

Buffalo's Broderick Park was the last stop on the Underground Railroad for untold numbers of courageous runaway slaves who braved the swift currents that feed Niagara Falls. To commemorate Broderick Park's unique role in American history, a Freedom Memorial Walkway of engraved Freedom Bricks and inscribed granite Freedom Blocks is being constructed at the very site at which men and women set out to live free or die.

We invite Arkansas to be part of this historical and educational effort by purchasing a Freedom Block inscribed with your memorial to those who risked death for freedom. As Governor of one of the fifteen former slave states, we invite you to personally present Arkansas' Freedom Block at a luncheon on August 18, 2001 at Rich Renaissance Atrium.

Oprah Winfrey has been invited to emcee this event and the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society is working with her staff and our local CBS affiliate to provide the Oprah show with footage of past re-enactments for a feature segment.

We recognize how full your schedule is but we sincerely hope that you will be able to personally attend this historic luncheon and present Arkansas' Freedom Block. Following the luncheon, we hope you can join us for a re-enactment featuring spiritual songs, historical readings and performances, culminating in a crossing to Canada for a reception hosted by Fort Erie Ontario Mayor Wayne Redekop.

We have enclosed for your review an informational brochure on the Freedom Memorial Walk. A volunteer will contact your office in the next few weeks to determine your interest and availability.

The prestige of this historic, international event will be enhanced by your presence. We hope you will join us on August 18, 2001 and that you will consider bringing your family and staying overnight so that we might have the opportunity to share some of Buffalo's unique amenities, a taste the Niagara Frontier's historic significance -- and a visit to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Niagara Falls.

Very truly yours,

Anthony M. Masiello
Mayor of Buffalo

Joel Giambra
Erie County Executive

Lillian Batchelor
Founder, Buffalo Quarters
Historical Society



County of Erie

February 7, 2001

Honorable Ruth Ann Miller
Governor
820 N. French Street
Wilmington, DE 19801

RE: Invitation to present Delaware's Freedom Block at luncheon for Underground Railroad's Freedom Memorial Walk in Buffalo on August 18, 2001

Dear Governor Miller:

Buffalo is home to the terminus of the Underground Railroad and each year, the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society hosts a re-enactment of slave river crossings from the United States into Canada. With music and drama, the stories of runaway slaves and the abolitionists who helped them unfold for Americans and Canadians gathered on both sides of the mighty Niagara River.

Buffalo's Broderick Park was the last stop on the Underground Railroad for untold numbers of courageous runaway slaves who braved the swift currents that feed Niagara Falls. To commemorate Broderick Park's unique role in American history, a Freedom Memorial Walkway of engraved Freedom Bricks and inscribed granite Freedom Blocks is being constructed at the very site at which men and women set out to live free or die.

We invite Delaware to be part of this historical and educational effort by purchasing a Freedom Block inscribed with your memorial to those who risked death for freedom. As Governor of one of the fifteen former slave states, we invite you to personally present Delaware's Freedom Block at a luncheon on August 18, 2001 at Rich Renaissance Atrium.

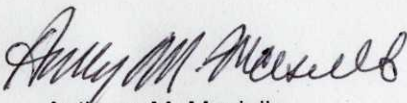
Oprah Winfrey has been invited to emcee this event and the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society is working with her staff and our local CBS affiliate to provide the Oprah show with footage of past re-enactments for a feature segment.

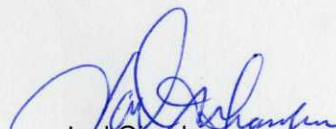
We recognize how full your schedule is but we sincerely hope that you will be able to personally attend this historic luncheon and present Delaware's Freedom Block. Following the luncheon, we hope you can join us for a re-enactment featuring spiritual songs, historical readings and performances, culminating in a crossing to Canada for a reception hosted by Fort Erie Ontario Mayor Wayne Redekop.

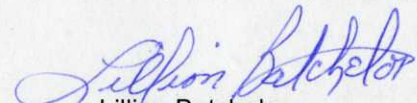
We have enclosed for your review an informational brochure on the Freedom Memorial Walk. A volunteer will contact your office in the next few weeks to determine your interest and availability.

