Contrary to popular belief, our nation’s greatest export is not soybeans, cotton or thermoplastics, it’s Abraham Lincoln. Or so I’m theorizing. Consider this: There are more books and treatises written about Lincoln—approximately 18,000—than any other individual in the history of the world other than Jesus. One need only to witness Petersen House’s jaw-dropping more-than-three-story-high-column comprised solely of books about Lincoln to even begin to grasp this fact.

Lincoln’s story continues to globally captivate. He is the only American immortalized in a statue in China, as well as the only statue of an American in London’s Parliament Square. Each year, hundreds of thousands of guests come to visit the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. They come not just from all 50 states, but more than 100 countries on all seven continents—yes, even Antarctica. These visitors help us export the Lincoln story to their fellow citizens of the world. This is quite a feat for a President whose international travel was confined to stepping across the U.S.-Canadian border on a visit to Niagara Falls.

Lincoln’s contemporary, French-born, Italian General Giuseppe Garibaldi, once said of him, “You will pass to posterity with the name of the Emancipator...more enviable than any crown or any human treasure.” Said Russian philosopher Leo Tolstoy, “The greatness of Napoleon, Caesar or Washington is only moonlight by the sun of Lincoln. His example is universal and will last thousands of years.”

From the CEO

Carla Knorowski, Ph.D.
Not convinced? The U.S. Department of State boasts more than 1,000 documents penned by a variety of 19th century international dignitaries upon their learning of Lincoln’s passing. Many are quite touching and moving, a tribute to the man and his global influence especially when one considers he likely never met most of them as his focus was on domestic issues and he had no Airforce One to jet him around to world summits and diplomatic missions.

What we export is as much a symbol of who and what we are as a nation as are our founding documents and the ideals and principles contained therein. Lincoln’s exportability, begs the following questions, “What is his continued relevance as a 19th century president, in today’s 21st century?” How do Lincoln’s more than 150-year old views on freedom, democracy, slavery, leadership, human migration, translate today? How can we, as keepers of some of Lincoln’s most iconic documents and artifacts help continue to not only tell his history, but also his relevance in the 21st century?

These are important questions that you, our generous benefactors have asked and continue to ask as we work together in partnership to share his timeless legacy. Philanthropy demands and deserves social relevancy. As other presidential libraries and museums tackle issues such as global health, veterans’ rights, volunteerism, democracy, community activism and organizing among others, we, too, must continue to explore how our nation’s greatest export, Abraham Lincoln, continues to effectuate thought, discussion, debate and change on today’s most pressing issues. His story demands to be told not just for the sake of history, but for the sake of our contemporary nation and world, in which a little dose of Lincoln can go a long way to curing what ails us. As an export, he gives us the kind of incalculable surplus that doesn’t just benefit the United States, but the entire world.
The ALPLM has a rich tradition of living history and theatrical productions. Under the direction of the incomparable Phil Funkenbusch, those programs have engaged and educated our audiences for years, and they are one of the many reasons the ALPLM is such a unique and vibrant institution. Recently Phil directed a play titled *Five Presidents*. Written by Rick Cleveland, a former writer for the television show *The West Wing*, this play envisioned what the conversations would have been like among the former presidents attending President Nixon’s funeral in 1994. The casual banter, arguments, and jokes among presidents Ford, Carter, Reagan, Bush and Clinton are at turns humorous, poignant, and sad, but always thought-provoking. Under Phil’s wonderful direction, a cast of truly amazing actors brought those presidents to life in front of packed houses for six unforgettable performances. I want to thank you all for supporting the ALPLM in all its varied activities. Our mission is important and we are deeply grateful to all our many friends and supporters.

*Five Presidents*: Jimmy Carter (Patrick Foster), George H. W. Bush (Tom Lawton), Bill Clinton (Ed MacMurdo), Gerald Ford (Rich McCoy), Richard Nixon (Chuck McGue), and a Secret Service agent (Zaxxson Nation).
Springfield has always played a prominent role in Abraham Lincoln’s life and legacy. Lincoln himself recognized as much. In the autobiographical sketch he penned for the Election of 1860, he identified the exact day he moved to Springfield—April 15, 1837. Although he could not have known it, this date was both poignant and ironic because it marked the exact midpoint of his life. Twenty-eight years to the day later, he died in Washington, D.C., as president of the United States and a martyr to the causes of freedom and democracy.

