

- Gabriella Parisi (She/Her) 12:19 AM

Good Morning!

Hopefully this message will reach Mr. and Mrs. Stewart. Perhaps there was a better way of communicating; however, I was unable to find an email on your website.

I wanted to reach out regarding my visit to the education center yesterday, 9/2. This is my first semester as a graduate student at The University at Albany, yet already I am grateful for the experience I am having. See, I was born and raised in Saratoga, not a far trip to Albany by any means, yet I was completely unaware about the rich history Albany has with the Underground Railroad. My visit was truly captivating, I found my brain having the opportunity to critically think about why I was not informed about this history and perhaps consider whether I can continue to gain knowledge of history I often don't engage with. Interestingly, I completed my undergraduate at the University of Kansas. I only bring this up because Mr. Stewart contextualized Harriet Myers' letter using prior events like the hanging of John Brown, a figure who is the focal point on many murals throughout the university. I am aware of John Brown having spent time in Upstate New York, yet from my experience I associate him with the state of Kansas, quite interesting how these things happen. This all goes to say, I believe the space your vision has fostered will continue to impact how future scholars and historians may consider their understanding of the world around and the past they study. Thank you for being invested in sharing story and truth. I look forward to seeing the Underground Railroad Education Center thrive.

Kind Regards,
Gabriella Parisi