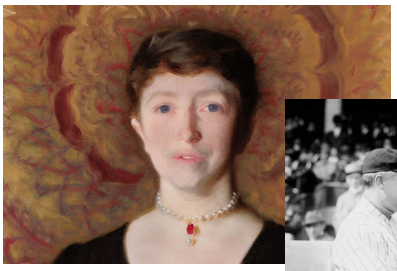
Medfield Historical Society Presents "Isabella Stewart Gardner, Medfield, and Baseball"

with Jay Hurd





Monday, Oct 7, 2024
7:00 pm
First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church
26 North Street, Medfield

Join us at our upcoming October program where Jay Hurd will delve into the fascinating life of Isabella Stewart Gardner and consider her association with Medfield and her love of art and sports and, in particular, baseball,

Isabella Stewart Gardner, an art collector, philanthropist, and patron of the arts, was well-known to artists, composers, musicians, and writers during the Gilded Age and a visible presence in Boston. She was friends to famous Medfield artists, Dennis Bunker and Charles Innes and composer Charles Martin Loeffler. She delighted in sports of all kinds and was a well-known Red Sox fan. Hers was a life of commitment to the beauty of the human form and the artists who captured this beauty on canvas, in dance, and even as baseball players.

Jay Hurd, is a baseball historian, former librarian at Harvard's Widener Library, and graduate of Medfield High School. He has presented at the National Baseball Hall of Fame Museum and historical societies on baseball topics.

The presentation is free and open to the public.

A regular guest at her palatial home in Boston's Fenway was Charles Martin Loeffler, composer and violinist from Medfield. On one visit, he brought a Medfield church boys' choir for her entertainment. When Gardner learned they needed uniforms for their baseball team, she donated the funds to buy them, an example of her support for athletic pursuits as well as musical ones.