

The Lincoln ProjectSM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Greeneville, TN

Greeneville and Nation to Celebrate Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial

The Lincoln Project and Greeneville Seventh-day Adventist Church Sponsor First Event on Saturday

Lincoln looms large two hundred years after his birth. Between a Gettysburg Address themed Presidential Inauguration--"A New Birth of Freedom"--and the new billboard promoting Greeneville and bearing the images of Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson near Interstate 81, Americans will celebrate the sixteenth President's legacy. Local events will be sponsored throughout the year by The Lincoln Project and Greeneville area partners. The first of these, falling just between Religious Freedom Day and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, is a presentation of *Abraham Lincoln's Faith*, with "the Greeneville Lincoln," Chris Small, at the Greeneville Seventh-day Adventist Church, 710 Asheville Highway. The free event begins at 11 AM and is open to the public.

Hundreds of Abraham Lincoln events are taking place around the United States during the Bicentennial. According to lincolnbicentennial.gov, "the official public Bicentennial Commemoration launched February 2008 and closes February 2010, with the climax of the Commemoration taking place on February 12, 2009, the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth."

Greeneville just closed a year long celebration of President Andrew Johnson's Bicentennial. Being the hometown of Abraham Lincoln's executive successor is just one of Greeneville's connections to Lincoln. It is also the site of the Union Convention of 1861 and the place where Johnson's marriage to Eliza McCardle was performed by a relative of the Great Emancipator, Mordecai Lincoln.

"The Lincoln Bicentennial events in Greeneville are meant to complement the Johnson Bicentennial," said The Lincoln Project President & CLE Chris Small. "The Johnson Bicentennial Steering Committee and supporters did an outstanding job; I doubt the local Lincoln events will have the same scale as those for our own 'favored son.' However, they will give Greeneville the chance to honor Johnson's presidential predecessor and the amazing Lincoln legacy."

Local events commemorating Abraham Lincoln throughout 2009 include not only this weekend's live performance of *Abraham Lincoln's Faith* at the Seventh-day Adventist Church but also [see table below]:

2009 Lincoln Bicentennial Events in Greene County

<i>January</i>	<p>17: <i>Abraham Lincoln's Faith</i> live at the Greeneville Seventh-day Adventist Church (Religious Liberty)</p> <p>25-30: Local filming of short films <i>Abraham Lincoln's Faith</i>, <i>Abraham Lincoln & Emancipation</i>, and <i>Two Men From Illinois</i> (working titles) at the Dickson-Williams Mansion</p>
<i>February</i>	<p>6: Regional National History Day -- Tusculum College</p> <p>12: Lincoln's Birthday: Civic/Government Officials' Proclamations</p> <p>18: Lincoln Bicentennial Stamps Commemorative Event at the Greeneville Post Office (unique local cachet & cancellation will be available, with Lincoln present)</p>
<i>March-May</i>	<p>TBA: Abraham Lincoln (Chris Small) and Andrew Johnson (Daniel Luther--NPS Andrew Johnson National Historic Site) in multiple presentations of a new script by historian Bob Orr at every High School in Greene County</p> <p>TBA: Greeneville Premiere and Participant Discussion of Films shot at the Dickson Williams Mansion; television premieres of the same - public will be invited free</p> <p>April 23: Lincoln at Tusculum College for the First Tennessee Human Resource Agency's Civic Responsibility & Outstanding Character Awards</p>
<i>Summer</i>	<p>TBA: Events at Library (children's event, book talk, donation of Lincoln books - finalized upon new Director)</p>
<i>September</i>	<p>10: Dialogues on Lincoln (Symposium) in partnership with the Museum Studies Program at Tusculum College: Chalmers Conf. Rm.--event preregistraion, open to students, professionals, & public -- presenters include Dr. Thomas Mackie of the Abraham Lincoln Library & Museum (LMU) and Dr. Peter Wisbey of the Seward House</p>
<i>October</i>	<p>27: Screening of a time-honored Lincoln feature film with "instructive" commentary, in partnership with the Museum Studies and Arts Outreach Programs at Tusculum College -- free and open to students & public</p>
<i>November</i>	<p>17: Thanksgiving Tea with Mr. Abraham Lincoln (Chris Small) & Mrs. Sarah Hale (Dr. Taimi Olsen) -- The "Father" & "Mother" of Thanksgiving (AJHA Fundraiser for work with National History Day)</p>
<p>A series of articles by Chris Small, highlighting the Lincoln Legacy, will appear in the Greeneville Sun throughout the Bicentennial Year</p>	

Partners with The Lincoln Project, bringing the Lincoln Bicentennial events to Greene County include:

- Andrew Johnson Heritage Association
- Andrew Johnson National Historic Site (NPS)

- COG *film*
- Dickson-Williams Mansion
- Greeneville-Greene Country Library
- Greeneville Post Office (USPS)
- Greeneville Seventh-day Adventist Church
- The Greeneville Sun
- Tusculum College Arts & Outreach
- Tusculum College Museum Studies Program

For continuing information on the Lincoln Bicentennial events in Greeneville, the public is invited to visit www.thelincolnproject.com and look under the tab "Bicentennials" for the most up-to-date news.

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For more information see the following website:
www.thelincolnproject.com

To schedule an interview, call Chris Small at
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