The prestige of this historic, international event will be enhanced by your presence. We hope you will join us on August 18, 2001 and that you will consider bringing your family and staying overnight so that we might have the opportunity to share some of Buffalo's unique amenities, a taste the Niagara Frontier's historic significance -- and a visit to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Niagara Falls.

Very truly yours,


Anthony M. Masiello
Mayor of Buffalo


Joel Glambra
Erie County Executive


Lillian Batchelor
Founder, Buffalo Quarters
Historical Society



County of Erie

February 7, 2001

Honorable Jeb Bush
Governor
The Capitol
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001



City of Buffalo

RE: Invitation to present Florida's Freedom Block at luncheon for Underground Railroad's Freedom Memorial Walk
in Buffalo on August 18, 2001

Dear Governor Bush:

Buffalo is home to the terminus of the Underground Railroad and each year, the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society hosts a re-enactment of slave river crossings from the United States into Canada. With music and drama, the stories of runaway slaves and the abolitionists who helped them unfold for Americans and Canadians gathered on both sides of the mighty Niagara River.

Buffalo's Broderick Park was the last stop on the Underground Railroad for untold numbers of courageous runaway slaves who braved the swift currents that feed Niagara Falls. To commemorate Broderick Park's unique role in American history, a Freedom Memorial Walkway of engraved Freedom Bricks and inscribed granite Freedom Blocks is being constructed at the very site at which men and women set out to live free or die.

We invite Florida to be part of this historical and educational effort by purchasing a Freedom Block inscribed with your memorial to those who risked death for freedom. As Governor of one of the fifteen former slave states, we invite you to personally present Florida's Freedom Block at a luncheon on August 18, 2001 at Rich Renaissance Atrium.

Oprah Winfrey has been invited to emcee this event and the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society is working with her staff and our local CBS affiliate to provide the Oprah show with footage of past re-enactments for a feature segment.

We recognize how full your schedule is but we sincerely hope that you will be able to personally attend this historic luncheon and present Florida's Freedom Block. Following the luncheon, we hope you can join us for a re-enactment featuring spiritual songs, historical readings and performances, culminating in a crossing to Canada for a reception hosted by Fort Erie Ontario Mayor Wayne Redekop.

We have enclosed for your review an informational brochure on the Freedom Memorial Walk. A volunteer will contact your office in the next few weeks to determine your interest and availability.

The prestige of this historic, international event will be enhanced by your presence. We hope you will join us on August 18, 2001 and that you will consider bringing your family and staying overnight so that we might have the opportunity to share some of Buffalo's unique amenities, a taste the Niagara Frontier's historic significance -- and a visit to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Niagara Falls.

Very truly yours,

Anthony M. Masiello
Mayor of Buffalo

Joel Giambra
Erie County Executive

Lillian Batchelor
Founder, Buffalo Quarters
Historical Society



County of Erie

February 7, 2001

Honorable Roy E. Barnes
Governor
State Capitol Building
Atlanta, GA 30334

RE: Invitation to present Georgia's Freedom Block at luncheon for Underground Railroad's Freedom Memorial Walk in Buffalo on August 18, 2001

Dear Governor Barnes:

Buffalo is home to the terminus of the Underground Railroad and each year, the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society hosts a re-enactment of slave river crossings from the United States into Canada. With music and drama, the stories of runaway slaves and the abolitionists who helped them unfold for Americans and Canadians gathered on both sides of the mighty Niagara River.

Buffalo's Broderick Park was the last stop on the Underground Railroad for untold numbers of courageous runaway slaves who braved the swift currents that feed Niagara Falls. To commemorate Broderick Park's unique role in American history, a Freedom Memorial Walkway of engraved Freedom Bricks and inscribed granite Freedom Blocks is being constructed at the very site at which men and women set out to live free or die.

We invite Georgia to be part of this historical and educational effort by purchasing a Freedom Block inscribed with your memorial to those who risked death for freedom. As Governor of one of the fifteen former slave states, we invite you to personally present Georgia's Freedom Block at a luncheon on August 18, 2001 at Rich Renaissance Atrium.

Oprah Winfrey has been invited to emcee this event and the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society is working with her staff and our local CBS affiliate to provide the Oprah show with footage of past re-enactments for a feature segment.

