



**PILGRIM SOCIETY &
PILGRIM HALL MUSEUM**
75 Court Street, Plymouth, MA 02360
508-746-1620; www.pilgrimhallmuseum.org



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Newly Restored Steinway Library Reopens at Pilgrim Hall Museum

Thursday, July 26th, 4pm-6pm

Pilgrim Hall Museum will be cutting the ribbon to re-open the 1905 Steinway Memorial Library, now restored to original glory for the first time since it opened to the public over a century ago. The restoration was funded by the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund through the Massachusetts Historical Commission, the Town of Plymouth Community Preservation Fund, and the Plymouth Industrial Development Corporation. The community is invited to savor light refreshments and grand surrounds, with vaulted Guastavino ceiling, terrazzo-an-tile flooring, and original steel bookcases. The event is free and open to the public.

Erected in the early 20th century to house books on Plymouth history, the Library was officially named in 2012 to honor Mary “Cassie” Steinway, a member and Trustee who expressed her commitment to the Pilgrim Society by leaving a million dollar bequest. Designed by Hartwell, Richardson & Driver of Boston and built by Plymouth contractor Ernest L. Sampson, the Library retains many original features, including a tiled ceiling construction developed by designer Raphael Guastavino. Guastavino’s elegant vaulted ceilings are found in such landmark buildings as the Boston Public Library, Ellis Island’s Registry Hall, and Grand Central Terminal in New York City. The Library includes terrazzo and tile flooring, a carved limestone hearth, decorative plaster detailing, copper framed windows, and magnificent steel bookcases, made by the Art Metal Construction Company of Boston, with locking grille doors, verdigris finish, and brass details.

Many features had deteriorated due to age or damage. The restoration addressed cracked and failing ceiling tiles, water scarred plaster, and fractured flooring. With repairs completed, the final stage of the project will be to return 6,000 historical volumes to the shelves, including hundreds of rare books dating to Pilgrim times. For the ribbon cutting event, however, the bookcases will be empty and the room unadorned to allow guests on this single occasion to examine the room as it was when it first opened in 1905.

For more information, contact donna.curtin@pilgrimhall.org.

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Pilgrim Hall Museum is located at 75 Court Street (Route 3A), Plymouth, Massachusetts 02360.

Information: 508-746-1620; Web site: www.pilgrimhallmuseum.org

Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 7 days a week. The Museum is open daily February through December.

Admission: Adults \$12.00; seniors (62+) \$10.00; Children \$8.00; Families (2 adults with their children aged 6-15) \$30.00. Residents of Plymouth, Massachusetts are admitted free (individuals and families).