

# EDUCATOR NEWSLETTER

KentuckyHistoricalSociety



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## Commemorate Lincoln's 200th birthday with your class this winter!

Abraham Lincoln was born in Kentucky on February 12, 1809 and grew up to be one of America's greatest presidents. The Kentucky Historical Society is providing students with several opportunities to celebrate the bicentennial of the Kentucky native's birth.

Visit Kentucky's signature Lincoln exhibition, *Beyond the Log Cabin: Kentucky's Abraham Lincoln*, at the Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History in Frankfort. On display through June 6, 2009, the exhibition explores Lincoln's relationship to Kentucky and features vivid imagery, unique artifacts, audiovisuals, and interactive elements. The cost is \$2 per student, which includes admission to all exhibitions and Museum Theatre productions. For more information or to schedule a field trip, contact [KHSTours@ky.gov](mailto:KHSTours@ky.gov). If you miss the exhibition in Frankfort, be sure to catch it at The Speed Art Museum in Louisville from June 28, 2009 to September 6, 2009 or in Ashland at the Highlands Museum & Discovery Center between October 2, 2009 and February 19, 2010.

Watch the mail for a DVD and learning resource worksheet about Lincoln

and Kentucky. The DVD, produced by Kentucky Educational Television (KET), highlights the sixteenth president's many Kentucky connections. The worksheet is designed to serve as a resource for fourth and fifth grade students. DVDs and worksheets will be mailed to every public school in late January 2009. ☞

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Download Lincoln lesson plans and resources at the following Web sites:

Curriculum materials are available from the [Abraham Lincoln Birthplace](#).

Lesson plans and resources are available from the [Lincoln Bicentennial Teacher Network](#), Kentucky Department of Education, and Georgetown College.

Find resources to plan a celebration of the Lincoln bicentennial in a school toolkit from the [Kentucky Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Web site](#).

To be launched on February 12: *Beyond the Log Cabin: Kentucky's Abraham Lincoln Online Exhibition*.





## March brings 47th Annual KJHS Convention

Planning for the 47th Annual Kentucky Junior Historical Society Convention is currently underway! Students, sponsors, and their families will gather in Frankfort March 26 to 28, 2009, to celebrate Kentucky's rich heritage. KJHS members will have the opportunity to showcase projects and compete for prizes in a variety of categories related to Kentucky history. Other convention highlights include the Kentucky History Bowl, workshops, activities at the Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History, and the Friday night dance.

KJHS engages students in state and local history and heritage through regular club meetings, projects, and statewide events. To form a club or learn more about KJHS and the convention, contact Laura Hiniker at [laura.hiniker@ky.gov](mailto:laura.hiniker@ky.gov) or visit the [KJHS Web page](#). 

## KHS Educator Retired in December



Longtime Kentucky Historical Society museum educator Vicky Middleswarth retired as the head of the museum education department at the end of last year. During

her twenty-one years at KHS, Vicky demonstrated enormous dedication to the museum and its mission.

Vicky played an integral role in the development of countless exhibitions, design of interactive elements for children, and production of teacher's materials. She created tours and activities for the three museums on the KHS history campus and various special events. Through Vicky's imagination and hard work, KHS has succeeded in sharing Kentucky history with students. In addition, she led many teacher workshops and, in 2002, developed the annual Kentucky History Education Conference. A tireless educator, Vicky contributed immensely to the education of Kentucky's students. 

## WINTER THEATRE SPECIAL

### Jack and the Robbers

Folktales and traditions spring to life at the Kentucky Historical Society. Sit a spell and story-tell as actors from the KHS Museum Theatre program share a rollicking folktale from the Appalachian Mountains.

Schools visiting KHS between January and March can enrich their museum tours by viewing a performance of *Jack and the Robbers*. The lively 15-minute play follows Jack and his animal friends as they find a cabin in the woods, which turns out to be the hideout for a gang of highway robbers. *Jack and the Robbers* combines the art of storytelling, simple puppetry, and music to create an active, fun, and unique experience. The play is suggested for elementary age students.



