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“I leave you, hoping that the lamp of liberty will burn in your bosoms until there shall no longer be a doubt that all men are created free and equal.”

—Abraham Lincoln, 1858

The Emancipation Proclamation: Voices to Freedom
Almost eighteen months ago, Cham Edmiston, Museum Trustee by night, Lincoln Financial Group employee by day, said to me, “You know, the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection at the Indiana State Museum is incredible, and includes a copy of the Emancipation Proclamation. Wouldn’t an exhibit at the museum be great for Greensboro?”

Yes, it would, and thanks to the Lincoln Financial Group, the City of Greensboro and John Floy Wicker Endowment and you, our supporters, it is here.

The possibility of exhibiting a rare 1864 Leland-Boker authorized edition of the Emancipation Proclamation, signed by Lincoln, is awe-inspiring, and the museum curators and I quickly realized we had an incredible opportunity to put the import and impact of this document in the context of our Greensboro community. We just needed to turn up the volume on the voices that we already had in our Voices of a City exhibition to truly commemorate this great moment in American history. And the timing to tell this story – April is the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War and the assassination of Lincoln – is perfect.

The other April event of great note is the world premiere of This is My Home Now, a thirty minute documentary on the Greensboro Montagnard community that will have its broadcast premiere on UNC-TV. Please join us for the red carpet event on April 18th, long gowns optional, or watch UNC-TV at 11 p.m. on April 28th. Did I forget to mention that we are the producers? On behalf of the Greensboro Historical Museum, I am readying the Emmy Award acceptance speech.

The Greensboro Historical Museum is an exciting place to visit to learn more about our city’s rich history. Collections and artifacts dating back to the early 1800s when Greensboro was founded are on display for your viewing pleasure. We are excited to announce that an 1864 Emancipation Proclamation signed by Abraham Lincoln himself will be on display for the first time in Greensboro’s history from March 28th through April 26th! Thanks to our friends at Lincoln Financial, we are very fortunate to be able to display such an iconic part of American history.

Another great addition to the museum is the Warnersville exhibit. The exhibit details the life and events of Greensboro’s first planned African American community. It shows the pride and wonderful reputation of the Warnersville community which has influenced social change well beyond its borders.

We invite you to visit and experience our local culture and see our city’s prominent place in American history. The best part about visiting the Greensboro Historical Museum – It’s FREE! As you peruse through the many different exhibits, you are likely to see artifacts and people you recognize, displayed with a description of their importance to Greensboro’s and our nation’s history.

Again, we hope to see you for our special exhibit, The Emancipation Proclamation: Voices to Freedom. Help us celebrate our past, present and future.

“I want to communicate to every member of the audience Abraham Lincoln’s passion for the promise of America,” says actor Peter Holland, who received rave reviews from his 2013 Greensboro performances.

It’s a family-friendly event. Holland presents Lincoln as a man who loved a good story and could find humor in personal anecdotes. You will meet the president in 1863, after the Emancipation Proclamation has been issued and after the Battle of Gettysburg.

Your chance to “Meet Mr. Lincoln” will be Saturday, April 11 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 12 at 2 p.m. See page 8 for free reservation details.

The event is made possible by the John Floy Wicker Endowment.
Today nearly every American recognizes Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States. Photographed by Mathew Brady and others, these now iconic images captured Lincoln's high forehead and trademark beard, but also the weight of the presidency and the toll of the Civil War.

Not long after the assassination of President Lincoln on April 14, 1865, his likeness was fashioned into a number of different historical and memorial objects ranging from prints and glassware to tokens and even parlor games. These mass-produced commemorative items allowed Americans to grieve the loss of the president, to remember and memorialize him within their homes. Museum collections include a number of Lincoln-related items.

Jon Zachman, Curator of Collections

Block Game, Parlor Monuments to the Illustrious Dead
Manufactured by Oakley and Mason in 1865, this rare children's game reflected a growing interest in public monuments. Players position the twenty-four wooden blocks, each with a picture or words, to build up to five different monuments, including “The Children’s Monument to Abraham Lincoln,” “The Freedman’s Monument to Abraham Lincoln” and “The National Monument to Abraham Lincoln.”

Hand-Carved Pipe made from meerschaum, a porous white mineral used for fine smoking pipes. Lincoln was the inspiration for this highly-detailed piece, made in the late 20th century and originally sold at Greensboro’s Tinder Box store.

From the museum’s Robert and Capelia McKinney Glass Collection are a few examples of early American clear and milk glass manufactured during the 1870s, including a Syrup Pitcher and Spooner with the Lincoln Drape design, and a small Lincoln bust.