We recognize how full your schedule is but we sincerely hope that you will be able to personally attend this historic luncheon and present Georgia's Freedom Block. Following the luncheon, we hope you can join us for a re-enactment featuring spiritual songs, historical readings and performances, culminating in a crossing to Canada for a reception hosted by Fort Erie Ontario Mayor Wayne Redekop.

We have enclosed for your review an informational brochure on the Freedom Memorial Walk. A volunteer will contact your office in the next few weeks to determine your interest and availability.

The prestige of this historic, international event will be enhanced by your presence. We hope you will join us on August 18, 2001 and that you will consider bringing your family and staying overnight so that we might have the opportunity to share some of Buffalo's unique amenities, a taste the Niagara Frontier's historic significance -- and a visit to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Niagara Falls.

Very truly yours,

Anthony M. Masiello
Mayor of Buffalo

Joel Giambra
Erie County Executive

Lillian Batchelor
Founder, Buffalo Quarters
Historical Society



County of Erie

February 7, 2001

Honorable Paul E. Patton
Governor
700 Capitol Avenue
Frankfort, KY 40601



City of Buffalo

RE: Invitation to present Kentucky's Freedom Block at luncheon for Underground Railroad's Freedom Memorial Walk in Buffalo on August 18, 2001

Dear Governor Patton:

Buffalo is home to the terminus of the Underground Railroad and each year, the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society hosts a re-enactment of slave river crossings from the United States into Canada. With music and drama, the stories of runaway slaves and the abolitionists who helped them unfold for Americans and Canadians gathered on both sides of the mighty Niagara River.

Buffalo's Broderick Park was the last stop on the Underground Railroad for untold numbers of courageous runaway slaves who braved the swift currents that feed Niagara Falls. To commemorate Broderick Park's unique role in American history, a Freedom Memorial Walkway of engraved Freedom Bricks and inscribed granite Freedom Blocks is being constructed at the very site at which men and women set out to live free or die.

We invite Kentucky to be part of this historical and educational effort by purchasing a Freedom Block inscribed with your memorial to those who risked death for freedom. As Governor of one of the fifteen former slave states, we invite you to personally present Kentucky's Freedom Block at a luncheon on August 18, 2001 at Rich Renaissance Atrium.

Oprah Winfrey has been invited to emcee this event and the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society is working with her staff and our local CBS affiliate to provide the Oprah show with footage of past re-enactments for a feature segment.

We recognize how full your schedule is but we sincerely hope that you will be able to personally attend this historic luncheon and present Kentucky's Freedom Block. Following the luncheon, we hope you can join us for a re-enactment featuring spiritual songs, historical readings and performances, culminating in a crossing to Canada for a reception hosted by Fort Erie Ontario Mayor Wayne Redekop.

We have enclosed for your review an informational brochure on the Freedom Memorial Walk. A volunteer will contact your office in the next few weeks to determine your interest and availability.

The prestige of this historic, international event will be enhanced by your presence. We hope you will join us on August 18, 2001 and that you will consider bringing your family and staying overnight so that we might have the opportunity to share some of Buffalo's unique amenities, a taste the Niagara Frontier's historic significance -- and a visit to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Niagara Falls.

Very truly yours,

Anthony M. Masiello
Mayor of Buffalo

Joel Giambra
Erie County Executive

Lillian Batchelor
Founder, Buffalo Quarters
Historical Society



County of Erie



City of Buffalo

February 7, 2001

Honorable M.J. Foster
Governor
P.O. Box 94004
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

RE: Invitation to present Louisiana's Freedom Block at luncheon for Underground Railroad's Freedom Memorial Walk in Buffalo on August 18, 2001

Dear Governor Foster:

Buffalo is home to the terminus of the Underground Railroad and each year, the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society hosts a re-enactment of slave river crossings from the United States into Canada. With music and drama, the stories of runaway slaves and the abolitionists who helped them unfold for Americans and Canadians gathered on both sides of the mighty Niagara River.