All theatre presentations are free with admission and the Museum Theatre team would love to perform *Jack and the Robbers* for your school group. To request a performance of *Jack and the Robbers*, or any of the plays currently being offered by the KHS Museum Theatre team, contact Greg Hardison at [greg.hardison@ky.gov](mailto:greg.hardison@ky.gov). View a [complete menu of plays available to groups on the Society's Web site](#). 

## Be a History Teacher Fellow!

Two five hundred dollar fellowships are available to fourth through twelfth grade classroom teachers in private or public Kentucky schools. Recipients must be practicing teachers and will be expected to visit the Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History in Frankfort a minimum of three days to do research and create lesson plans on a Kentucky-related topic. The fellowship recipients will work closely with a KHS educator to produce the lesson plans.

The lesson plans should be based heavily, but not exclusively, on materials

found at the Center for Kentucky History. Once completed, the lesson plans will be posted on the KHS Web site for other teachers to use. In addition to the lesson plans, fellowship recipients must also complete a one to three page narrative report outlining the work accomplished through the fellowship. The deadline for 2009 is February 15. For more information about the teacher fellowships, contact Kate Hesseldenz at 502-564-1792, ext. 4477 or [kate.hesseldenz@ky.gov](mailto:kate.hesseldenz@ky.gov). To apply, visit the [fellowships page on history.ky.gov](http://fellowships.history.ky.gov). 

## Do You Need Field Trip Money?

Grants are available for field trips and projects in the classroom for K-12 public or private schools!

### Heritage Education Grant

Heritage Education mini-grants (up to \$250) support field trips to local history sites and project grants (up to \$500) support history-related projects in the classroom.

### Deadlines

March 31, 2009 (mini-grants; project grants)

June 30, 2009 (mini-grants only)

### Lincoln Heritage Education Grants

Offered in cooperation with the KALBC, Lincoln Heritage mini-grants (up to \$350) support field trips to any of the commission's designated Lincoln sites and project grants (up to \$500) support classroom projects.

### Deadline

March 31, 2009 (mini-grants; project grants)

**No match is required for either grant program. To download a copy of grant guidelines and applications, visit [www.history.ky.gov](http://www.history.ky.gov) or contact [khsschools@ky.gov](mailto:khsschools@ky.gov).**

## 2009 Folklife Festival Cancelled

The Kentucky Historical Society and the Kentucky Arts Council have determined that cancelling the 2009 Folklife Festival is the most fiscally responsible decision this year. The cancellation of the 2009 event does not, however, mean that the partnership between KHS and KAC will end. Both organizations remain dedicated to sharing Kentucky's rich folklife heritage throughout the commonwealth. 

## ENTER TO WIN!

**Enter to win a Lincoln Bicentennial Prize Package from KHS by emailing [KHSschools@ky.gov](mailto:KHSschools@ky.gov) by January 30, 2009.** The prize package will contain primary sources, books about Lincoln, and books about the Civil War time period. A prize winner will be notified via email.

## DID YOU KNOW?

**Scholarships are available to cover the \$2 admission fee for students from schools where over fifty percent of students receive free or reduced lunch.**

These scholarships cover admission to the entire KHS history campus in Frankfort, which includes the Thomas D. Clark Center for Kentucky History, Old State Capitol, and Kentucky Military History Museum. The Kentucky Military History Museum is currently closed for renovations, but admission to the museum will be covered by the scholarship when it reopens. Contact [KHStours@ky.gov](mailto:KHStours@ky.gov) for a scholarship application.

**KHS has a 14-page, full-color school programs catalog!**

If you would like to receive a copy, contact [KHSschools@ky.gov](mailto:KHSschools@ky.gov).

If you'd like more information about educator resources or bringing your students to the Kentucky Historical Society, contact:

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