What the Museum Means to Me

“I thought it would be cool to have a different work/study experience,” explains Stephanie Phipps, adding “and then it snowballed into something different. I’ve always enjoyed history – I didn’t expect I’d get hooked on the Historical Museum, too.” At the time, Stephanie was taking classes at UNCG with a focus on international business. Her work/study job began with collections data entry and evolved into helping with the installation of the Voices of a City exhibition. “I learned so much, and really enjoyed being part of the Voices team,” she recalls.

The West Jefferson native liked the museum enough that she jumped at the chance in 2013 to become a Weekend Tour Guide and then advanced to Weekend Supervisor last year. Stephanie, an avid traveler herself who recently journeyed to see the frozen Niagara Falls, enjoys being able to welcome visitors from around the city and the world. “It’s a great opportunity for sharing, and finding common ground. Every day is different, and I can use experiences from my travels to make sure that visitors find the museum as memorable as I do.”
The Greensboro Historical Museum has opened a new exhibition, *Emancipation Proclamation: Voices to Freedom*, taking visitors along a path of United States and Greensboro history including powerful stories of 300 years of African American experience seeking liberty and freedom. The highlight is a Leland-Boker 1864 edition of the Emancipation Proclamation signed by President Abraham Lincoln.

The exhibition invites visitors to consider America’s founding principles, Lincoln’s hope for freedom for all and the experiences of African Americans in our community.

The walk through galleries is an opportunity to think about those principles, and consider what work is yet to do. Freedom-focused interpretations of the museum’s permanent exhibition add additional layers of meaning to the powerful 1864 document. An audio recording of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s 1962 speech about the Proclamation, recently discovered at the New York State Museum, is another highlight.

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**The Greensborough Patriot** ran countless advertisements from slave owners seeking the return of runaway slaves. Along with a reward offer, notices included descriptions about appearance, work skills, and where the slaves might be headed. This August 11, 1862 ad, published a month before Pres. Lincoln issued the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation, is signed by Agent C.A. Boon, who, based on 1860 census records, was a county sheriff and himself a slaveowner.

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Rare ambrotype image of a Guilford County slave, taken about 1855. Her name is not known.
The Lincoln Financial Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Lincoln Financial Group, has arranged for the loan and underwritten the cost of bringing the Proclamation and other artifacts to Greensboro.

The Emancipation Proclamation: Voices to Freedom exhibition project is made possible by the Lincoln Financial Foundation, City of Greensboro, Greensboro Historical Museum, Inc., and John Floy Wicker Endowment.

Among the items on loan from the Indiana State Museum and Allen County Public Library are an 1864 Leland-Boker Emancipation Proclamation, signed by Abraham Lincoln, the inkwell used by Lincoln to sign the 1863 Proclamation, and cartes-de-visite of Lincoln and his family, including this 1864 image by Mathew Brady.

These cabins, built to house slaves, stood on land near today’s February One Place and Greene Street. The 1860 U.S. Census notes that attorney James T. Morehead, (1799 – 1875), brother of Gov. John M. Morehead, owned 107 slaves, 54 males and 53 females, ranging in age from 1 – 71, no names listed. The census taker observed 18 slave dwellings on Morehead’s land.
New Documentary Shares the Two Worlds of Montagnard Teens

This is My Home Now, funded by the Center for Asian American Media, produced by the Greensboro Historical Museum and filmed by Mariah Dunn Kramer, explores the lives of four youths from three Montagnard immigrant families who have fled their homelands in Southeast Asia to forge a new future in Greensboro. There are up to 20,000 Montagnards in America from many different tribes. They live among us, but are often not understood or recognized for their place in U.S. history. The subjects of the film, Mai Butrang, Philip Krongkon and sisters H De and H Lysa Nie, grapple with questions about self-identity, about losing their cultural heritage and about the role of faith. Experiences of hardship and of remarkable support on their journey make for a compelling story whose themes are universal. To learn more, visit the museum’s website.

Dean MacLeod, Curator of Education

During the filming,” co-producer Dean MacLeod recalls, “we discovered that Philip’s father, Minh Krongkon (far right) had actually helped the fathers of the other two families escape over the border into Cambodia. This special connection between the three families, previously unknown to the crew, just floored us.”

[Our parents],” Mai Butrang (top left) reflects, “have taken care of us since we were babies and they have taken us on this wild journey and it’s important to us to do that small amount of deed for them. We can’t give back what they have given us.”

“All young [Montagnards],” Andrew Young of Guilford College points out, “ultimately have a choice. They can accept tradition; the other extreme would be to fully reject the tradition, and then you have shades of gray between. It’s that scale of accepting and rejecting that for young people is a struggle.”