Buffalo's Broderick Park was the last stop on the Underground Railroad for untold numbers of courageous runaway slaves who braved the swift currents that feed Niagara Falls. To commemorate Broderick Park's unique role in American history, a Freedom Memorial Walkway of engraved Freedom Bricks and inscribed granite Freedom Blocks is being constructed at the very site at which men and women set out to live free or die.

We invite Louisiana to be part of this historical and educational effort by purchasing a Freedom Block inscribed with your memorial to those who risked death for freedom. As Governor of one of the fifteen former slave states, we invite you to personally present Louisiana's Freedom Block at a luncheon on August 18, 2001 at Rich Renaissance Atrium.

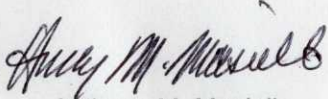
Oprah Winfrey has been invited to emcee this event and the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society is working with her staff and our local CBS affiliate to provide the Oprah show with footage of past re-enactments for a feature segment.


We recognize how full your schedule is but we sincerely hope that you will be able to personally attend this historic luncheon and present Louisiana's Freedom Block. Following the luncheon, we hope you can join us for a re-enactment featuring spiritual songs, historical readings and performances, culminating in a crossing to Canada for a reception hosted by Fort Erie Ontario Mayor Wayne Redekop.

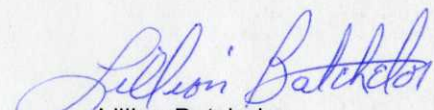
We have enclosed for your review an informational brochure on the Freedom Memorial Walk. A volunteer will contact your office in the next few weeks to determine your interest and availability.

The prestige of this historic, international event will be enhanced by your presence. We hope you will join us on August 18, 2001 and that you will consider bringing your family and staying overnight so that we might have the opportunity to share some of Buffalo's unique amenities, a taste the Niagara Frontier's historic significance -- and a visit to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Niagara Falls.

Very truly yours,


Anthony M. Masiello
Mayor of Buffalo


Joel Giambra
Erie County Executive


Lillian Batchelor
Founder, Buffalo Quarters
Historical Society



County of Erie



City of Buffalo

February 7, 2001

Honorable Parris N. Glendening
Governor
State House
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Invitation to present Maryland's Freedom Block at luncheon for Underground Railroad's Freedom Memorial Walk in Buffalo on August 18, 2001

Dear Governor Glendening:

Buffalo is home to the terminus of the Underground Railroad and each year, the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society hosts a re-enactment of slave river crossings from the United States into Canada. With music and drama, the stories of runaway slaves and the abolitionists who helped them unfold for Americans and Canadians gathered on both sides of the mighty Niagara River.

Buffalo's Broderick Park was the last stop on the Underground Railroad for untold numbers of courageous runaway slaves who braved the swift currents that feed Niagara Falls. To commemorate Broderick Park's unique role in American history, a Freedom Memorial Walkway of engraved Freedom Bricks and inscribed granite Freedom Blocks is being constructed at the very site at which men and women set out to live free or die.

We invite Maryland to be part of this historical and educational effort by purchasing a Freedom Block inscribed with your memorial to those who risked death for freedom. As Governor of one of the fifteen former slave states, we invite you to personally present Maryland's Freedom Block at a luncheon on August 18, 2001 at Rich Renaissance Atrium.

Oprah Winfrey has been invited to emcee this event and the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society is working with her staff and our local CBS affiliate to provide the Oprah show with footage of past re-enactments for a feature segment.

We recognize how full your schedule is but we sincerely hope that you will be able to personally attend this historic luncheon and present Maryland's Freedom Block. Following the luncheon, we hope you can join us for a re-enactment featuring spiritual songs, historical readings and performances, culminating in a crossing to Canada for a reception hosted by Fort Erie Ontario Mayor Wayne Redekop.

We have enclosed for your review an informational brochure on the Freedom Memorial Walk. A volunteer will contact your office in the next few weeks to determine your interest and availability.

The prestige of this historic, international event will be enhanced by your presence. We hope you will join us on August 18, 2001 and that you will consider bringing your family and staying overnight so that we might have the opportunity to share some of Buffalo's unique amenities, a taste the Niagara Frontier's historic significance -- and a visit to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Niagara Falls.

