School Programs
Grades K-12

2019-2020
PRESIDENT LINCOLN’S COTTAGE
is located on an uplifting hilltop in northwest Washington, DC. President Lincoln and his family resided here from June to November of 1862, 1863 and 1864. While living at the Cottage, Lincoln visited with wounded soldiers, spent time with self-emancipated men, women, and children, plotted Union wartime strategies, and developed the Emancipation Proclamation. Opened to the public for the first time in 2008, President Lincoln’s Cottage reveals Abraham Lincoln’s presidency and private life—where it happened. Walking in President Lincoln’s footsteps, visitors gain insight into his most influential ideas and decisions. President Lincoln’s Cottage is a home for brave ideas that offers students of all ages a remarkable window into Lincoln’s life as father, husband, and commander-in-chief. Our unique, multimedia guided tour uses historical voices and images to bring to life the challenges Lincoln faced as president and the evolution of his emancipation strategies. A visit to President Lincoln’s Cottage inspires young minds to consider the example of Lincoln’s leadership and character and his impact on students’ lives today. Abraham Lincoln’s personality, wartime decision-making, political maneuvers, and relationships with family, friends, and colleagues come to life for students and teachers through education programs at President Lincoln’s Cottage.

Learning at President Lincoln’s Cottage

On-site programs are available for students in kindergarten through 12th grade and include a specialized tour of the Cottage and an interactive program component that meet Common Core and national standards of learning. Educator materials and lesson plans are available to prepare your students for their visit to President Lincoln’s Cottage, provide logistical information for your on-site experience, and help facilitate meaningful post-program reflection. To download, visit our website at www.lincolncottage.org.

Additionally, the site offers distance-learning programs that can be used in the classroom for 3rd–12th grade students.

Registration

To register for an education program at President Lincoln’s Cottage, please visit www.lincolncottage.org/education/school-groups/. There you can find the School Group Reservation form along with our group tour guidelines and additional resources.

When planning your student or teacher visit, please keep the following in mind:

• 3 weeks advanced notice required.
• Submitting the reservation form does not mean your program is confirmed.
• Upon receipt of the application, a representative from the Programs Department at President Lincoln’s Cottage will contact you within 48 hours to either confirm or reschedule your program. Confirmation emails are sent between 9am-5pm on weekdays only.
• Ample, on-site bus parking is available at no charge.
• Picnic tables are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Cost for education programs at President Lincoln’s Cottage is $7 per student and $10 per adult. One adult is waived for every 10 students attending. A nonrefundable $50 deposit is required to secure your reservation; final payment is due one week in advance of your visit. The Cottage welcomes District of Columbia Public Schools and Public Charter Schools to participate in its programs at no cost.

Scholarships

Additional program and transportation scholarships are available to Title 1 Maryland and Virginia schools on a first come, first served basis. To inquire about these scholarships, please contact the Programs Department at LincolnEd@lincolncottage.org. President Lincoln’s Cottage is pleased to offer program and transportation scholarships thanks to the generous support of the Pulvermann Trust, the Newburger-Schwartz Family Foundation, and the Richard Schwartz Family Foundation.

President Lincoln’s Cottage participates in the Arts and Humanities for Every Student program, an initiative of the DC Arts and Humanities Education Collaborative. Visit www.dccollaborative.org to learn more about this organization that connects DC public school students with cultural and arts organizations around the city.
Core Education Programs
Grades K-12

All programs include a hands-on tour of President Lincoln’s Cottage, Core Education and a modified tour of President Smith Visitor Education Center. Students spend 2 hours onsite.

Grades K–1st
3rd grade), a hands-on exercise provides students with a special place to keep their own powerful ideas. A key element of Lincoln’s collaborative process was to consult those ideas as he developed his own. The program typically lasts 2 hours but can be modified into a shorter program. Plan to spend 2.5 hours onsite.

Grades 2–3
The program allows students to connect with Lincoln’s work from afar.

Grades 4–5
Students Opposing Slavery (SOS) is a grassroots youth engagement program that invites high school students to design a model to help students connect with Lincoln’s ideas. Students Opposing Slavery (SOS) is a grassroots youth engagement program that invites high school students to design a model to help students connect with Lincoln’s ideas.

Grades 6–12, College Students, and Adults

Additional Programs

Lincoln’s Toughest Decisions: Debating Emancipation
Grades 6–12, College Students, and Adults

Deeper your experience while onsite at President Lincoln’s Cottage with any of these options, each lasting about 45 minutes:

• The American Dream game: This innovative board game from Point-Alane Learning provides a forum for conversations around equity and privilege across facets of race, gender, religion, and ability. Students earn points in activities like meditation and writing, while learning through games and discussion.

• The reflection exercise, adapted from a public art project, asks students to write the first and last sentences of their own personal story as they reflect on their own ideas, abilities, and friends—ultimately weaving historical documents and a personal story into their own reflection essay.

Program typically lasts 1.5 hours but can be modified into a shorter program. Plan to spend 2 hours onsite.

For Educators

Using Lincoln: A Workshop for Teachers
During his presidency, Abraham Lincoln developed a unique leadership style that continues to be relevant today. In Lincoln: A Workshop for Teachers, a museum educator facilitates an interactive workshop for school leaders, teachers, and museum educators, designed to help teachers bring Lincoln’s ideas and stories into their classrooms. For more information on the Civil War Washington Teacher Fellows program, please contact LincolnEd@lincolncottage.org.
For more information on upcoming education and public programs, visit www.lincolncottage.org.

Want to help your students remember their visit to President Lincoln’s Cottage? Ask about add-ons from our museum store!