
NEWS RELEASE

Louisiana
Department of State



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LINCOLN PLAYS AT LOUISIANA'S OLD STATE CAPITOL

SEC. DARDENNE TO PORTRAY LINCOLN

Secretary of State Jay Dardenne and the Louisiana Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission are announcing the presentation of two plays on Sunday, April 26, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the House Chamber at Louisiana's Old State Capitol. Secretary Dardenne will portray Lincoln in a conversational debate with Robert E. Lee. "A Meeting Between Lincoln and Robert E. Lee" and "Lincoln Lives" are two of five plays commissioned by the Louisiana Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

"A Meeting Between Lincoln and Robert E. Lee" is a new one-act play by John Patrick Bray. Cliff Deal, Secretary of State Museums Division director, portrays Lee. Since 1996, Bray's 18 plays have run numerous times in Baton Rouge and around the country. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate at Louisiana State University.

"Lincoln Lives," premiered and repeated on three previous occasions in Baton Rouge, is a short play by historian-playwright Kent Gramm. Prominent Baton Rouge actor and director Oneal Isaac portrays Frederick Douglass and the Rev. Steve Crump portrays Abraham Lincoln.

The play is scheduled to be performed again in August at Gettysburg, Penn. Gramm is the author of "November," a unique meditation on Lincoln at Gettysburg.

David Madden, chairman of the commission, is in discussion with officials to present both plays in the newly opened President's Cottage in Washington on a special "Louisiana Lincoln" day in September.

As an added feature, playgoers may meet the members of the Louisiana Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, who will hold a public meeting after the performances in the chamber. Admission is free and the building is wheelchair accessible. For more information about the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, call David Madden at 225.344.3630, e-mail dmadden@lsu.edu or visit www.sos.louisiana.gov/lincoln.

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