

A Message from the Chief Executive Officer of the Foundation

Dr. Carla Knorowski



Dr. Carla Knorowski
ALPLF CEO

2015 is a seminal year in the Lincoln world, as our nation commemorates the 150th anniversaries of the 16th President's Second Inaugural Address, the end of the American Civil War, the passage of the 13th Amendment, and sadly the assassination. Nowhere in the Lincoln world does 2015 carry as much weight as at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum (ALPLM). Why? Because in addition to the four aforementioned anniversaries, 2015 will also find us commemorating the 10th Anniversary of the founding of ALPLM.

It is difficult to fathom, but a little more than a decade ago, no presidential museum and library existed to honor Abraham Lincoln, one of our nation's greatest presidents. Each year, people from more than 100 countries worldwide flock to Springfield to learn about the rail splitter-turned-President. Lincoln's mass appeal is undeniable. And yet, it is only a little more than ten years since a group of "concerned citizens" broke ground on what was to become the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.

Why is that? Over the past few years we have been celebrating the sesquicentennials of Abraham Lincoln's good work, which includes creating a system of public, land grant universities across the nation; providing land to American pioneers settling the western frontier; linking the east and west coasts through the creation of a transcontinental railroad; recognizing enlisted members of the Armed Services through the creation of the Medal of Honor; issuing the Emancipation Proclamation; and launching our nation's new birth of freedom through the Gettysburg Address. So why is it that not until 2005 was Mr. Lincoln given a presidential library?

Because unlike modern day Presidents who can avail themselves of all the federal benefits provided through the Presidential Libraries Act, President Lincoln's administration predates this concept by nearly a century. Initially conceived by Franklin Delano Roosevelt and later signed into law in August 1955 by Dwight D. Eisenhower, the Act provides federal monies for the creation of a presidential library only for the presidents since Herbert Hoover. Presidents like Abraham Lincoln, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Ulysses S. Grant, and Teddy Roosevelt are ineligible. Instead, the ALPLM relies on state support and philanthropic donations from generous members like you.

All presidential libraries created through the 1955 Act come under the oversight of the National Archives and Records Administration



(NARA). Federal monies come through NARA to the presidential libraries to be used for basic operations. In order to come under the NARA umbrella and qualify for financial support, the library must have a certain amount of money set aside as a permanent endowment. This is smart because none of our nation's great libraries, universities, museums, hospitals, or other nonprofits can exist, let alone thrive, without a strong endowment—the interest income from which provides a steady base of support even during downturns in the economy when the state must make budget cuts or generous donors must, for personal reasons, cut back on or perhaps stop giving altogether. Lincoln's museum and library has no such endowment.

In addition to an annual flow of federal dollars, most of the presidential libraries for the modern day presidents have benefited or continue to benefit from the fact that they were established when the president whose legacy they honor and/or his descendants were still alive. Also, many of the people who generously supported a President's political campaigns are also alive and they transition from political campaign donors to presidential library donors. Having a living President, living descendants, and transitional presidential campaign donors are all a tremendous boon for the modern presidential library. Unfortunately, Lincoln, his descendants, and campaign supporters are no longer with us to speak about his legacy, the many accomplishments of his presidency, and/or his post-presidency. But you can pick up, where they have left off.

If you are reading this, you no doubt admire, look up to, and support Lincoln. For this, we are truly grateful. As 2015 approaches and we commemorate the 150th anniversaries of some of the seminal moments in the Lincoln presidency and our nation, and as we, too, celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, we need you. Mr. Lincoln needs you. If not for the Great Emancipator, then for whom will you give? If not now, when? The man is Abraham Lincoln and the time is NOW.

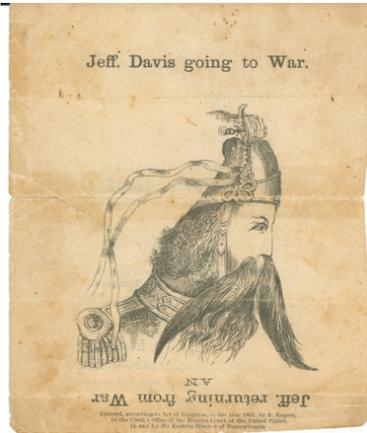
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Collaboration with Chicago History Museum

“Undying Words: Lincoln 1858-1865” Set to Open in the ALPLM Illinois Gallery November 2014

By Dr. James Cornelius, Lincoln Curator, Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum



Among the many items going on display for the first time are an 1861 cartoon of Jefferson Davis, who turns into a donkey if you turn your magazine upside down.

