



2019 ANNUAL REPORT

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S COTTAGE



PRESIDENT
LINCOLN'S COTTAGE

DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Hindsight might be 2020, but history helps us understand the context of the past, including the uncertainty of reactions, the precedents that were set, and the trade-offs made in a democracy. We know outcomes of history that people in the past couldn't predict. We know that President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, which took effect over 150 years ago, and that he still managed to get reelected and win the war. We also know President Lincoln was assassinated, in no small part because he was antislavery and progressive on the question of who should be granted the rights of citizenship. Lincoln himself could not have predicted any of those events with certainty, and many of his contemporaries did not think those outcomes were likely or even possible.

Likewise, this annual report is being published in the midst of an unprecedented and uncertain time. At the heart of our work as historians is the drive to seek and reveal truth so we can draw informed conclusions. On the matter of disunion, Lincoln reportedly said, "I have faith in the people... The danger is, they are misled. Let them know the truth, and the country is safe."

We are as determined as ever to break new ground and serve the public in new ways. This report highlights ways we did that last year, including launching our new podcast series, Q&Abe, winning recognition for the third year in a row as DC's Best Museum Off the Mall, and being recognized as "One of the Best" charities in our nation's capital. Thank you for your steadfast support, which made all of that and more possible. Your generosity and support are vitally important to this National Monument. We look forward to the time we can all be together again soon.

With appreciation,



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*Term began In 2019
** Term ended In 2019
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CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

In my time as Board Chair of President Lincoln's Cottage, I have witnessed incredible growth -- from the expansion of distance learning educational programs, the launch of a successful podcast streamed around the world, to special exhibits that make us think differently and inspire hope. It remains true that with the dedication of staff and the excitement of my Board colleagues, we are delivering remarkable change to our community and beyond.

This past year we heard from many individuals about the power of President Lincoln's Cottage. One of our 2019 teacher fellows had this to say, "I walked away with a new appreciation for Lincoln's wherewithal, and insights into how contemporary societal and cultural problems might be approached." This statement is unusual for most historic homes that focus on decorative arts, but not unusual to the Cottage which strives to take up Lincoln's unfinished work of our democracy.

In times like these, the insights the Cottage offers into the perspectives of one of history's most uniting leaders and his profound thoughts regarding freedom, justice, and equity is proving invaluable. It is our hope that we impart some of this extraordinary knowledge to our thousands of visitors, educators, and school children we meet each year and that they, in turn, are utilizing their wisdom for change.

In the years ahead, no matter what the challenge, Lincoln's Cottage will reaffirm itself and its national importance to our country's heritage and in the continuing dialogue of our nation. I thank all our supporters who have helped us lay this path over the past decade and look forward to welcoming the countless others who will join us in our march forward.

