Lincoln Exhibit

Special Event:
This event occurred September 26th – November 9th, 2012

"Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War" is made possible by major grants from the following:

"Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War"

The traveling exhibition examines how President Lincoln used the Constitution to confront three interconnected crises of the Civil War—the secession of Southern states, slavery, and wartime civil liberties.

Lincoln is widely acknowledged as one of America's greatest presidents, but his historical reputation is contested. Was he a calculating politician willing to accommodate slavery, or a principled leader justly celebrated as the Great Emancipator? This exhibition provides no easy answers. Rather, it encourages visitors to form a nuanced view of Lincoln by engaging with Lincoln's struggle to reconcile his policy preferences with basic American ideals of liberty and equality. This exhibition develops a more complete understanding of Abraham Lincoln as president and the Civil War as the nation's gravest constitutional crisis.

Abraham Lincoln was elected President of the United States in 1860, at a time when the nation was on the brink of war. Lincoln struggled to resolve the basic questions that divided Americans at the most perilous moment in the nation's history: Was the United States truly one nation, or was it a confederacy of sovereign and separate states? How could a country founded on a belief that "all men are created equal" tolerate slavery? In a national crisis, would civil liberties be secure? President Lincoln used the Constitution to confront these crises of war, ultimately reinventing the Constitution and the promise of American life.

"We are delighted to have been selected as a site for this exhibition," said Gwen Khayat, Library Director. "As a new president, Abraham Lincoln faced with enormous challenges. This exhibition shows how Lincoln struggled with issues of secession, slavery and civil liberties—all questions our country's founding charter left unanswered. Each section of the exhibit features information about a different aspect of Lincoln's presidency. For example, the section about slavery examines the various policy options Lincoln once embraced and how his thoughts about slavery evolved over time. Most importantly, the exhibit helps visitors understand why Lincoln's struggle with the Constitution still matters today."

The National Constitution Center and the American Library Association Public Programs Office organized the traveling exhibition, which was made possible by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH): great ideas brought to life. The traveling exhibition is based on an exhibition of the same name developed by the National Constitution Center.

The traveling exhibition is composed of informative panels featuring photographic reproductions of original documents, including a draft of Lincoln's first inaugural speech, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the Thirteenth Amendment.

The library is sponsoring programs and other events are at no charge for the public in connection with this exhibition.

Contact Vincent at 870-560-0987 or vincent.j@baxlib.org or visit this website in the future for more information.

Exhibit Themes

- Secession
- Abolition of Slavery
- Civil Liberties during the War

Also, explore these sites:

- Arkansaw Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission

Community & Conflict: The Impact of the Civil War in the Ozarks, is a collaborative digitization effort to document the war in the Trans-Mississippi Theater.
Lincoln Exhibit

Schedule of Events:

September 14th

Tuesday Evening at 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. - Special Viewing & Event Opening of the
3,000-square-foot panel exhibition. Additionally included will be artifacts from the Battle
of Yorktown.

October 2nd

Let the Conversation Begin!
After a tour of the exhibit, grab a sticky note and pen. Then, put your thoughts, ideas, and
beliefs on paper and post it for all to see.

October 7th

Tuesday Evening at 6:00 p.m. - Dr. Michael Dougall - "The Golden Apple and the Silver
Friesne. Absalom Lincoln and Arkansas." Dr. Dougall will discuss the political, moral and
constitutional issues that underly the coming of the American Civil War. He will show that
the same basic issues, framed differently over time, have retained their power to influence
American politics today perhaps more than at any time in the last one hundred years.

October 14th

Sunday Afternoon at 1:30 p.m. - Dr. Brooks Blevins presents life & times in the Ozarks
during the Civil War.

October 21st

Saturday Afternoon at 2:00 p.m. - Historical reenactor program Miss Ellie and Sgt.
Lewis appropriate for Grade 5 through Adults. This interactive, 50-minute program
introduces you to many of the incredible acts women performed in the name of support, survival,
and unity during the American Civil War. You will meet nurses, smugglers, soldiers, spies, as well
as lots of civil war ladies who gave their “All” to the war effort. The "Nancy Hart", "La Belle Rebelle",
"Gray Lady", "the French Women", and "San Mendy" are just a few of the names that will come up in
this presentation. Program is perfect for all ages.

