# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S COTTAGE



### INTERIM DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Much has transpired in our nation since our last report. In those months the nation has been collectively grieving the hundreds of thousands of lives lost to COVID-19 and the effects of centuries-old systemic racism resulting from slavery in this country.

Just two months into 2020, our staff readied ourselves to work from home during what we anticipated to be a two-week closure for the incipient COVID-19 public health crisis. Like the spectators at the Battle of Bull Run who expected a swift Union victory, we had no idea of the magnitude of the crisis we faced. Perhaps we still don't.

At the Cottage, President Lincoln's leadership and humanity have always inspired us, but perhaps never more so than when we closed to the public last March. Immediately, we asked the questions that guide us: what is the need and how are we uniquely positioned to help? We donated PPE to our neighbors at the Armed Forces Retirement Home and provided meaningful history content to their residents. We exerted our creativity to come up with responsive programs on crisis leadership and common humanity. We continued critical stewardship projects to ensure that this National Monument will give life to bold ideas for generations to come. And, we connected our members to intimate conversations with experts to provide historical context and perspective on modern challenges.

As this challenging year came to a close, our long-time, beloved CEO, Erin Carlson Mast, announced that she had accepted a new position and would be leaving the Cottage in the beginning of 2021. We are proud of what the organization accomplished over the last 10+ years under Erin's leadership and will work diligently to build on the success that she helped establish during her tenure.

This report highlights some specific achievements in 2020, none of which would have been possible without your generous support of our work. You continue to see the value we add to our communities – especially in the midst of national crisis – and we are so grateful to you for that. We hope you are well, and we look forward to a time when we can express our gratitude to you again in person.

Collie Howkins

**CALLIE HAWKINS** Interim Director as of January 2021

#### SENIOR LEADERSHIP

Erin Carlson Mast CEO & Executive Director

Callie Hawkins Director of Programming

Jeffrey Larry Senior Preservationist

Jason Molihan Director of Development

#### STAFF

Molly Cadwell Executive Administrator

> Joan Cummins Program Assistant

Rebecca Kilborne Marketing and Communications Manager

> Michelle Martz Visitor Services Manager

Lacey Shaw Museum Store Associate

Brittany Turner Development Assistant

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Brodie Remington

Warner Session

Tefft Smith

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Ghazwa Al-Younes Totonji

Tom Cassidy Ex-Officio: National Trust for Historic Preservation

Justin Seffens Ex-Officio: Armed Forces Retirement Home

#### **EMERITUS BOARD MEMBERS**

Richard Moe Founder

Lester G. Fant, III\* Chairman Emeritus

\*Deceased

As of December 2020

### CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Much has happened in the last year. In that time, our nation fought an extraordinarily contentious election and has had to grieve for the loss of almost 600,000 of our fellow Americans to the ravages of COVID-19, all while being faced, in unavoidable ways, with the as yet unaddressed legacy of slavery, our nation's original sin, a sin President Lincoln tried, but ultimately failed, to expiate.

Our country has struggled with disease, partisan conflict and racism since its founding. While the challenges of the past year were extraordinarily intense, we know that knowledge of our history is one of the most important tools we have as we chart our future. At President Lincoln's Cottage, we examine the moral and political intentions and consequences of President Lincoln's bold actions, and ask what we can learn from them. We invite our visitors, both physical and virtual, and the many students who come to the Cottage to engage in dialogue about freedom, inequality, and justice. We seek to discover truth and to inspire action to address our common problems.

This year will be different, but no less difficult than the last, but we are confident that the Cottage – which provided sanctuary, peace, and inspiration for Lincoln – can bring the same to our generation, and generations to come. We are thankful for the steadfast dedication of our Board, staff and generous supporters for the commitment to the preservation of the Cottage and perpetuation of Lincoln's ideals at the Home for Brave Ideas.

Sincerely,

Richard Muffy

**RICHARD MURPHY** Chairman of the Board

### **COVID-19 RESPONSE**

2020 proved to be the most challenging year on record since President Lincoln's Cottage opened to the public in 2008 and contained our first-ever long term closure. While we navigated our closure, new safety and sanitary requirements, revenue loss, and telework – the Cottage was also able to adapt with new virtual programs and offerings that met the needs of our community.