Very truly yours,

Anthony M. Masiello
Mayor of Buffalo

Joel Giambra
Erie County Executive

Lillian Batchelor
Founder, Buffalo Quarters
Historical Society



County of Erie



City of Buffalo

February 7, 2001

Honorable Ronnie Musgrove
Governor
P.O. Box 139
Jackson, MS 39205

RE: Invitation to present Mississippi's Freedom Block at luncheon for Underground Railroad's Freedom Memorial Walk in Buffalo on August 18, 2001

Dear Governor Musgrove:

Buffalo is home to the terminus of the Underground Railroad and each year, the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society hosts a re-enactment of slave river crossings from the United States into Canada. With music and drama, the stories of runaway slaves and the abolitionists who helped them unfold for Americans and Canadians gathered on both sides of the mighty Niagara River.

Buffalo's Broderick Park was the last stop on the Underground Railroad for untold numbers of courageous runaway slaves who braved the swift currents that feed Niagara Falls. To commemorate Broderick Park's unique role in American history, a Freedom Memorial Walkway of engraved Freedom Bricks and inscribed granite Freedom Blocks is being constructed at the very site at which men and women set out to live free or die.

We invite Mississippi to be part of this historical and educational effort by purchasing a Freedom Block inscribed with your memorial to those who risked death for freedom. As Governor of one of the fifteen former slave states, we invite you to personally present Mississippi's Freedom Block at a luncheon on August 18, 2001 at Rich Renaissance Atrium.

Oprah Winfrey has been invited to emcee this event and the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society is working with her staff and our local CBS affiliate to provide the Oprah show with footage of past re-enactments for a feature segment.

We recognize how full your schedule is but we sincerely hope that you will be able to personally attend this historic luncheon and present Mississippi's Freedom Block. Following the luncheon, we hope you can join us for a re-enactment featuring spiritual songs, historical readings and performances, culminating in a crossing to Canada for a reception hosted by Fort Erie Ontario Mayor Wayne Redekop.

We have enclosed for your review an informational brochure on the Freedom Memorial Walk. A volunteer will contact your office in the next few weeks to determine your interest and availability.

The prestige of this historic, international event will be enhanced by your presence. We hope you will join us on August 18, 2001 and that you will consider bringing your family and staying overnight so that we might have the opportunity to share some of Buffalo's unique amenities, a taste the Niagara Frontier's historic significance -- and a visit to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Niagara Falls.

Very truly yours,

Anthony M. Masiello
Mayor of Buffalo

Joel Giambra
Erie County Executive

Lillian Batchelor
Founder, Buffalo Quarters
Historical Society



County of Erie



City of Buffalo

February 7, 2001

Honorable Robert Holden
Governor
Missouri Capitol Building, Room 216
P.O. Box 720
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0720

RE: Invitation to present Missouri's Freedom Block at luncheon for Underground Railroad's Freedom Memorial Walk in Buffalo on August 18, 2001

Dear Governor Holden:

Buffalo is home to the terminus of the Underground Railroad and each year, the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society hosts a re-enactment of slave river crossings from the United States into Canada. With music and drama, the stories of runaway slaves and the abolitionists who helped them unfold for Americans and Canadians gathered on both sides of the mighty Niagara River.

Buffalo's Broderick Park was the last stop on the Underground Railroad for untold numbers of courageous runaway slaves who braved the swift currents that feed Niagara Falls. To commemorate Broderick Park's unique role in American history, a Freedom Memorial Walkway of engraved Freedom Bricks and inscribed granite Freedom Blocks is being constructed at the very site at which men and women set out to live free or die.

We invite Missouri to be part of this historical and educational effort by purchasing a Freedom Block inscribed with your memorial to those who risked death for freedom. As Governor of one of the fifteen former slave states, we invite you to personally present Missouri's Freedom Block at a luncheon on August 18, 2001 at Rich Renaissance Atrium.

Oprah Winfrey has been invited to emcee this event and the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society is working with her staff and our local CBS affiliate to provide the Oprah show with footage of past re-enactments for a feature segment.

We recognize how full your schedule is but we sincerely hope that you will be able to personally attend this historic luncheon and present Missouri's Freedom Block. Following the luncheon, we hope you can join us for a re-enactment featuring spiritual songs, historical readings and performances, culminating in a crossing to Canada for a reception hosted by Fort Erie Ontario Mayor Wayne Redekop.