Touched By Fire: Bleeding Kansas & Bloody Dawn: The Lawrence Massacre

Touched By Fire: Bleeding Kansas
From 8:45 to 9:00, the eyes of the nation were on Kansas Territory. Two sides emerged,
were so engaged or defending or eliminating the speed of slaves. Amidst this historical backdrop,
passionate individuals like John Brown would arise as the voice of a new land. Before Kansas
gained statehood in 1861, hundreds would die. The outcome defining a fight, and a nation. Not Rated - 180 minutes

Touched By Fire: Bloody Kansas

Bloody Dawn: The Lawrence Massacre
Friday, August 21, 1863, dawned clear and bright in the sleepy abolitionist town of
Lawrence, Kansas. Be on the lookout for morning showers that found Marshall tailor
William Quantrill and more than 400 of his followers headed down on them, intent on
meting out justice and putting an end to the pro-secessionists. With such a small town,
the names of buildings and homes intertwined, and rumors run for the safety of the
Morgan broth. It was the very act of terrorism enacted agianst on Rin during the
Civil War. Survivors would rebuild and later recount their tales. Here is their story. Not Rated - 50 minutes

October 28th

Friday Afternoon at 2:30 p.m. - Civil War Movie.
In the words of Abraham Lincoln's assassination, seven men and one woman are arrested and
charged with conspiring to kill the President, Vice President, and Secretary of State. Against the ominous
backdrop of post-Civil War Washington, newly-minted lawyer, Frederick Allen, reluctantly agrees to
defend the lone female defendant before a military tribunal. As the nation turns against her, Barrett
is forced to rely on Allen to save the truth and save her life. 103 Minutes Rated PG-13. The Library's movie license prohibits the mention of movie titles in external promotions. For a listing of future movie titles, please check the library's movie schedule posted at the library or pick up a Library Program Guide.
Lincoln Exhibit

November 7th  Book Discussion through Skype with Robin Oliveira, Author of My Name Is Mary Sutter.

Oliveira is winner of the 2011 Michael Shaara Prize for Excellence in Civil War Fiction. In her historical novel, Oliveira writes in stunning detail of Mary Sutter who is a brilliant, headstrong midwife from Albany, New York, who dreams of becoming a surgeon. Determined to overcome the prejudices against women in medicine—and eager to run away from her recent heartbreaks—Mary leaves home and travels to Washington, D.C. to help tend the legions of Civil War wounded. Mary pursues her medical career in the desperately overcrowded hospital of the capital during and post Civil War.

Resources Educational Interactive Activities

Abraham Lincoln's Crossroads

Journey of President-Elect Lincoln

The Long Journey Home

Centuries of Citizenship Constitutional Timeline

Lesson Plans:

Discussion Guide for Teachers (PDF)

Lessons Plans with Crossword Puzzle & Word Search (PDF)

Videos:

Click to watch an overview of the Lincoln Exhibit.

Bible used by Lincoln at his Inauguration

Contents of Abraham Lincoln’s pockets from the Night of His Assassination at Ford’s Theatre

Fun:

Color a Picture of President Lincoln

Civil War Music & Song:

Aura Lee: A sentimental Civil War ballad from 1863 with music by George E. Poulton and words by W.W. Fondick. This is the same tune Elvis Presley performed on The Ed Sullivan Show on September 19, 1956. The single, Love Me Tender, was released about a month before the movie, Love Me Tender.

Songs from the Max Hunter Collection. This is an archive of almost 3000 Ozark Mountain folk songs, recorded between 1925 and 1970. Used by permission of Dr. Michael E. Morris, editor of the Ritz Theater Database, at Missouri State University.

Ballad of a Rebel Soldier

Battle of Pea Ridge

Battle of Prairie Grove

Battle of Wilson Creek

The Boys in Blue

Charley Quantrell

Dying Soldiers Bay - Mill Spring

Jeff Davis

Johnny Fill Up The Bowl

Soldiers Poor Little Boy

Young Johnny