Though Springfield boasts several historic sites that help educate the world about Lincoln’s life and legacy, the Lincoln Home has been doing it the longest. When the Lincolns left Springfield in 1861, railroad executive Lucian Tilton rented the home for the annual sum of $350. Throughout the Civil War, Tilton and his wife maintained an open house, allowing soldiers and members of the public to tour the house. After the assassination, Robert Lincoln rented the Lincoln Home to a series of individuals.
One was the inimitable Osborn Oldroyd, who in 1883, began charging visitors an entrance fee to walk around the house and see his ever-growing Lincoln collection. In 1887, the State of Illinois bought the house from Robert Lincoln for one dollar and turned it into a historic site. The state turned the Lincoln Home over to the federal government in 1972. Today, the National Park Service operates the site and welcomes visitors from all over the world.

On May 2, 2019, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum marked the 175th anniversary of the day Abraham and Mary Lincoln purchased the home from Rev. Charles Dresser, the same man who officiated their wedding ceremony. Thanks to the kindness of the Illinois REALTORS®, 175 people were able to tour the ALPM free of charge, all Illinois licensed REALTORS® with an ID received free admission, and a special case in the Treasures Gallery featured several original items from the Lincoln Home—including the key to the front door, the nameplate bearing the iconic “A. Lincoln,” and the document transferring ownership of the home from Robert Lincoln to the state of Illinois.

By highlighting the Lincoln Home, ALPLM made a contemporary connection with our visitors. The Lincolns, like us today, were ecstatic to acquire their home 175 years ago—it was a corner of the world they could call their own. The home shines a light on those characteristics that help us add context to the life of an icon. It allows us to focus on Lincoln, not just as a statesman, but as a husband, father, and neighbor.
Approximately 700 generous benefactors filled the ballroom at the Marriott Marquis in Chicago as the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation (ALPLF) presented its prestigious Lincoln Leadership Prize to 43rd President of the United States George W. Bush this past April. The event is the primary annual fundraising event hosted by the Foundation.

The Lincoln Leadership Prize, presented annually, recognizes outstanding individuals for a lifetime of service in the spirit of the 16th President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln. Foundation board member and President and CEO of Silver Eagle Distributors John L. Nau III presented the Prize to the 43rd President of the United States whose acceptance speech was warm and spirited, exhibiting a self-deprecating humor and wit that Abraham Lincoln would no doubt appreciate. In addition to remarks by Nau and President Bush, a number of tribute videos were presented at the event feting the President including those from former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleeza Rice, longtime counsellor to the President Karen Hughes and the President and CEO of the 9-11 Memorial and Museum Alice Greenwald.

Since 2006, the ALPLF has awarded the Lincoln Leadership Prize to 12 prestigious individuals. Previous honorees include Former British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson, Historian Doris Kearns Goodwin, Civil Rights Activists The Little Rock Nine, Filmmaker Steven Spielberg, 42nd President of the United States Bill Clinton, former Polish President Lech Walesa, Journalist Tim Russert, Astronaut James Lovell, Jr., Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor.
Portraitist Bill Chambers (left) presents Lincoln Leadership Prize recipient George W. Bush with his portrait that will be added to those of Abraham Lincoln and past Prize recipients on display at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois. Also pictured Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation (ALPLF) CEO Dr. Carla Knorowski, President Bush, presenter and foundation Board member John Nau. (far right) Master of Ceremonies Bill Kurtis.

Donors Richard and Judith Duchossois enjoy a moment with recipient George W. Bush.

Governor J.B. and Mrs. M.K. Pritzker pause for a photo with General John Borling. Gov. Pritzker was also a guest speaker for the evenings event honoring President Bush.

Foundation supporters Michael and Cathy Bush greet the President during the private reception held at the Marriott Marquis in Chicago April 1st.

ALPLF Board member and former Illinois Governor Jim Edgar (back row, 2nd from right) takes a group image with his guests during the foundations 12th annual Lincoln Leadership Prize event held in Chicago.