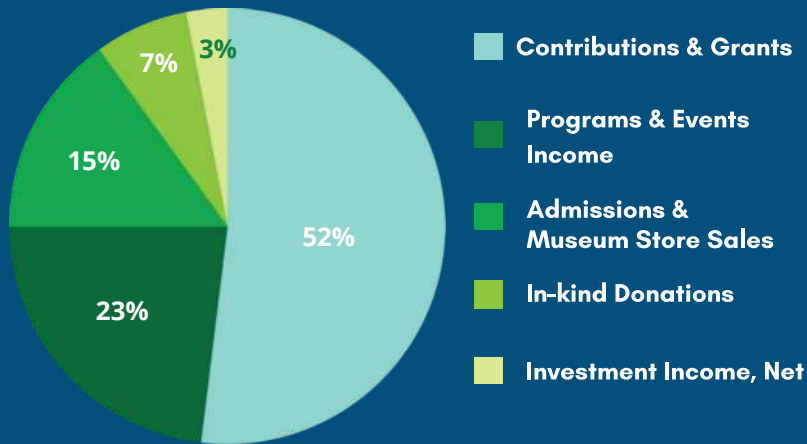


RICHARD MURPHY

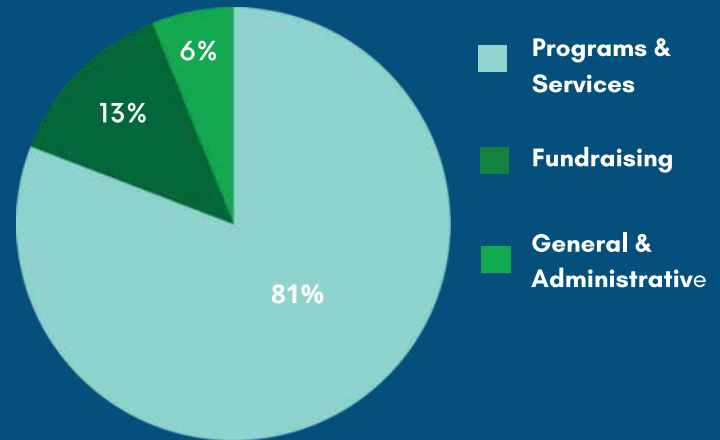
Chairman of the Board

2019 FINANCIAL REPORT

REVENUE



EXPENSE



Note: Other revenue is not statistically significant.

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
SUPPORT AND REVENUE			
Contributions and grants	\$ 486,897	\$ 498,740	\$ 985,637
Admissions and museum store sales, net of costs of good sold of \$49,378	270,907	-	270,907
Programs and events income	431,379	-	431,379
In-kind donations	129,506	-	129,506
Investment income, net	63,654	-	63,654
Other revenue	2,018	-	2,018
Net assets released from donor restrictions	<u>141,100</u>	<u>(141,100)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total support and revenue	<u>1,525,461</u>	<u>357,640</u>	<u>1,883,101</u>
EXPENSES			
Program Services	1,323,414	-	1,323,414
General and Administrative	91,439	-	91,439
Fundraising	<u>222,182</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>222,182</u>
Total expenses	<u>1,637,035</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,637,035</u>
Change in net assets	(111,574)	357,640	246,066
Net assets at beginning of year	<u>1,748,804</u>	<u>192,555</u>	<u>1,941,359</u>

PRESERVATION

Preserving the National Monument requires expertise, vigilance and investment so that future generations can experience it.

4

Completed Preservation Projects

- Cast iron steps restoration
- Cottage pathway rehabilitation
- West Balcony restoration
- Jib door restoration

2,000+

Hours of preservation work

7

Cast iron steps carefully restored on the veranda based on Lincoln-era photographs

1,000

Linear feet of crushed gravel pathways replaced

20

Layers of paint removed to expose the decorative faux graining in our historic vestibule, currently under restoration

1

Remarkable preservation intern: Steve Clarke

17

Specialists we engaged for projects in 2019



PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Our programs value the human experience, build understanding about the past, and address what Lincoln called our nation's "unfinished work."

DAILY PROGRAMS

362 Days open to the public

1,415 Public tours

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

4,196 Students and teachers served

1,870 Lincoln hats created to hold big ideas as part of our Grade K-3 programming

20,000 Estimated number of students impacted as a result of our annual teacher workshops

MUSEUM STORE

431 Northwest Cottage view postcards sold, our most popular item

3 Styles of Lincoln slippers available in the store as part of our partnership with Stubbs & Wooton

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Our special programs are opportunities to go deep on big ideas that Lincoln and his contemporaries faced, the legacy of their decisions, and our responsibilities as citizens today.

