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New Exhibit Opens at President Lincoln's Cottage

"Being Lincoln" explores the world of Lincoln portraying

July 28, 2010 (Washington, DC) – President Lincoln's Cottage will open the exhibition, *Being Lincoln*, on August 21, 2010. On view through July 31, 2011, *Being Lincoln* will explore the world of Lincoln presenters (those who dress up like Lincoln for public presentations) and will ask visitors to look beyond Lincoln's iconic image to determine what it means to really *be* like Lincoln. Visitors will gain insight into the lives of Lincoln presenters and can participate in an interactive program where they will have the opportunity to "Lincoln themselves". This interactive component will also be available online at www.lincolncottage.org. *Being Lincoln* will be on view in the Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center and free of charge.

Since his presidency, Abraham Lincoln has been resurrected numerous times on stage and the silver screen. But today it's more common to find Lincoln posing for photo opportunities at private parties, waving to crowds from a parade float, or speaking to students in the classroom. *Being Lincoln* will demonstrate that while Lincoln's iconic image makes it easy enough to look like him, Lincoln's character and ideals are at the heart of his enduring public appeal.

President Lincoln's Cottage, is located on a picturesque hilltop in Northwest Washington, DC, on the grounds of the Armed Forces Retirement Home. It is the most significant site associated with Abraham Lincoln's presidency after the White House. President Lincoln lived here for one quarter of his presidency was living here when he drafted the Emancipation Proclamation and deliberated critical issues of the Civil War. Lincoln commuted three miles daily by horseback or coach to the White House, and last visiting the Cottage the day before his assassination.

Opened to the public for the first time in 2008, the Cottage offers intimate, guided tours providing an in-depth, media-enhanced experience highlighting Lincoln's ideas and actions through historical images and voices. The Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center, adjacent to the Cottage, houses thematic galleries and changing exhibitions providing visitors of all ages opportunities for in-depth exploration of Lincoln's life and times.

Hours of operation: Tours on the hour 10:00am-3:00pm Mon-Sat; 12:00pm-4:00pm Sun. Visitor Center open 9:30am-4:30pm Monday-Saturday, 11:30am-5:30pm Sunday.

For more information go to www.lincolncottage.org.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a non-profit membership organization bringing people together to protect, enhance and enjoy the places that matter to them. By saving the places where great moments from history – and the important moments of everyday life – took place, the National Trust for Historic Preservation helps revitalize neighborhoods and communities, spark economic development and promote environmental sustainability. With headquarters in Washington, DC, 9 regional and field offices, 29 historic sites, and partner organizations in all 50 states, the National Trust for Historic Preservation provides leadership, education, advocacy and resources to a national network of people, organizations and local communities committed to saving places, connecting us to our history and collectively shaping the future of America's stories. For more information, visit www.PreservationNation.org.

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