Excited guests of the event were treated to an autographed copy of President Bush’s most recent book Portraits of Courage.
On June 6, 2019, to commemorate the 75th anniversary of D-Day, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum will open its new exhibit, *In This Great Struggle: The Greatest Generation Remembers World War II*. The exhibit enables members of the greatest generation to tell their own amazing stories through oral history, artifacts, and original poster art. The exhibit is made possible-in part-through the generosity of long-time benefactor AT&T.

“We are grateful for the continued support of AT&T, a founding donor to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. Whether funding the creation of the much-loved *Ghosts of the Library* exhibit in the Museum, Under His Hat, the online educational tool for teachers and students, or exhibits like *In This Great Struggle*, AT&T continues to advance the work of our institution for the betterment of the community,” said Carla Knorowski, Chief Executive Officer, Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation.
The upcoming exhibit will highlight the stories of America’s service men and women, as well as civilians from diverse backgrounds who provide intimate details of their war experiences in their own words from our oral history collection. The Library’s Oral History Program preserves the stories and memories of Illinois’s citizens, not just the famous and prominent among us, but of people from all walks of life. The exhibit showcases these first-hand accounts of those who have lived eventful lives during challenging times. Their interviews are combined with maps, quotes, photos, and movie reel footage and presented as an interactive video also provides the main sound track for the exhibit. Approximately 40 pieces from the ALPLM collection of WWII poster art is included in the exhibit as well.

The ALPLM is also working with the Pritzker Military Library to include an interview and artifacts from their excellent collection, including an interview from Illinois Public Media/WILL. The combination of both these collections enriches the exhibit by highlighting many of the major events of the war: Pearl Harbor, D-Day, bombing campaigns in Europe, Battle of the Bulge, Midway, the home front, Rosie the Riveter, Iwo Jima, POW experience, and the discovery of concentration camps.

Among the artifacts on display are General Dwight D. Eisenhower’s helmet, assorted items from the ALPLM’s Illinois Collection, several belonging to the oral history interviewees included in the videos. The Illinois Military Museum is also a partner on the exhibit, providing artifacts, programming assistance, and content expertise. The exhibit will run through January 12, 2020.

“AT&T is proud to support In This Great Struggle: The Greatest Generation Remembers World War II and share the lessons of these heroic veterans and civilians with new generations through technology. We celebrate those who bravely served during one of the world’s most monumental conflicts and are privileged to honor their courage and sacrifice in this way,” said Eileen Mitchell, AT&T Illinois President.
Generous Donor

Springfield businessman invests in the future

Every fifth-grader in Springfield, Illinois public schools was given the opportunity to visit the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum during this past school year—all thanks to a donor’s generosity.

Frank Vala, Founder / Valco Awards and More Inc., donated the cost of lunch and transportation of bringing approximately 1,000 students to the Museum. “My family has supported the Library and Museum since its inception,” Vala said. “It is very important for future generations to come and learn lessons about 19th-century America told with 21st-century technology, and taking field trips to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum is a great way to learn those lessons.”

“The Foundation treasures its longstanding relationship with Mr. Vala and is so pleased to continue working with him and Valco Awards and More Inc.” said Foundation Board Chair Ray McCaskey. “A visit to the Museum broadens students’ knowledge of the 16th president, enhancing what they learn in the classroom. The Foundation works continually to raise grants like this, and we hope that Mr. Vala’s generosity will lead to more donations to assist students in other grades and other cities.”

For information on donating to the Foundation, visit www.ALPLM.org.

Thank you letters from Springfield District 186 fifth graders to Mr. Vala.
Among the vast collections of maps held at the ALPLM sits a collection of charts showing stretches of the upper Mississippi River. Drawn in 1837 by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, they were submitted to the secretary of war to highlight necessary river improvements. As steamboat traffic increased, it was important to ensure that the river had clear channels of navigation to ensure vessel safety. The maps show features along Illinois’s western boundary that have now been lost to history however, one of the most fascinating aspect is the men who created them: Robert E. Lee and Montgomery Meigs.