We have enclosed for your review an informational brochure on the Freedom Memorial Walk. A volunteer will contact your office in the next few weeks to determine your interest and availability.

The prestige of this historic, international event will be enhanced by your presence. We hope you will join us on August 18, 2001 and that you will consider bringing your family and staying overnight so that we might have the opportunity to share some of Buffalo's unique amenities, a taste the Niagara Frontier's historic significance -- and a visit to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Niagara Falls.

Very truly yours,

Anthony M. Masiello
Mayor of Buffalo

Joel Giambra
Erie County Executive

Lillian Batchelor
Founder, Buffalo Quarters
Historical Society



County of Erie



City of Buffalo

February 7, 2001

Honorable Michael F. Easley
Governor
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699

RE: Invitation to present North Carolina's Freedom Block at luncheon for Underground Railroad's Freedom Memorial Walk in Buffalo on August 18, 2001

Dear Governor Easley:

Buffalo is home to the terminus of the Underground Railroad and each year, the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society hosts a re-enactment of slave river crossings from the United States into Canada. With music and drama, the stories of runaway slaves and the abolitionists who helped them unfold for Americans and Canadians gathered on both sides of the mighty Niagara River.

Buffalo's Broderick Park was the last stop on the Underground Railroad for untold numbers of courageous runaway slaves who braved the swift currents that feed Niagara Falls. To commemorate Broderick Park's unique role in American history, a Freedom Memorial Walkway of engraved Freedom Bricks and inscribed granite Freedom Blocks is being constructed at the very site at which men and women set out to live free or die.

We invite North Carolina to be part of this historical and educational effort by purchasing a Freedom Block inscribed with your memorial to those who risked death for freedom. As Governor of one of the fifteen former slave states, we invite you to personally present North Carolina's Freedom Block at a luncheon on August 18, 2001 at Rich Renaissance Atrium.

Oprah Winfrey has been invited to emcee this event and the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society is working with her staff and our local CBS affiliate to provide the Oprah show with footage of past re-enactments for a feature segment.

We recognize how full your schedule is but we sincerely hope that you will be able to personally attend this historic luncheon and present North Carolina's Freedom Block. Following the luncheon, we hope you can join us for a re-enactment featuring spiritual songs, historical readings and performances, culminating in a crossing to Canada for a reception hosted by Fort Erie Ontario Mayor Wayne Redekop.

We have enclosed for your review an informational brochure on the Freedom Memorial Walk. A volunteer will contact your office in the next few weeks to determine your interest and availability.

The prestige of this historic, international event will be enhanced by your presence. We hope you will join us on August 18, 2001 and that you will consider bringing your family and staying overnight so that we might have the opportunity to share some of Buffalo's unique amenities, a taste the Niagara Frontier's historic significance -- and a visit to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Niagara Falls.

Very truly yours,

Anthony M. Masiello
Mayor of Buffalo

Joel Giambra
Erie County Executive

Lillian Batchelor
Founder, Buffalo Quarters
Historical Society



County of Erie



City of Buffalo

February 7, 2001

Honorable James H. Hodges
Governor
P.O. Box 11829
Columbia, SC 29211

RE: Invitation to present South Carolina's Freedom Block at luncheon for Underground Railroad's Freedom Memorial Walk in Buffalo on August 18, 2001

Dear Governor Hodges:

Buffalo is home to the terminus of the Underground Railroad and each year, the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society hosts a re-enactment of slave river crossings from the United States into Canada. With music and drama, the stories of runaway slaves and the abolitionists who helped them unfold for Americans and Canadians gathered on both sides of the mighty Niagara River.

Buffalo's Broderick Park was the last stop on the Underground Railroad for untold numbers of courageous runaway slaves who braved the swift currents that feed Niagara Falls. To commemorate Broderick Park's unique role in American history, a Freedom Memorial Walkway of engraved Freedom Bricks and inscribed granite Freedom Blocks is being constructed at the very site at which men and women set out to live free or die.

