

**Lincoln Bicentennial Ad-Hoc Committee Institution Meeting  
June 11, 2008**

**Meeting Minutes**

Meeting was held at the Connecticut Historical Society at 1:30 p.m.

Attendees: Olivia White, Clarissa Ceglio (The Amistad Center for Art & Culture), Dana Schaffer (Gilder Lehrman Center), Katherine Kane (Harriet Beecher Stowe Center), Rich Malley and Andrea Rapacz (CHS)

Meeting called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Gilder Lehrman - David Blight (Director of Gilder Lehrman) is on the advisory board for the national commission

1. Panel on Slavery and Artistic Expression planned for March '09
2. Academic Conference at Howard University, April 16-18, 2009 in conjunction with Emancipation Day. Topic is Lincoln.
  - a. David Blight will be premiering his play about Frederick Douglass reflecting on Lincoln
  - b. Play will be performed in Connecticut at some point
3. Would like to do a panel on how Lincoln is remembered, no work has been done on this yet. Originally planned for Spring '09 or Fall '09, but will try to do Feb-Apr '09 in conjunction with the Amistad Center's exhibition of the same topic. Gilder Lehrman has funding to do a program.
4. Dana to send out a query on H-Connecticut to see what else is going on Lincoln-wise across the state. – DONE

Amistad Center

1. Exhibition *Lincoln: Man, Myth & Memory* (working title) to run February 12 – April 26, 2009; a companion exhibition will be on display at the CHS. Funding from Lincoln Financial. Details with CHS still to be worked out
2. Opening celebration for the exhibition and kick-off of Lincoln events sometime during the week of 2/9/09 depending on what is going on that week. This date needs to be picked by July so Olivia can reserve the space on the Wadsworth calendar.
3. Exhibition programming will include a panel with authors and poets – participants will offer different perspectives on Lincoln and his legacy.

Harriet Beecher Stowe Center

1. Will continue the Salon series – they will cover issues surrounding Lincoln and his time. These will be planned Fall, 2008
2. Has just applied to NEH for a teacher institute to be held in July, 2009 on Lincoln, Douglass & Slavery
3. Planning a conference similar to one held a few years back – it covered the Underground Railroad, Freedom Stories and Emancipation, public history & genealogy, scholars talk about doing research, how to do family research.

## Connecticut Historical Society

1. Companion exhibition with Amistad Center, Feb – Apr, 2009
2. Civil War encampment with the 10<sup>th</sup> Connecticut – October 3, 2009 – need to confirm with Irving Moy
3. Exhibition - *Civil War Treasures*, also contains objects regarding Lincoln Aug/Sept – Dec '09
4. CHS will also be doing related programs in the Fall '09 and can be a venue

## Other

1. Long Wharf Theater will be debuting the play *Civil War Christmas*, December 2008 – They usually have a talk back session with scholars to discuss issues in the play
2. The Wethersfield Historical Society is applying to host a traveling exhibition on Lincoln – they are hoping for June, 2009, but will have to wait and see if they get their first choice. See <http://www.lincoln200.net/alplmf/> for more information.

## Promotion of these events

Where will all of the events get posted?

Website – institutions to have links on their web pages to bring them back.

Gilder Lehrman can make a pdf of an event calendar to post in Fall '08 after events are finalized

## Possibilities

1. Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism site?
2. Howard's site – [www.simplylincoln.com](http://www.simplylincoln.com)
3. Gilder Lehrman to list?
4. Post all on H-Connecticut listserv
5. National Lincoln Bicentennial site? – Follow up from Clarissa post-meeting – “I had volunteered to look into the official Lincoln Bicentennial Web site in terms of official logo, calendar of events, etc. The site can be accessed via: <http://www.lincolnbicentennial.gov> and <http://www.abrahamlincoln200.org/> Only programs endorsed by the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission (ALBC) can use the official logo. The details of the application process are in the attached PDF, in case any of the institutions wish to pursue this for their programs. (Note: according to the ALBC, "The review process can take several months.") Endorsed programs/events are also listed on the site with links to the host institution's Web site. The site also has a calendar. However, it is not clear whether only endorsed programs are listed, so I've sent a message seeking clarification on this. I'll update you when I receive a reply. I did not see any events from CT on this list nor on the endorsed programs list.”
6. From Clarissa post-meeting re: launching a new site – “Lastly, there was mention of creating a site, perhaps, [www.CTLincoln.org](http://www.CTLincoln.org) for statewide events if there was enough activity to warrant this. I checked this address in both upper (as here) and lower case; no one is "squatting" on either permutation, for what it's worth.”

Printed piece – dates would need to be chosen by Fall '09

1. Piece to announce programs of the 4 institutions

Potential Funding for Marketing

1. Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism
2. Connecticut Humanities Council – first of every month for <\$5000
3. Lisa Curran and Lincoln Financial

Actions for institutions:

Institutions would work separately to come with their own plans. Date for kick off celebration decided by July, Other programs decided by September. We would be back in touch with each other through email unless we feel another meeting is necessary.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Rapacz, Connecticut Historical Society