In the summer of 1837, Corps of Engineers Chief Engineer Charles Gratiot assigned Lee and Meigs to head west to survey the Mississippi. Gratiot was likely concerned with reports that shifting currents were threatening the port by bringing large deposits of silt that could close it completely. Lee oversaw the surveying work, while Meigs drew the maps. The map, which when unfolded reaches just over four feet in length, is entitled “Map of the Harbor of St. Louis” and shows details of the expanding city of St. Louis and its outlying regions. It also features two prominent land masses labeled Duncan’s Island and Bloody Island (interestingly not the Bloody Island which Lincoln nearly fought a duel against James Shields.) The Illinois sides include the village of Brooklyn, individual farms and structures, and Cahokia Creek. With their surveys and maps complete, the two officers returned to Washington and, on December 6, 1837, Lee submitted a formal report to General Gratiot. The maps and Lee’s report were included in the official secretary of war’s report the following year. This was the last time the two men worked together, but not the last time that their paths crossed. In April of 1861, following the secession of his home state, Lee famously resigned his commission declaring his loyalty to Virginia over the United States. Meigs, a Georgian by birth, would have none of it, writing “no man who ever took the oath to support the Constitution who has since actively engaged in rebellion in any civil or military station should escape without loss of all his goods and civil rights and expatriation.” Following the seizure of the Lee family estate, Arlington, in May of 1861, it was immediately used as a military post, hospital, and freedmen’s village. Following its purchase by the federal government in January of 1864 for non-payment of taxes, Meigs went one step further, ordering that 200 acres surrounding the mansion be used as a cemetery for Union war dead in part due to Meigs personal outrage that his son had been killed in battle against Lee’s army. The Lee family never regained title to Arlington, yet in 1883 they received fair market value of the land following a Supreme Court ruling. This map provides not just a wealth of information about St. Loui’s past, but a unique window into the relationships of two men we usually only see through the lens of the Civil War.
As this issue goes to press, we will have just completed the production *Five Presidents*, a play by Rick Cleveland, which played to great, responsive audiences in the Union Theatre (April 25-27 & May 2-4). The play, set during the day of Richard Nixon’s funeral, brings together ex-Presidents Jimmy Carter, Gerald Ford, Ronald Reagan, George H. W. Bush, and then-President Bill Clinton. It was so interesting to hear people discuss the play after the performances. I would hear “I’d forgotten about that,” or “I need to go home and look that up!” etc.

Thanks to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Foundation for securing a new grant from the Susan E. Cook House Educational Trust for performances of our popular play *One Destiny*, which had been on hiatus. The play, which takes place on the stage of Ford’s Theatre in the aftermath of the assassination of President Lincoln, has given over 200 performances here since 2009. Performances took place during the school groups season in the spring and will continue this summer and fall (schedule will be on the ALPLM website). The Foundation also secured a generous grant from the Dr. Scholl Foundation for the Show Division’s Living History program. Two new characters this year are Mary Elizabeth Bowser (Patricia James-Davis), an African-American woman who became a spy for the Union Army during the Civil War years; and Kate Warne (Sheryl Hinman), a woman in Washington, D.C., who became a Pinkerton detective and worked on the challenging job of securing safe passage for President-Elect Abraham Lincoln as he traveled to Washington. Bringing in historical figures like these that many of our visitors do not know adds so much to the visitor’s experience.

We’ve also received some very welcome funding from the downtown Springfield *History Comes Alive!* Program for the summer, which is administered by Jeff Berg of the Springfield Convention & Visitor’s Bureau. This will add living history three days a week here, as well as offer music performances outdoors in front of the Museum entrance every Saturday morning at 10:30 beginning June 1st. Summer at the ALPLM will be a great place to be.
It’s spring at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, which marks the anniversaries of several key events in Lincoln’s life. However, it’s also a time when we begin planning one of our biggest events not directly related to the 16th president: The Conference on Illinois History. It is the only annual conference dedicated solely to Illinois’s rich history and we are honored to serve as its host. This will be the 21st Conference on Illinois History—an institution older than the Presidential Library itself and a vital showcase for historical scholarship on all aspects of Illinois. I’ve personally been involved with it for almost a decade, but over the past three years, I’ve had the wonderful opportunity to help organize it. It’s a great event for a number of reasons, but especially because it shows the wide scope of research being done today on Illinois history. Potential participants submit proposals throughout the winter and spring on topics ranging from politics, to labor history, to culture, to small stories from individual communities. Of course, some broad subjects show up every year, especially Lincoln and the Civil War, but even within these familiar fields, conference participants find new things to say.

