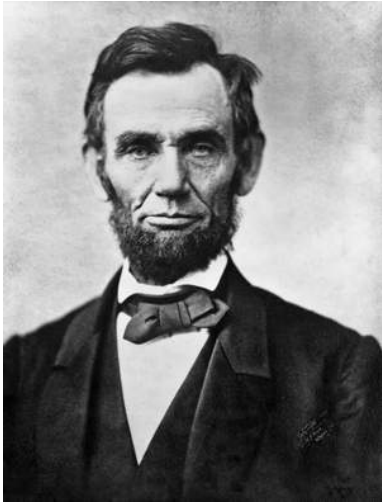


## Traveling show on Lincoln, Constitution coming to Salem

Written by Barbara Curtin Statesman Journal

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*Photograph of President Abraham Lincoln, Washington D.C., Nov. 8, 1863. This image is part of the touring show on Lincoln at the Willamette Heritage Center, Friday July 26. / Image Courtesy of Library of Congress, Prints & Ph*

### At a glance

**What:** “Lincoln, the Constitution and the Civil War”

**When:** Friday through July 26

**Where:** Willamette Heritage Center at The Mill, 1313 Mill St. SE

**Admission:** \$6, \$5 ages 55 and older, \$4 students, \$3 ages 6 to 17 and free ages 5 and younger and everyone on Tuesdays

**Civil War re-enactment:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, features 11 a.m. and 1 and 3 p.m. drill and artillery demonstrations, 11:30 a.m., 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. medical demonstrations and noon performance by 3rd Brigade Brass Band; free with museum admission

**History Pub:** 5:30 p.m. on the following dates: June 27: Kenneth Coleman, “Dangerous Subjects: Black Exclusion and the Anxiety of Conquest in the Willamette Valley”; July 11: David Sumner, “Brother Against Brother: Pragmatism, Civility and the Civil War”;

July 18: Richard Wayne Etulain, “Lincoln and the Oregon Country”; and July 25: Jennifer Jopp, “John Beeson and His Contemporaries: A Call to Conscience.” \$5 or \$3 for members, with beer (21 and older) and food for sale.

### Information:

[willametteheritage.org](http://willametteheritage.org) or call (503) 585-7023

The Willamette Heritage Center’s next exhibit explores questions as old as the 1860s and as recent as today’s headlines:

- Should press freedom be curtailed in time of war?
- Can the president order prisoners held without trial for years?
- If a state disagrees with national policy, can it secede?

“Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War,” a traveling national exhibition, opens on Friday in the second-floor gallery. Using text and photos, it examines how President Abraham Lincoln used the Constitution to confront three intertwined crises of the Civil War — slavery, wartime civil liberties and the secession of Southern states.

Photographic reproductions of original documents include a draft of Lincoln’s first inaugural speech, the Emancipation Proclamation and the Thirteenth Amendment.

Keni Sturgeon, museum curator, applied two years ago to host the show, which is organized by the National Constitution Center and the American Library Association.

Each portion explains a different aspect of Lincoln’s presidency, such as how Lincoln’s thoughts about

slavery evolved over time. The exhibit helps visitors understand why Lincoln's struggle with the Constitution still matters today, she said.

To complete the traveling show, Sturgeon assembled information on Oregon's connection to the war.

"During the Civil War years, Oregon was not as involved as other states because it was far removed, but a number of people fought in the war and moved here afterward," she said.

The additional displays cover troops' presence in Oregon (to watch over Indians, not fight the war) and the state's constitutional ban on black residents, a law that wasn't abolished until early in the 20th century. Willamette University Archives will share a collection of letters written by Union soldier John D. Beach to his mother.

A Civil War re-enactors' encampment and a series of evening "history pubs" also will complement the traveling show.

Exhibit visitors will be encouraged to leave their own comments on modern constitutional dilemmas.

"The issues we faced did not die," Sturgeon said . "They come up again and again."

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