Saturday, April 18 from 12 to 4 p.m.

Entertainment
12 noon

First Film Screening
1:30 p.m.

Panel Discussion
2 p.m.

Second Film Screening
3:30 p.m.
Simply Presidential, Pottery and Scarves

The Shop has new Lincoln-themed merchandise, perfect for souvenirs or for sharing with a special young person and historian in the making. Select a replica of the Emancipation Proclamation, then group it with a shiny coaster-size Lincoln copper penny and pencil sharpener. You will definitely want a copy of the illustrated poetry and picture book Our Children Can Soar: A Celebration of Rosa, Barack, and the Pioneers of Change.

Our stock of Seagrove and Greensboro potters includes a range of shapes and glazes, with a pleasing mix of traditional and contemporary. The “Tree of Life” motif reminds us of family and the importance of history. You’ll find it featured on shapes from platters to mugs, proven to be popular wedding and house warming gifts which symbolize new beginnings.

A colorful display brings much excitement with our new scarf collection – lightweight fabrics, fresh and bold for spring and summer wear. Wrapped around your shoulders or draped long, they are a beautiful way to update a favorite outfit.

Let us create a Give the Gift of Greensboro basket as a hospitality, birthday, corporate or wish-you-were-here present. We are pleased to offer gift wrap, phone orders, convenience at shop.GreensboroHistory.org and affordable shipping. Your Shop Staff Team is happy to show you what’s new and help with your selections.

Come in for a visit,
Barbara Shanks, Channell Williams
Jane Teer and Cathy Battle

MUSEUM GUILD

You may want to stop what you’re doing right now and call me at 378-1531 to see if space remains on the Tuesday, April 28 Guild bus trip to Mt. Airy and Andy Griffith’s Mayberry. A local guide will delight with stories of the actor’s childhood as we drive by sites connected with the popular television show, including the charming Andy Griffith Museum. We’ll take a leisurely stroll down Main Street and enjoy the Museum of Regional History, and be amazed with a side trip to the world’s largest surface granite quarry. That’s right, world’s largest.

There are two other out-of-the-ordinary programs planned this spring. On April 20, Richmond National Battlefield historian and author Bert Dunkerly will share highlights from his book The Confederate Surrender at Greensboro, an event that happened 150 years ago on April 26, 1865. And on May 18, Bill Moore will share “Histories and Mysteries from the Museum’s Collection,” followed by a box lunch.

Hope you will join us on our adventures in lifelong learning.

Betty K. Phipps, First Vice President
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL
Through Sunday, April 26
Emancipation Proclamation: Voices to Freedom
Rare 1864 printed Emancipation Proclamation, signed by Abraham Lincoln, and other objects on view from the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection at the Indiana State Museum and Allen County Public Library. Learn local stories in the Voices of a City exhibition.

Sunday, April 5
Museum Closed

Saturday, April 11 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Sunday, April 12 at 2 p.m.
Meet Mr. Lincoln
Featuring actor Peter Holland
Free. Reservations strongly suggested at 373.2982 and GreensboroHistory.org

Thursday, April 16 at 7 p.m.
The Many Meanings of the Emancipation Proclamation
Discussion and conversation with historians Dr. Arwin Smallwood of NCA&T, Dr. Paul Escott of Wake Forest and Dr. Mark Elliott of UNCG

Saturday, April 18 from 12 - 4 p.m.
This is My Home Now
Film screenings, entertainment and conversation
See page 6

Monday, April 20 at 10 a.m.
Museum Guild Meeting
The Confederate Surrender at Greensboro: The Final Days of the Army of Tennessee, April 1865
Author Robert Dunkerly

Tuesday, April 21 at 8:30 a.m.
Guild Trip to Mt. Airy
$46 per person; Call 378-1531 to check availability

Tuesday, April 28 at 11 p.m.
This is My Home Now
Airs on WUNC-TV

MAY
Monday, May 18
Museum Guild Meeting and Lunch
Histories and Mysteries from Museum Collections
Bill Moore
Reservations required; call 378-1531

Wednesday, May 20
First Lady Dolley Madison born here, 1768

Monday, May 25
Museum Offices Closed

JUNE
Sunday, June 7 from 12 - 5 p.m.
Parisian Promenade
Caldwell Historical Center open

Museum open until 8 p.m. on April 3, 11, 16 and 24

On the Cover: Exhibition artwork by Curator of Exhibits Robert Harris

For more information, visit GreensboroHistory.org/events

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