CAPPING OFF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF LINCOLN'S RE-ELECTION, THE UNION VICTORY IN THE CIVIL WAR, AND AN HISTORIC PRESIDENCY, THE BIGGEST LINCOLN SHOW THAT THE ALPLM HAS UNDERTAKEN IN 8 YEARS WILL OPEN THIS NOVEMBER IN THE ILLINOIS GALLERY.

It will run all through 2015, though some delicate items will be on view only for the first portion of the show.

Mounted in cooperation with the Chicago History Museum, and borrowing 24 historic items from their collections, the show focuses on Lincoln's 5 best-known speeches, and 2 additional historic documents. It also works on 'another level' as visual excitement because of the size and meaning of the some of the three-dimensional artifacts.

Those 5 speeches are the House Divided (1858); the First Inaugural (1861); the Gettysburg Address (1863); the Second Inaugural (1865); and the lesser-known but hugely important Last Speech, or Speech on Reconstruction (April 11, 1865), delivered from an upstairs window of the White House to a crowd below. In the speech Lincoln first broached the idea of giving the vote to some African-Americans; and in the crowd was John Wilkes Booth, who determined right there to kill Lincoln for that reason.

The two other great documents are a signed printing of the Emancipation Proclamation (1863); and the Congressional Resolution for a 13th Amendment, to end slavery (1865), also signed and dated by Lincoln. This document was the focus of the recent Steven Spielberg film *Lincoln*.

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An original version (in various surviving forms) of 6 of these 7 Greatest Hits of Lincoln belong to the Presidential Library & Museum. Only the Last Speech does not—but its presence will be strongly felt in other forms.

For younger viewers, as well as the general public, the highlights might be something altogether different: a 7-foot-high oil painting of 'The Rail Splitter'; an elegant carriage the Lincolns used in Washington, which Mary Lincoln also used in Chicago during her widowhood; an amateur's 5-foot-tall banner 'Free Homes for Free Men' for the 1860 campaign; the bed Lincoln died in; the first oil portrait ever painted of Lincoln (1858), and a near-matching one of Stephen Douglas; original tools and possessions of slaves; and original uniforms and weaponry of the Civil War.

Dr. Carla Knorowski, Chief Executive Officer of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation, stated, "'Undying Words' is a magnificent collaboration between two of the nation's great history museums—the bringing together of priceless Lincoln documents and artifacts from their renowned collections. We are pleased in particular, to bring together such an extraordinary assemblage of Lincoln speeches—each a masterpiece in its own right. We hope the public will visit this insightful and compelling exhibit as we commemorate the 150th anniversary of the passing of the 16th President."

"Undying Words" is generously sponsored in part by Archer Daniels Midland Company.



Abraham and Mary Lincoln used this carriage for some of their Washington, D.C., outings. As a widow, Mary used it also in Chicago. Courtesy of Chicago History Museum



The bed in which Abraham Lincoln died on 15 April 1865 belonged to the William Petersen family, into whose home the stricken president was carried from Ford's Theatre. Courtesy of Chicago History Museum



Marking our 10th Anniversary

Lincoln's Assassination Among Historic Events Commemorated in 2015

By Clare Thorpe, Guest Services Manager, 2015 Program Chair Person, Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum looks toward 2015 with much anticipation—it is the 150th anniversary of Lincoln's assassination as well as other historic events, plus it marks the 10-year anniversary of the museum campus. Amy Martin, director of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, stated, "I am thrilled to announce an ambitious agenda at the Museum and Library beginning in November 2014 including exclusive member events, educational programs, an exhibit collaboration with the Chicago History Museum, and much more—all geared towards re-engaging our members and visitors."

Going Digital—Starting in November, in order to revolutionize the visitor experience, audiences will be able to access digital content, housed in the massive resources of our Library, on their mobile devices (smartphones and tablets). While touring the museum's immersive Journeys, visitors will be able to supplement and engage in web-based content of the exhibits, once again placing the museum at the forefront of the implantation of technology.

