



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 876-6800

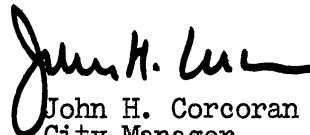
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
JOHN H. CORCORAN
City Manager
JAMES L. FARRELL
Assistant City Manager

October 29, 1973

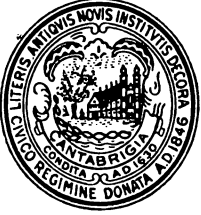
To the Honorable, the City Council:

I transmit herewith self-explanatory communication from Joseph G. Sakey, Director of the Cambridge Public Library, for your information.

Very truly yours,


John H. Corcoran
City Manager

JHC/b



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

449 BROADWAY, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138 • TEL. 876-5005

CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

19 October 1973

Mr. John H. Corcoran
And the Cambridge City Council
City Hall
Cambridge, Massachusetts

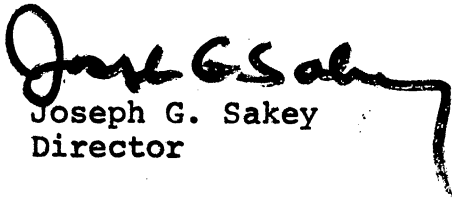
Dear Mr. Corcoran:

The Cambridge Public Library has been in communication with the Massachusetts Bicentennial Commission and has submitted to this agency its project - Heritage of a City, A Bicentennial Prelude. Copies of the same are attached for your review. The library has been planning a program which would honor ethnic groups in the city and point out the part each has played in its growth and development.

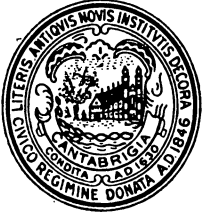
It is an attempt by the library to prepare for the bicentennial celebration. We have adopted the theme of the first phase of the American Bicentennial Revolution Commission and hopefully we will move to the second phase covering the remaining ethnic groups in the city.

We are, at present, conversing with the Massachusetts Bicentennial Commission for possible funding.

Sincerely,


Joseph G. Sakey
Director

JFS:meb



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449 BROADWAY, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138 • TEL. 876-5005

CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

October 17, 1973

Massachusetts Bicentennial Commission
10 Tremont Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Dear Sir:

Cambridge Public Library wishing to obtain official recognition by the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission as a Bicentennial Community submits its project to you, the appropriate state bicentennial agency.

We ask that you review our project so that we may be eligible for an official endorsement. You will find that we have adopted one of the three basic American Revolution Bicentennial Commission's themes - Heritage, and that we are involving the ethnic groups of our City in our project.

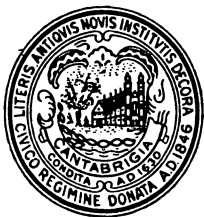
A description of our project - Heritage of a City - A Bicentennial Prelude follows. Hoping you will review our project at your earliest convenience, I remain

Very truly yours,

CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

(Mrs.) Marguerite Lechiaro
Associate Librarian

ML:at
Enclosures



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

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CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Cambridge Public Library is planning its 1973-74 programs around the coming Bicentennial celebration. A series of programs will be inaugurated in November 1973 commemorating the role played by various ethnic groups in the founding of our country and in the growth of our city. The series will be titled - HERITAGE OF A CITY - A Bicentennial Prelude. Each month there will be a three day festival highlighting one ethnic group.

The festival will consist of a film, a speaker, and an afternoon of dance and music, all reflecting the culture of a people who contributed to the greatness of Cambridge.

Plans and dates are tentative but we did want you to know of our plans at an early date so that you might be prepared to contribute ideas and suggestions at the appropriate time. The groups and months are:

Polish - November	Canadian - January	Spanish - March
French - December	Black - February	Portuguese - April
		Italian - May

I will be in touch with you as the program for which your expertise will be sought is at hand. The Library hopes you will be as excited as we are by our Bicentennial Prelude and will find time to offer assistance and good will.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) Marguerite Lechiaro,
Associate Librarian, Chairman
Library Activities Committee

Name of Agency Seeking Official Bicentennial Recognition

Cambridge Public Library, Cambridge, Massachusetts
Joseph G. Sakey, Director

Project Theme

Heritage

Emphasis is on the heritage and cultural legacies of ethnic groups to show the contribution each has made to the growth and development of Cambridge.

