

Contact: Hilary Malson
202-829-0436 x31228
hmalson@savingplaces.org

For Immediate Release: October 1, 2013

President Lincoln's Cottage is Open Despite Government Shutdown

The Lincoln family's home in Washington remains open for tours, public events, and education programs, and federal government employees receive 50% off admission throughout the shutdown period.

Washington, D.C. – President Lincoln's Cottage, the only designated National Monument in Washington, DC and the only National Monument in the country that operates as a private non-profit without federal support, will remain open for tours throughout the government shutdown. For the duration of the government shutdown, employees of the federal government will receive 50% off adult admission with the presentation of a federal government ID. President Lincoln's Cottage is open from 9:30 am – 4:30 pm Monday – Saturday and 10:30 am – 4:30 pm on Sunday. Guided tours of the Cottage are offered on the hour, and visitors can enjoy the exhibit galleries and gift shop in the Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center. Group tours and school groups welcome. For more information, visitors can call 202-829-0436 x31231, email LincolnsCottage@savingplaces.org, or visit www.lincolncottage.org.

Located on a picturesque hilltop in NW Washington, D.C., President Lincoln's Cottage is where Lincoln and his family lived for over a quarter of his presidency and is most notable as the place where Lincoln developed the Emancipation Proclamation. Today, multimedia-guided tours of President Lincoln's Cottage reveal untold stories and offer new insights on Lincoln's presidency, private life, and his most influential ideas to museum visitors. The Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center contains five self-guided, permanent exhibits: *the award-winning Lincoln's Toughest Decisions, Wartime Washington, Lincoln the Commander-in-Chief, The Lincoln Family at the Soldiers' Home, and History of the Soldiers' Home*. Additionally, a new exhibit featuring the original Civil War diary and personal artifacts of Albert Nelson See, a member of Abraham Lincoln's Presidential Guard, is on public display for the first time in history. See's eye-witness accounts detail President Lincoln's life at the Cottage, the 1864 Confederate attack on Washington at Fort Stevens, and the inner workings of the presidential guard.

President Lincoln's Cottage, "the Cradle of the Emancipation Proclamation," is located on the grounds of the Armed Forces Retirement Home in Washington, DC. While living here for more than a quarter of his presidency, Abraham Lincoln bonded with soldiers and veterans, made crucial decisions about the Civil War, and, most notably, developed the Emancipation Proclamation his first summer in residence. His daily commute put him in regular contact with wounded soldiers and self-emancipated men, women, and children. Today, the site offers an intimate, never-before-seen view of Abraham Lincoln's presidency and private life, and new perspectives on the influential ideas Lincoln developed while living here.

Hours of operation: The Robert H. Smith Visitor Education Center is open 9:30am-4:30pm Monday-Saturday and 10:30am-4:30pm Sunday. Cottage tours are on the hour, 7 days a week. For more information on President Lincoln's Cottage, visit: www.lincolncottage.org or call 202-829-0436.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, a privately-funded non-profit organization, works to save America's historic places. President Lincoln's Cottage is a site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. For more information, visit: www.preservationnation.org.