We invite South Carolina to be part of this historical and educational effort by purchasing a Freedom Block inscribed with your memorial to those who risked death for freedom. As Governor of one of the fifteen former slave states, we invite you to personally present South Carolina's Freedom Block at a luncheon on August 18, 2001 at Rich Renaissance Atrium.

Oprah Winfrey has been invited to emcee this event and the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society is working with her staff and our local CBS affiliate to provide the Oprah show with footage of past re-enactments for a feature segment.

We recognize how full your schedule is but we sincerely hope that you will be able to personally attend this historic luncheon and present South Carolina's Freedom Block. Following the luncheon, we hope you can join us for a re-enactment featuring spiritual songs, historical readings and performances, culminating in a crossing to Canada for a reception hosted by Fort Erie Ontario Mayor Wayne Redekop.

We have enclosed for your review an informational brochure on the Freedom Memorial Walk. A volunteer will contact your office in the next few weeks to determine your interest and availability.

The prestige of this historic, international event will be enhanced by your presence. We hope you will join us on August 18, 2001 and that you will consider bringing your family and staying overnight so that we might have the opportunity to share some of Buffalo's unique amenities, a taste the Niagara Frontier's historic significance -- and a visit to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Niagara Falls.

Very truly yours,

Anthony M. Masiello
Mayor of Buffalo

Joel Giambra
Erie County Executive
Lillian Batchelor
Founder, Buffalo Quarters
Historical Society



County of Erie



City of Buffalo

February 7, 2001

Honorable Don Sundquist
Governor
State Capitol
Nashville, TN 37243

RE: Invitation to present Tennessee's Freedom Block at luncheon for Underground Railroad's Freedom Memorial Walk in Buffalo on August 18, 2001

Dear Governor Sundquist:

Buffalo is home to the terminus of the Underground Railroad and each year, the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society hosts a re-enactment of slave river crossings from the United States into Canada. With music and drama, the stories of runaway slaves and the abolitionists who helped them unfold for Americans and Canadians gathered on both sides of the mighty Niagara River.

Buffalo's Broderick Park was the last stop on the Underground Railroad for untold numbers of courageous runaway slaves who braved the swift currents that feed Niagara Falls. To commemorate Broderick Park's unique role in American history, a Freedom Memorial Walkway of engraved Freedom Bricks and inscribed granite Freedom Blocks is being constructed at the very site at which men and women set out to live free or die.

We invite Tennessee to be part of this historical and educational effort by purchasing a Freedom Block inscribed with your memorial to those who risked death for freedom. As Governor of one of the fifteen former slave states, we invite you to personally present Tennessee's Freedom Block at a luncheon on August 18, 2001 at Rich Renaissance Atrium.

Oprah Winfrey has been invited to emcee this event and the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society is working with her staff and our local CBS affiliate to provide the Oprah show with footage of past re-enactments for a feature segment.

We recognize how full your schedule is but we sincerely hope that you will be able to personally attend this historic luncheon and present Tennessee's Freedom Block. Following the luncheon, we hope you can join us for a re-enactment featuring spiritual songs, historical readings and performances, culminating in a crossing to Canada for a reception hosted by Fort Erie Ontario Mayor Wayne Redekop.

We have enclosed for your review an informational brochure on the Freedom Memorial Walk. A volunteer will contact your office in the next few weeks to determine your interest and availability.

The prestige of this historic, international event will be enhanced by your presence. We hope you will join us on August 18, 2001 and that you will consider bringing your family and staying overnight so that we might have the opportunity to share some of Buffalo's unique amenities, a taste the Niagara Frontier's historic significance -- and a visit to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Niagara Falls.

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Mayor of Buffalo

Joel Giambra
Erie County Executive

Lillian Batchelor
Founder, Buffalo Quarters
Historical Society



County of Erie



City of Buffalo

February 7, 2001

Honorable Rick Perry
Governor
P.O. Box 12428
Austin, TX 78711

RE: Invitation to present Texas' Freedom Block at luncheon for Underground Railroad's Freedom Memorial Walk in Buffalo on August 18, 2001

Dear Governor Perry:

Buffalo is home to the terminus of the Underground Railroad and each year, the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society hosts a re-enactment of slave river crossings from the United States into Canada. With music and drama, the stories of runaway slaves and the abolitionists who helped them unfold for Americans and Canadians gathered on both sides of the mighty Niagara River.