New Exhibit "Undying Words: Lincoln 1858-1865" announced—Throughout 2015 the Illinois Gallery, located in the Abraham Lincoln Presidential

Museum, will present an exhibit focusing on Lincoln's best-known speeches while teaching visitors about Lincoln's transformation, ultimately putting the United States on track to become the first bi-racial democracy in world history. This exhibit is a collaboration with the Chicago History Museum and will be an inspiring and reflective commemoration of Lincoln's death. Roughly ninety to one hundred original objects, including the Lincoln family carriage and the death bed of Abraham Lincoln, will be on display. Throughout 2015, we will have interactive programs based on exhibit content—providing the opportunity for our visitors, students, and volunteers to read excerpts from these speeches.

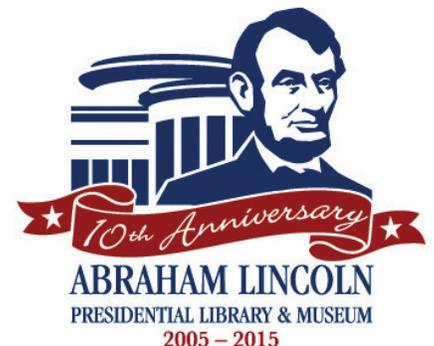
Museum Gateway Renovations—In celebration of Lincoln's Birthday in February 2015, the ALPLM will unveil the newly redesigned Museum Gateway. The improvements include enhancing the efficiency of the Foundation Membership service area as well as a streamlining of the space within the museum entrance used for daily operations—all with the goal to provide visitors with a more ADA accessible facility.

New theater presentation, "The Battle Hymn Story"—The museum theater department is looking forward



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—Amy Martin, Director, Illinois Historic Preservation Agency



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to the challenge of creating a new theater presentation, “The Battle Hymn Story.” This one-man show (with a live actor) presents the origins of the song that came to represent Abraham Lincoln and the North. The presentation will take the audience on a journey to the beginnings of the original “camp song” and how, throughout the Civil War, the tune continued to be set to new lyrics. According to our Technical Director Sam Cooper, “This is the most complex and technical show the museum has ever attempted.” The new presentation will launch to the public in April of 2015. A VIP showing will occur on March 24, 2015.

Evening Under the Stars—In July 2014 the ALPLM hosted a *Summer on the Square* event featuring the production “The Civil War Musical.” Over 1,700 guests experienced this emotional story of our fight for freedom. In July 2015 our theater department will host another evening under the stars—watch the website for details.

10th Anniversary Calendar, coming soon—The *Four Score and Seven* newsletter, Issue 3, will provide a detailed calendar featuring programs, events, and activities that will take place at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum during the anniversary celebration. In an effort to attract new audiences and to continue to engage our Foundation members, the 10th Anniversary Committee is excited to announce the following events and programs:

Evening With The Creators Series—Attend lecture sessions from the creators that made this museum so immersive and innovative. This is a five-night event



Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, Plaza

series that will answer your Who, What, Why questions. The series will launch on February 26th, beginning with the question “How It All Began.” Presenters will include Bob Rogers, David Kneupper, and the LifeFormations company.

Happy Birthday—The museum will be celebrating the birthdays of Lincoln’s sons Robert, Eddy, Willie and Tad. The events and programs will provide educational opportunities for our visitors to learn about the boys and their birthday traditions.

Family Day—The 10th of every month will be Family Day. On this day there will be some type of family event/activity/recognition. Family day will begin in December 2014 and run through December 2015. Other family activities such as an egg roll, movie/popcorn, park festival, and genealogy workshops are being planned.

10th Anniversary Celebration—April 19th is the museum’s 10-year day of celebration. This day will be filled with inspiring moments and history-making experiences.

Afternoon Teas—Back by popular demand! Beginning May 16, 2015 we will be hosting a Fancy Nancy Mother/Daughter Soirée and Tea with author Jane O’Connor. On August 1, 2015 we will be hosting a World’s Fair Tea with the Ladies from the David Davis Mansion along with World’s Fair objects from our Library’s collection.

Pets in the White House—Do you love pets and want to learn more about the pets that lived in the White House? In September 2015 we will host “Pets in the White House”—an outdoor event in our Union Square Park. Watch the website for more details!

Civil War Ball—Save the Date! Join us for our Civil War Ball on November 14, 2015.

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