Here are some highlights of our COVID-19 response:

- Created responsive virtual programming that focused on crisis leadership, common humanity, family engagement, and historical scholarship. We held at least one program a week during the entirety of our closure.
- Offered new outdoor experiences, including 4 tours and outdoor programming that exceeded safety guidelines.
- Gradually reopened Cottage interior spaces for self-guided tours with safety and social distancing in mind.
- Completed and opened a new exhibit: *Reflections on Grief and Child Loss*.
- Focused extensively on Cottage preservation projects, including the completion of our restored vestibule.
- Donated PPE to our neighbors at the Armed Forces Retirement Home.
- Developed and launched a new website.
- Secured a PPP loan and relief funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

# **2020 FINANCIAL REPORT**

#### REVENUE

#### **EXPENSES**



SUPPORT AND REVENUE	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Contributions and grants Admissions and museum store sales, net of costs of good sold	\$ 445,353	\$ 183,602	\$ 628,955
of \$33,237	165,882	-	165,882
Programs and events income	257,463	-	257,463
In-kind donations	41,262	-	41,262
Investment income, net	41,155	-	41,155
Other revenue Net assets released from donor	33,358	-	33,358
restrictions	260.170	(260.170)	-
Total support and			
revenue	1.244.643	(76.568)	1.168.075
EXPENSES			
Program Services	1,186,847	-	1,186,847
General and Administrative	95,400	-	95,400
Fundraising	220,577	-	220,577
Total expenses	1,502,824		1,502,824
Change in net assets	(258,181)	(76,568)	(334,749)
Net assets at beginning of year	1.637.230	550.195	2.187.425
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$ <u>1.379.049</u>	\$ <u>473.627</u>	\$ <u>1.852.676</u>

# PRESERVATION

Since 2001, millions of dollars and thousands of hours have been dedicated to preserving President Lincoln's Cottage, a National Monument and Historic Site. With expertise, vigilance, and continued investment, the Cottage will be available for future generations to experience and learn.

2,000+ Hours of preservation work in 2020

200+

Linear feet of reclaimed flooring installed

Specialists we engaged for projects in 2020

10

10

Years of research and restoration that went into our historic vestibule project, completed in November of 2020

20

8

Cubic feet of cement removed during the project

Areas of Lincoln-era faux graining exposed during the project

Pre-civil war era belt-buckle unearthed during restoration

### **ENGAGEMENT & MARKETING**

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

39% Increase in Team Lincoln membership in 2020
Beautiful new website launched December 1st after collaborating with Compass DC and Punch Digital Strategies
1 COVID-19 relief fund grant secured from the National Endowment for the Humanities
53% Increase in average time spent on our website since launching the new site in December of 2020
40% Increase in Instagram followers in 2020





### PUBLIC PROGRAMS

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

#### **RESPONSIVE PROGRAMS**

6 Nev

New in-person tours created

1,589 Partic progr

Participants in our virtual programs

#### SCHOOL PROGRAMS

2,100 Students and teachers served virtually and in-person in 2020

3 New virtual field trips developed in 2020

**183** Idea gardens growing around the country as a result of our Open Field Project

#### MUSEUM STORE

50

3

Orders placed online from the Cottage store during the first virtual Strathmore holiday market

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

### SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Our special programs are opportunities to delve into big ideas and issues faced by Lincoln and his contemporaries, the legacy of their decisions, and our responsibilities as citizens today.

4

Panelists who spoke at our 2020 virtual Lincoln Ideas Forum on presidential character

7,757

Unique listens to our podcast, Q&Abe, in 2020 from 47 countries around the world

7

Countries represented at our virtual 2020 Students Opposing Slavery Summit

9

Families who participated in our exhibit, *Reflections on Grief and Child Loss*, which opened in December 2020

235

Children and adults who participated in our reimagined socially distanced Social Studies for Young Learners program in 2020

26

Currently and formerly incarcerated artists who participated in our Iron Cages exhibition in January 2020

## Our Stories

Grieving in the Lincolns' era cus public Parents wore black, carried keepsakes, w and observed a distinct mourning pr expected to move on.