Project Title

Heritage of a City - A Bicentennial Prelude

Project Participants

Library co-sponsors with the Polish, Canadian, Portuguese, Black, Lithuanian, Italian, English communities.

Project Dates

November 1973 - May 1974

November 13, 15, 18	- Polish
December 11, 13, 16	- Canadian
January 8, 10, 13	- Portuguese
February 12	- Black
March 12, 14, 17	- Lithuanian
April 16, 18, 21	- Italian
May 14, 16, 19	- English

Objectives

To actively take part in the anniversary of the founding of our nation.

To reflect on the rich historic background of the city.

To honor the ethnic groups who have enriched the city.

To acquaint each of us with the heritage of the other so that we will be more deeply enriched and come to understand each other.

Format

A three day festival will take place on a regular monthly basis honoring an ethnic group.

Tuesday Evening

Film of the country being honored.

Thursday Evening

Speaker of the honored ethnic group who has distinguished himself in the academic, political, professional world. Variation could be a demonstration of a particular craft native to the group e.g. Venetian glass blowing for the Italian festival.

Sunday Afternoon

Culture of the group revealed in the dance, song, poetry, food, etc.

Consulate representative, church dignitary bring greetings of the community.

During the festival, books, art, music, crafts, magazines, newspapers, etc. displayed throughout the library.

First Program in Series

Polish Heritage in Cambridge

Tuesday, November 13, 8:00 P.M.

Poland on Film

Slide Narration, Francis Budryk

Thursday, November 15, 8:00 P.M.

Copernicus and His Poland

Illustrated Lecture, Pawel Depta

Sunday, November 18, 3:00 P.M.

An Afternoon in Poland

Greetings, Monsignor Francis Chmaj

Krakowiak Polish Dancers

St. Hedwig's Church Choir

Jan Milun, Baritone

Project Planning

To prepare each ethnic group for its festival, a cover letter was sent in September to community leaders to generate interest and allow ample time for planning.

Two months before each program, a committee representing the ethnic group and the library will have a meet-

Project Planning (Continued)

ing to work out the details of the program. Community involvement will take place and insure success of the program.

Visits will be made to consulates for suggestions and expertise, to churches and organizations for support, to airlines, travel agencies for visual materials.

The first visible sign of a particular program is the display in the lobby of the library, usually a poster of the country with title and dates of program across the face.

Publicity

The committee of community leaders taking the message out to their respective communities is the best kind of publicity.

Brochure with history of the group and actual program serves as an invitation and is mailed to library's mailing list, group's mailing list, random streets, etc.

Contact with schools, bi-lingual and social studies departments.

News releases to editors of newspapers, T.V. and radio stations at appropriate time.

Flyers and posters distributed throughout city, to laundromats, beauty shops, college bulletin boards, etc.

Flyers put in every circulating book one week before program.

House to house canvas in ethnic area by library staff to extend personal invitation.

Bumper stickers proclaiming program.

Lasting Residual Value

Hopefully people will become aware of each other and aware of the contribution each has made to his city and this awareness will result in people

Lasting Residual Value (Continued)

living harmoniously and peaceably in the same city.

It will recall the early days of our city, its growth and development.

It will impress upon all our historic heritage and the beginnings of our country.

It will bring about an appreciation of a city agency, the library, by the citizenry. The library really cares and wants to be of service to the community.

Future Plans

So that our Bicentennial Celebration will be a lasting one we plan to celebrate the next basic theme - Festival in 1974-75 and Horizons in 1975-76. Festival will honor those people who have recently come to Cambridge - the Spanish-speaking, smaller ethnic groups, and those ethnic groups not honored in the Heritage phase. Horizons will concentrate on the future of our citizens and our city.

Funding

If we are deemed eligible for funding, we are ready with two proposals which we will submit at the requested time.

1. We would like to develop and distribute free to the community an Ethnic Calendar of holidays and holydays. It would be used by schools, clubs, churches, and the community at large. A brief history of the advent of the ethnic groups to Cambridge would precede the actual calendar. Symbols, mottoes, and flags of each group would be included.
2. We would like to publish A History of the Black People in Cambridge. This would be a first as there is no such publication existing containing this information. This would involve a tremendous amount of research, culling church histories, archives of associations, etc.

Our budget does not allow for the manpower to do the necessary research nor money for design and printing of the above publications.

Enclosures

Cover letter to community leaders.

Example of a past library program and brochure -
Perspectives in Black.

