


[<Back](#) [Print](#)

The Library Company OF PHILADELPHIA MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER



Founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1731  www.librarycompany.org

In This Issue

- Introducing the Library Company's New Collection Stewardship Program
- 2010-2011 Fellows Announced
- Art and Artifacts Online Exhibit updated
- Richard Allen: Apostle of Freedom
- Library Company Annual Meeting Recap
- June Ben's Lens
- Library Company Closed on July 5th

Introducing the Library Company's New Collection Stewardship Program



Become a Steward of the collections of the Library Company of Philadelphia! Through our new Stewardship Program, you can support the purchase of interesting and important rare books, pamphlets, prints, and photographs. By sponsoring items selected for purchase by our curators, you can help us strengthen and deepen our collections and make our limited acquisition funds go further. We will periodically add to this list new items available

for stewardship, and we will report when items previously listed have been sponsored, and by whom. Your gift will also be acknowledged in our *Annual Report* and noted in our permanent accession record. And we will also record your name on a special bookplate affixed to or kept with the item. Please review the stewardship opportunities below, and watch for additions to this

Juneteenth



Please join us on Monday, June 21st for our Juneteenth celebration. This year's panel discussion will focus on the past eight years of controversy surrounding the discovery of the slave quarters and the nine slaves who served President George Washington at his Philadelphia home at 6th & Market Streets. Panelists include St. Joseph's University historian Randall M. Miller; architectural historian Edward Lawler; and Philadelphia lawyer Michael Coard. Moderating the discussion is Temple University Journalism professor and award-winning columnist for the *Philadelphia Tribune* Linn Washington. This event is free and open to the public.

Please RSVP to lpropst@librarycompany.org or call 215-546-3181.

list in future editions of our E-News!

[Click here to learn more about the new stewardship program.](#)

2010-2011 Fellows Announced

The Library Company congratulates a new cohort of fellows who will be studying in our collections over the next year.

[Click here](#) to see a list of our new fellows.

[Click here for more information on our fellowships.](#)

Art and Artifacts Online Exhibiton updated



[Click here](#) to see recent updates to our online *Art and Artifacts* exhibition.

Richard Allen: Apostle of Freedom



6 p.m. Wednesday, June 30 At the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia Admission: FREE

RSVP: Online at <http://apostleoffreedom.eventbrite.com> or call 215-732-6200 ext. 214

This year marks the 250th anniversary of the birth of Bishop Richard Allen, a revered figure in African American history and one of the nation's leading abolitionists. Though enslaved at birth, he eventually purchased his own freedom, started several businesses, and created one of the first independent black churches in America -- Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, now known as "Mother Bethel" AME. Allen was also the first African American figure to eulogize a president, the first black author (with Absalom Jones) to hold a federal copyright, and the first African American bishop in the United States.

Join the Library Company and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania for a celebration of Allen's life and legacy. Pastors from Mother Bethel AME Church, Historic St. George's United Methodist Church, and others will participate in a panel discussion, along with professor Richard Newman of the Rochester Institute of Technology, author of *Freedom's Prophet*:

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Bishop Richard Allen, the AME Church, and the Black Founding Fathers. The moderator will be University of Pennsylvania professor Anthea Butler, who specializes in African American religious history. Learn about Richard Allen's many contributions to American religion, society, and culture. After the discussion, guests can view original documents from HSP and LCP that relate to Richard Allen. These documents will also be posted as an online exhibit at www.hsp.org.

Library Company Annual Meeting Recap



[Click here](#) to view the 279th Annual Meeting video.

To listen to Leo Damrosch's talk "Tocqueville's Discovery of America" via podcast without video [click here](#).

June Ben's Lens



This month's Ben's Lens is a mystery to us and we are hoping that our readers might have some suggestions on what it depicts. As can be seen in the image, several of the men seem to be wearing non-Western-style clothing. The large building in the background, however, appears to follow conventional Western architectural principles of design. The carte de visite also includes the imprint of Philadelphia photographer Frederick Gutekunst with his address of 712 Arch Street printed on the verso. Gutekunst moved to this studio location in 1867 and remained there into the 20th century. Throughout his career, Gutekunst is known to have made a trip to Germany, journeyed to Gettysburg after the infamous battle of 1863, and traveled throughout Pennsylvania photographing for the Pennsylvania Railroad, but he is primarily known for his Philadelphia photographic work. We welcome any thoughts our loyal Ben's Lens readers might have about where this image might have been taken and what is happening in the view.

[Click here for the June Ben's Lens](#)

Library Company Closed on July 5th

The Library Company will be closed on Monday, July 5th in observance of Independence Day.

[Click here for a complete list of our closings.](#)

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