



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Highfield Hall & Gardens Virtual Supper Club series celebrates Black History month with author/historian Skip Finley

February 25, 2021 | 6 pm – 7:30 pm

(Falmouth, Massachusetts): Highfield Hall & Gardens is pleased to announce author and historian Skip Finley as our next Supper Club guest speaker in honor of Black History month.

Skip is a renown historian and will speak on his latest publication **Whaling Captains of Color-America's First Meritocracy** which encapsulates the best stories from over 50 Whaling Captains of color and share the story of America's First Meritocracy. Whaling was the first American industry to exhibit any diversity, and the proportion of men of color people who participated was amazingly high. A man got to be captain not because he was white or well connected, but because he knew how to kill a whale. Along the way he would also learn navigation and how to read and write. Whaling presented a tantalizing alternative to mainland life. Working with archival records at whaling museums, in libraries, from private archives and studying hundreds of books and thesis, Finley portrays the exciting era of whaling.

Skip was a columnist for the Vineyard Gazette from June 2012 through June 2017, and is a retired radio broadcaster

Dinner is provided by **Chef Roland Catering**, and this sumptuous dinner will be delivered to you, with reheating instructions. Guests will be provided with a three-course meal and for this Supper Club, entree choices include braised boneless short rib, lobster risotto with seared scallops or quinoa and vegetable stuffed portobello mushroom.

About Highfield Hall & Gardens Supper Clubs

Each Virtual Dinner Party will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will last approximately 60 – 90 minutes. One week prior to the event, you will receive a menu to choose your meal options. Your dinner and gift bag will arrive at your home prior to the start of the dinner party between 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Your gift bag will include preparation instructions for your meal, Zoom instructions to participate online, an evening program, a special gift relevant to the evening.

To have your meal delivered, you must be within a 20-mile radius of Falmouth.

If you would like to participate in the event without receiving a meal, we are offering a discounted ticket price. If you would like to sign up for multiple dates, please email Lisa Walker for special discounted series subscription rates.

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About Highfield Hall & Gardens

The house is a rare surviving example of transitional Stick Style architecture, containing beautiful gardens located in the heart of Falmouth, Massachusetts. It is a unique combination of a historic house, expansive gardens and trails, and a vibrant cultural center. Built in 1878 as the summer home for Boston's Beebe family, the house sits on 5.5 pristine acres surrounded by nearly 400 acres of conservation land and public walking trails. Highfield Hall & Gardens is not your typical historic estate. It is an example of a historic building saved by grassroots community organizing. An effort of tenacity and vision that continues as new research on the structure and its story of the people who lived here add to the building's significance. It offers world-class music, international art exhibitions, culinary classes, family programs, and year-round special events.

For more information, visit highfieldhallandgardens.org.

Mission

Highfield Hall & Gardens' mission is to honor the beauty and historic significance of the house and grounds by providing high-quality artistic, cultural, and educational programs for the enrichment of our community and visitors of all ages.

Gallery Hours:

Highfield Hall will follow health safety protocols by restricting the number of people in the gallery at one time.

The Gallery is now open Wednesday – Friday; 10 am – 4 pm & Saturday; 10 am – 2 pm