Today, a grieving parent is allow signs, and society is perhaps even child loss. Maybe it's because c uncommon now, or that the tra

Through parents' own words, the schibit to the experience of child los

# EVENTS

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

Visit by the President of Colombia Iván Duque Márquez for a talk with the National Endowment for the Humanities

New elopement and micro-wedding packages focused on outdoor space for safety and social distancing, created in response to COVID-19

Cancelled weddings with full refunds given

Postponed events due to COVID-19, with flexible rescheduling into 2022 without any additional fees

President Lincoln's Cottage was one of our very favorite wedding venues from the start of our search. It's a beautiful setting with meaningful historical significance, and it felt good knowing that our venue fee was going toward something we both cared about. ...It was very helpful to be able to downsize our wedding to a safe number of guests...the outdoor spaces/grounds are so extensive that there was no problem at all social distancing.

4

- A special event client

### FOUNDATION, CORPORATE AND GOVERNMENT DONORS

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

- $\Delta$  Denotes in-kind donations
- Denotes cash & in-kind donations

#### \$100,000+

Compass ∆ National Endowment for the Humanities Robert H. Smith Family Foundation

#### \$75,000-\$99,999

DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities

#### \$50,000-\$74,999

Lilly Endowment Pulvermann Charitable Trust

#### \$25,000-\$49,999

Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP 🔺

### \$10,000-\$24,999

Kettering Family Foundation National Trust for Historic Preservation Newburger-Schwartz Family Foundation Peach Orchard Brigade Richard Schwartz Family Foundation

### \$5,000-\$9,999

Facebook Crowdfunding Campaigns The Gipson Family Foundation

#### \$1,000-\$4,999

Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Main Event Caterers Δ Smith Ackerly Charitable Fund The Malkin Fund

#### Up to \$999

AmazonSmile Booz Allen Hamilton Bunge North America Foundation Dames of the Loyal Legion of the United States GEICO Philanthropic Foundation Google, Inc. Kids Out and About Δ Kingfisher Foundation Network for Good PayPal Giving Fund Petworth Cooperative Playgroup RSVP Catering Δ Thomas Brown Woodright Δ

### **INDIVIDUAL DONORS**

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

#### \$50,000+

Jean Baderschneider and Pat MacArevey

#### \$25,000-49,000

Susan Fant Michael and Susan Kahn James Lynch and Anne Woodard Tefft and Nancy Smith^

#### \$10,000- \$24,999

Rick and Karen Murphy Brodie Remington and Sapienza Barone Kathleen and Larry Zimpleman

### \$5,000- \$9,999

Daniel Carmichael Candice Shy Hooper and Lindsay Hooper\*\*\*\* Thurgood Marshall, Jr. and Teddi Marshall Debby and Dan McGinn Deborah Meshulam and Andrew Becker Eric and Doreen Spiegel Ghazwa Al-Younes Totonji and Irfan Totonji

#### \$1,000 -\$4,999

Seth and Lynn Abraham **Charles Cadwell and Mary Schapiro Bill Cain Catherine Choate and Andrew Tuchman Nancy Copple Cary Franklin Marc and Kimberly Goldwein** Pamela Hatfield-Wells and Morris Wells Callie Hawkins and Jason Hobbie\*\*\*\* Allerton Kilborne and Elsie Walker **Michelle Krowl Raymond Locker Sophie Lynn and David Frederick Erin Carlson Mast and Andrew Mast Richard and Julia Moe** Brenda Pascal Alfred Rizzo and Claudia Schwartz **Deborah and Ronald Rudolph Ronald and Linda Staley Florence Stanley Piper Struemph Bill Thorne and Bo Bryant Matthew and Lisa Watkins** Georae Wellman **Deborah Danztler Williams and Simeon Williams** Maureen and Jonathan Witter

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## MISSION

REVEAL THE TRUE LINCOLN AND CONTINUE THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

### **VISION**

Chang

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