4

Panelists on voting rights who spoke at our 2019 Lincoln Ideas Forum

1,389

Unique listeners across 16 countries to our inaugural Q&Abe podcast season

102,722

Estimated miles travelled for the SOS Summit by our 21 student participants

383

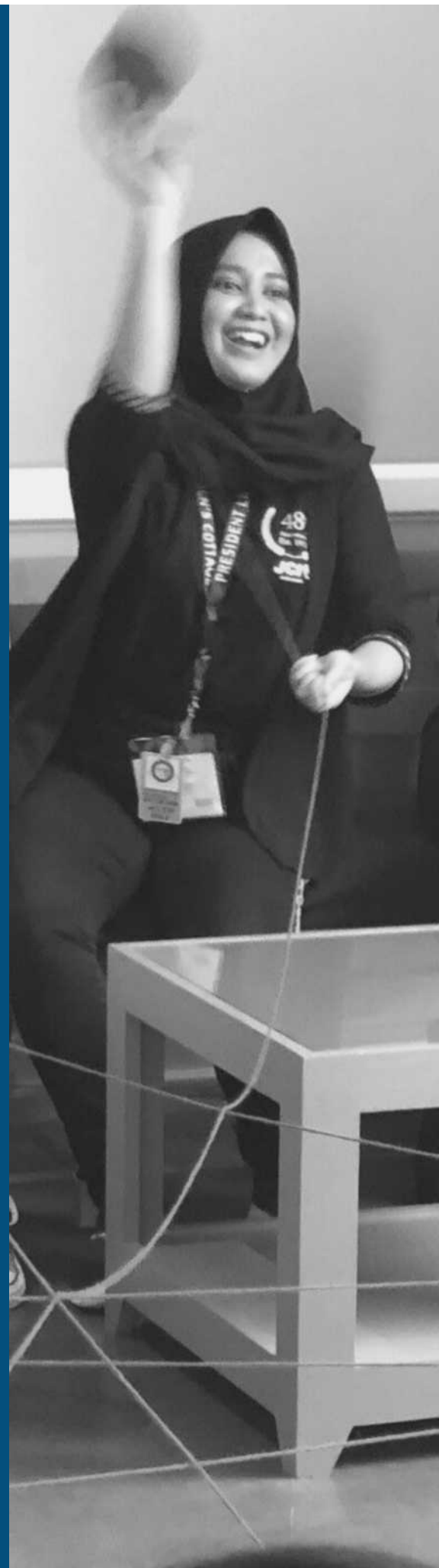
Immigration stories shared in our *American by Belief* exhibit which closed in December

93

Children and adults who participated in our new Social Studies for Young Learners program for 2-5 year olds

657

Candles representing positive intentions lit during our special *Good Deeds in a Weary World* exhibit in January



EVENTS

It is our privilege to host events that honor and open this historic home to all who share Lincoln's values.

PRIVATE EVENTS

28 Couples who chose to make their history at President Lincoln's Cottage

11 Partnership organizations whose missions we helped to advance

16 Private events in September, our busiest month

24 Meetings and retreats for corporations and nonprofits

2,703 Event tickets sold for 26 different events

23 Children who participated in the annual Youth Naturalization Ceremony hosted here

6 Bands who performed at our annual Bourbon and Bluegrass Preservation Fundraiser

1,200 Attendees at our annual two-day Bourbon and Bluegrass fundraiser

545 Total kilometers run by participants in our Freedom 5K

508 Friends who joined us for Homecoming

PUBLIC EVENTS

"This is a beautiful venue with some of the deepest rooted history in the country...It has been an honor to be a part of the very special events they hold."

- A special event client

ENGAGEMENT & MARKETING

Together, we raise awareness of the powerful history of this place and build relationships with members and visitors from around the world.

10%

Increase in Team Lincoln membership



We have members from near and far with the nearest living right on this campus and the farthest tuning in from Australia

49

States represented by members (we just need some love from North Dakota to have a perfect 50!)

34,000

Visitors to Lincoln's Cottage in 2019

16%

Increase in page views on our website



FOUNDATION, CORPORATE AND GOVERNMENT DONORS

*We are thankful for our generous supporters who enable us
to continue Lincoln's fight for freedom.*

△ Denotes in-kind donations

▲ Denotes cash & in-kind donations

\$75,000+

DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities

\$50,000-\$74,999

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"Saving this National Monument means saving a vital piece of our national identity. This place bore witness to our country's ability to confront an unthinkable crisis, grieve enormous losses, and fight for freedom--simultaneously."

ERIN CARLSON MAST, CEO & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A black and white photograph of a group of children and adults gathered around a large bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln. The statue's head and shoulders are visible on the left, and its arm is in the foreground. A group of about ten children and three adults are standing in a circle, looking at the statue. The background shows a park with trees and a path.

MISSION

REVEAL THE TRUE LINCOLN AND
CONTINUE THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

VISION

PLANT THE SEEDS OF LINCOLN'S BRAVE
IDEAS AROUND THE WORLD SO THAT
ALL PEOPLE, EVERYWHERE, CAN BE FREE

