



PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S COTTAGE
AT THE SOLDIERS' HOME

Contact:

Hilary Malson
202-829-0436 x31228
HMolson@savingplaces.org

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President Lincoln's Cottage Celebrates Freedom's Eve

New Year's Eve party marks the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Washington, D.C. – President Lincoln's Cottage will host "Freedom's Eve," a New Year's Eve party to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. On Monday, December 31st 2012 from 9:30 pm – 12:30 am, the public are invited to ring in the New Year at a party with meaning. Freedom's Eve will feature live music, a dessert buffet, and an open bar featuring wine, beer, champagne, and a signature cocktail. Admission to Freedom's Eve is by advanced ticket purchase only. Tickets are available for \$100 per person and can be purchased by contacting Sahand Miraminy at 202-829-0436 x31232 or SMiraminy@savingplaces.org.

At the stroke of midnight, January 1, 1863, thousands of men, women, and children celebrated as the Emancipation Proclamation finally took effect. President Lincoln's Cottage is proud to continue the tradition of keeping watch in this momentous anniversary year of the Emancipation Proclamation.

"The Emancipation Proclamation is one of the foremost symbols of freedom in our nation's history," said Erin Carlson Mast, Director of President Lincoln's Cottage. "The Freedom's Eve celebration offers attendees a unique opportunity to celebrate that electric moment at the very site where Lincoln set forth a new vision of freedom for this nation."

President Lincoln developed the Emancipation Proclamation while living at the Cottage in the summer of 1862, making it the authentic place for understanding Lincoln's ideas on slavery and emancipation. In addition to "Freedom' Eve," President Lincoln's Cottage is offering programs, special tours, and events in partnership with national organizations to commemorate the 150th anniversary of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. A rare, original copy of the Emancipation Proclamation signed by Lincoln is on display in the Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center at President Lincoln's Cottage through February 2013.

President Lincoln lived in the Cottage at the Soldiers' Home from June–November of 1862, 1863 and 1864—totaling one quarter of his presidency. Since the Cottage opened to the public in 2008, over 100,000 visitors have engaged in conversations on liberty, justice, and equality, through innovative guided tours, forward-thinking exhibits and quality educational programs. Hours of operation: Tours on the hour, 7 days a week. Visitor Center open 9:30am-4:30pm Mon-Sat, 10:30am-4:30pm Sunday. For more information on President Lincoln's Cottage, visit: www.lincolncottage.org.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, a privately-funded non-profit organization, works to save America's historic places. For more information visit: www.PreservationNation.org.

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