

From: Mary Blake [Retired Headmistress of the Convent of the Sacred Heart, a Roman Catholic school for girls on the Upper East Side of New York]

Subject: Thank you! [After coming to your lecture at Guild Hall Museum in East Hampton, NY]

Date: November 5, 2016 at 5:03:20 PM EDT

To: Linda Stein <linda@lindastein.com>, Linda Stein <HAWT@HaveArtWillTravel.org>

Dear Linda,

Please excuse my hasty retreat from the lecture today. I needed to immediately sit back without distraction and think in the quiet of my soul. Even though I have heard your lectures before and have admired you and your work for years, each time I see it again, it renews my faith and wonder and affirmation of all that is good. Its power is jolting.

Linda, this work needs to be seen by so many. The comment today made by the young teacher, stating that her students had barely heard of the Holocaust, leaves me dumbstruck and with many questions. Sadly, is not only the Holocaust. It is Rwanda. Syria. The Ukraine. What next?

How does your tour become a lifeline to the past? How can your tour become the promise of the future and a catalyst for growth and change?

I think about its exhibition in every Holocaust Museum in the country. I think about making little toolboxes for children, in which, as a follow-up to your spoon and shell series, they go out and forage to find their own artifacts and affirm their own journeys. I think about coloring books for young ones and sketchbooks for older kids, and family engagement, and the mighty, mighty discussions to follow. You are enabling a life-altering experience for kids, for adults, for families, for schools, for communities. What can follow? Sensitive, life – changing discernment. Hope.

With love,

Mary