Along with regular panels and workshops, the conference also features two keynote lunch speakers. Previously, we’ve offered a wide spectrum of subjects for these talks, such as plans for the upcoming Barack Obama Presidential Center in Chicago and the history of Illinois’s constitution. I can’t give away who we’re lining up this year, but I think attendees will be very intrigued by what’s in store. Last year, we offered evening tours of the Governor’s Mansion and we’re currently laying out plans for similar tours of other Springfield sites. Keep your eye out for those when the program comes out this summer.

If you’ve never joined us for the Conference on Illinois History, or if you’re coming back again, please reserve October 3-4, 2019, on your calendar. (See event details on page 22.) Paper proposals have been pouring in and I already have the feeling this will be another outstanding opportunity to learn and share new scholarship on Illinois’s past. Hope to see you there.
In the February 2019 issue of *Four Score and Seven*, I recounted the work of the *Papers of Abraham Lincoln* (PAL) from January 2017 to September 2018, culminating in the launch of the Papers of Abraham Lincoln Digital Library, a beta version of our first digital publication. This initial launch of the *Papers of Abraham Lincoln* Digital Library included 5,203 documents from the Legislative Digital Edition and Archives, encompassing the first thirty-three years of Abraham Lincoln’s life.

Since September 2018, the staff at the *Papers of Abraham Lincoln* have been editing documents for publication from the Congressional Digital Edition, covering the period of Lincoln’s life from the end of his last term in the Illinois House of Representatives (March 1841) to the completion of Lincoln’s time in the U.S. House of Representatives (March 1849).

Marriage License, Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd, 4 November 1842
These eight years were pivotal in the personal life and career of Lincoln. Personally, he married, welcomed the birth of his first two sons, and purchased his first and only home. Professionally, he saw his law practice flourish in partnership with Stephen T. Logan and William H. Herndon. Politically, he rose in the ranks of the state and national Whig Party, campaigned for Whig presidential contenders in 1844 and 1848, and won a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

We recently reached a milestone in our labors on the Congressional Digital Edition: 150 documents ready for publication and posting to The Papers of Abraham Lincoln Digital Library. In the next few weeks and coming months, we will be publishing these and other documents from this crucial time in Lincoln’s life. Here are some highlights of the interesting documents awaiting eager Lincoln aficionados:

- The “fatal first” letter from Lincoln to Joshua F. Speed where the former purportedly expresses his feelings on his breakup with Mary Todd
- The “Rebecca Letter” and associated documents which set the stage for Lincoln’s conflict with James Shields that nearly lead to a duel between the two
- Marriage license for Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd, together with a marriage entry for the couple in the Parish Register, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Springfield
- Letter to the people of the state of Illinois in March 1843 where Lincoln first uses “House Divided” metaphor/language
- Contract/Deed for the property that would be the site for the Lincoln Home
- The “Spot” Resolutions presented in the House of Representatives
- Telegram to Simeon Francis announcing the nomination of Zachary Taylor—Lincoln’s first use of the telegraph

The scheduled completion date for the 467 documents in the Congressional Digital Edition is August 3, 2020. In addition, we will post 3,372 fully transcribed and searchable documents deemed supplemental to Lincoln’s life during this time from the Congressional Digital Archive, including all of the bills and acts considered by Congress during Lincoln’s term in the House. These accomplishments would not have been possible without the support of our many donors, including Iron Mountain.

Our timetable is ambitious, but we are excited about the challenges ahead and confident we can reach our goals. If you have not have an opportunity to peruse The Papers of Abraham Lincoln Digital Library, please check out the site. We are proud what we have accomplished, and we are extremely grateful for the part the ALPLF has played in transforming our vision into reality.
The end of the school year and the start of summer break invites thoughts of summer fun and vacations. We are certainly looking forward to the annual shift from school groups to family travelers. Each of these groups brings their own learning styles and we look forward to sharing our knowledge in different way with them.

We must take a moment to thank our school field trip funders. Nearly 2,000 students from Springfield’s District 186 and other schools around Illinois visited the Museum thanks to generous support from Frank Vala, Founder/Valco Awards and More, Inc. and the Winnick Family Foundation. Thanks to these organizations, students were able to travel to the Museum and discover President Lincoln’s life journey through the storytelling magic we offer visitors every day.