Buffalo's Broderick Park was the last stop on the Underground Railroad for untold numbers of courageous runaway slaves who braved the swift currents that feed Niagara Falls. To commemorate Broderick Park's unique role in American history, a Freedom Memorial Walkway of engraved Freedom Bricks and inscribed granite Freedom Blocks is being constructed at the very site at which men and women set out to live free or die.

We invite Texas to be part of this historical and educational effort by purchasing a Freedom Block inscribed with your memorial to those who risked death for freedom. As Governor of one of the fifteen former slave states, we invite you to personally present Texas' Freedom Block at a luncheon on August 18, 2001 at Rich Renaissance Atrium.

Oprah Winfrey has been invited to emcee this event and the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society is working with her staff and our local CBS affiliate to provide the Oprah show with footage of past re-enactments for a feature segment.

We recognize how full your schedule is but we sincerely hope that you will be able to personally attend this historic luncheon and present Texas' Freedom Block. Following the luncheon, we hope you can join us for a re-enactment featuring spiritual songs, historical readings and performances, culminating in a crossing to Canada for a reception hosted by Fort Erie Ontario Mayor Wayne Redekop.

We have enclosed for your review an informational brochure on the Freedom Memorial Walk. A volunteer will contact your office in the next few weeks to determine your interest and availability.

The prestige of this historic, international event will be enhanced by your presence. We hope you will join us on August 18, 2001 and that you will consider bringing your family and staying overnight so that we might have the opportunity to share some of Buffalo's unique amenities, a taste the Niagara Frontier's historic significance -- and a visit to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Niagara Falls.

Very truly yours,

Anthony M. Masiello
Mayor of Buffalo

Joel Giambra
Erie County Executive

Lillian Batchelor
Founder, Buffalo Quarters
Historical Society



County of Erie



City of Buffalo

February 7, 2001

Honorable James S. Gilmore
Governor
State Capitol, 3rd Floor
Richmond, VA 23219

RE: Invitation to present Virginia's Freedom Block at luncheon for Underground Railroad's Freedom Memorial Walk in Buffalo on August 18, 2001

Dear Governor Gilmore:

Buffalo is home to the terminus of the Underground Railroad and each year, the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society hosts a re-enactment of slave river crossings from the United States into Canada. With music and drama, the stories of runaway slaves and the abolitionists who helped them unfold for Americans and Canadians gathered on both sides of the mighty Niagara River.

Buffalo's Broderick Park was the last stop on the Underground Railroad for untold numbers of courageous runaway slaves who braved the swift currents that feed Niagara Falls. To commemorate Broderick Park's unique role in American history, a Freedom Memorial Walkway of engraved Freedom Bricks and inscribed granite Freedom Blocks is being constructed at the very site at which men and women set out to live free or die.

We invite Virginia to be part of this historical and educational effort by purchasing a Freedom Block inscribed with your memorial to those who risked death for freedom. As Governor of one of the fifteen former slave states, we invite you to personally present Virginia's Freedom Block at a luncheon on August 18, 2001 at Rich Renaissance Atrium.

Oprah Winfrey has been invited to emcee this event and the Buffalo Quarters Historical Society is working with her staff and our local CBS affiliate to provide the Oprah show with footage of past re-enactments for a feature segment.

We recognize how full your schedule is but we sincerely hope that you will be able to personally attend this historic luncheon and present Virginia's Freedom Block. Following the luncheon, we hope you can join us for a re-enactment featuring spiritual songs, historical readings and performances, culminating in a crossing to Canada for a reception hosted by Fort Erie Ontario Mayor Wayne Redekop.

We have enclosed for your review an informational brochure on the Freedom Memorial Walk. A volunteer will contact your office in the next few weeks to determine your interest and availability.

The prestige of this historic, international event will be enhanced by your presence. We hope you will join us on August 18, 2001 and that you will consider bringing your family and staying overnight so that we might have the opportunity to share some of Buffalo's unique amenities, a taste the Niagara Frontier's historic significance -- and a visit to one of the Seven Wonders of the World, Niagara Falls.

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Anthony M. Masiello
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