This summer we will welcome 35 teachers from schools around the country to participate in Lincoln Speaks: Words that Transformed a Nation. This residential teacher seminar is a partnership with The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. Participants will take part in morning lectures led by Dr. Michael Burlingame followed by visits to the Library’s departments and field trips to the ALPLM and local historic sites. We are looking forward to teaching Lincoln as only Springfield and the ALPLM can.

Throughout June and July, the Museum’s activity tables will once again make their appearance. Every Tuesday visitors will be able to see and play with replica objects from our traveling trunks. The objects will interpret different themes each week including the lives of soldiers, children in the 19th century, and Mary Lincoln. Other table activities will include writing in Morse Code, designing your own Mount Rushmore, and a selfie station on the weekends where you can photograph yourself on a penny.

We are excited to share the introduction of Busy Bags, a new resource to be available by late summer thanks to the Judith G. Stephens Chairpersons Fund from the Community Grants Program of the Community Foundation for the Land of Lincoln. The Busy Bags will contain materials for visitors with sensory-processing disorders and those on the autism spectrum including sensory toys, noise reduction earmuffs, and maps with tips for navigating the Museum galleries. The Busy Bags will be available free of charge for visitors to borrow during their visit.
Upcoming Events
For more details, updates, and full events list, visit www.PresidentLincoln.Illinois.gov.

Exhibits

Open Now
All Aboard!
The first floor of historic Union Station provides the backdrop for the display. Working in partnership with the Springfield Railroad Society, Inc., a working model railroad brings to life the construction of the rail line and the significance of connecting the United States via rail. Scale models will depict advancements in United States railroad technology since then and will display the impact of railways throughout America’s history.

Union Station
Open Now-January 12, 2020
In This Great Struggle: The Greatest Generation Remembers World War II
There were no bystanders during World War II—the American people were “all in.” The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum’s new exhibit, In This Great Struggle: The Greatest Generation Remembers World War II, lets those who experienced the war tell their amazing stories through oral history, artifacts, and original poster art.

Illinois Gallery, Museum
*This exhibit made possible by generous support from AT&T.

Performances

Beginning in June
History Comes Alive! Program
Living history three days a week plus music performances outdoors in front of the Museum entrance every Saturday morning at 10:30 a.m.

Museum
Wednesday, June 19, 2019
“Oh Freedom! Songs of the Civil Rights Movement”
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
From “We Shall Overcome” to “This Little Light of Mine,” music played a vital role in the long struggle for civil rights. Musician Chris Vallillo and Springfield’s Pleasant Grove Baptist Church Choir bring a full concert of these inspirational songs to the stage in celebration of the historic “Juneteenth” holiday.

Union Theater
Tickets: $8 Members; $10 Public.

Social

Saturday, June 15, 2019
Superheroes Boot Camp Day
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
*aops!
This free family event will leave no doubt we walk among superheroes every day! In partnership with the Illinois State Military Museum, this child friendly event offers climbing and racing activities, map reading, a bounce house obstacle course, and much more. Learn about WWII era weaponry and vehicles. Complete your superheroes passport to earn a free tour of our newest exhibit. Participants are encouraged to wear their favorite superheroes costume.

Union Square Park
Free

Saturday, August 3, 2019
Back to School Bash
10:00 a.m. - Noon
Celebrate the summer with hands-on activities that make you wish you could have class every day at Abe’s Museum. Think STEM meets mastering disguises with a touch of sports. Recommend for ages 8-12.

Library
Free; no reservations required.

Saturday, October 26, 2019
Rosie the Riveter
10:00 a.m. - Noon
Learn about Rosie the Riveter, the WWII icon of women in the workplace. Discover the many roles women played during WWII through games and activities in the Museum’s plaza.

Plaza, Museum
Free with Museum admission.

Education

Tuesday, August 6, 2019 and Thursday, August 9, 2019
Teacher Professional Development Workshops: Library Resources
9:00 a.m. - Noon
Discover the many resources available for teachers and students at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. Did you know the ALPLM is also home to the Illinois Historical Library collections? Working with Library staff, discover the many ways the ALPLM can assist you in the classroom. (3 CPDU)

Library

Thursday, October 3, 2019–Friday, October 4, 2019
Conference on Illinois History
The Conference on Illinois History offers two full days of panels covering a wide range of topics from Illinois’s political, cultural, and social history that will appeal to academics, teachers, and anyone interested in the past.

Library
Tickets: $90 for two-day workshop; lunches are $15 per day. Student discounts available.

Lectures and Book Signings

June 12, 2019
Curators of “In This Great Struggle”
5:30 p.m.
The museum’s new exhibit on World War II brings together photographs, audio, video, and amazing artifacts. Hear from the team that created this one-of-a-kind display built around the recollections of the men and women who lived through the biggest war in history.

Multi-Purpose Room, Library

Thursday, June 13, August 8, October 10, and December 12, 2019
 Tales from the Vault
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
• June 13 - Carla Smith, Registrar – World War II
• August 8 – Alan Lowe, Executive Director – Lincoln’s Foreign Policy
• October 10 – Meghan Harmon, Reference Librarian – Rare Books
• December 12 - Dr. Christian McWhirter – Civil War Battles

Multi-Purpose Room, Library
Free; no reservations required.

Thursday, June 27, 2019
Mark DePue—The Legacy of World War I
Exhibit open at 6:00 p.m.; presentation at 6:30 p.m.
When the armies of Europe marched off to war in August 1914, the soldiers confidently assumed they would
return home as victors by Christmas. Four and a half years and ten million deaths later it was clear that no country really won. But now it was time to remake the world, using President Woodrow Wilson’s Fourteen Points as a blueprint. The world still lives with the consequences of the end-result, the Treaty of Versailles, to this day.

Union Theater, Museum

Illinois History Forum
Noon - 1:00 p.m.
Thursdays, July 11, 2019, September 12, and November 14, 2019

- July 11 – Illinois in World War I
  Moderator: Curator William G. Lear, Illinois State Military Museum
  Suggested Reading: Alistair McCluskey, The Black Day of the German Army

- Illinois State Military Museum

- September 12 – Illinois and the Atomic Bomb
  Moderator: Oral Historian Mark DePue, Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum
  Suggested Reading: Richard Rhodes, The Making of the Atomic Bomb

Multi-Purpose Room, Library

Thursday, August 1, 2019
Stealing Lincoln’s Body
5:30
Join us to hear a little known and surprisingly humorous American tale of desperation carried out by bumbling criminals. Our featured speaker that evening will be Dr. Kevin Burke.
Multi-Purpose Room, Library

Thursday, August 29, 2019
Lincoln’s 8th Judicial Circuit
5:30 p.m.
Lincoln was shaped in countless ways by his years as a lawyer. He made valuable connections, sharpened his debate skills and learned the value of a well-timed joke. Get the full story from Guy Fraker, author of Lincoln’s Ladder to the Presidency: The Eighth Judicial Circuit.
Multi-Purpose Room, Library

Thursday, September 26, 2019
Mark DePue—Fact vs. Fiction: WWII War Movies
6:30 p.m.
No conflict in human history has been portrayed in the movies more than World War II. Join us as Mark DePue talks about some of your favorite World War II-themed movies and how they fare when put under the bright lights of history.
Union Theater, Museum
Tickets: $5 Members/$8 Public

Community
Monday, July 1, 2019-Wednesday, July 31, 2019
Backpack Drive
Donate a backpack to benefit students of Springfield District 186 and receive free admission to the Presidential Museum.

Monday, November 11, 2019
Veterans Day
Free admission for veterans.

Host your event at the Library and Museum!

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum has been voted the nation’s best small-market venue for special events in the 2018 Unique Venues magazine “Best Of” awards. The magazine says “opportunities are exponential” for meetings, receptions and other events at the ALPLM. It praised the ALPLM’s amenities and its convenient location between Chicago and St. Louis. The ALPLM was also a runner-up in the category “Best Venue for Small Gatherings.”

Contact Britta Brackney at 217.558.8873.

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HISTORIC READING
From the Lincoln Museum Store

The Museum Store is open 9 – 5 daily.

Shop online 24/7 at shop.alplm.org

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