

ChicagoHistoryMuseum

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THE AMERICAN PRESIDENCY

The Chicago History Museum explores how the presidency has affected public perception, history, and the movies.

CHICAGO (February 26, 2008) – The Chicago History Museum presents a 3-part series that examines the country's highest office, the presidency. Programs will take place at the Chicago History Museum on Tuesdays March 11, 18, and 25 from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Each program is \$10/\$8 for Museum members.

The first program, **Presidents, The Press, and Public Perceptions** on March 11 takes a critical look at the nation's leadership as a political journalist explains the media's duty to report on the role and responsibility of this elite office. Get insight into the process and examine the role journalism plays in shaping local, national, and global perceptions of the American presidency.

The second program, **Beyond the White House: The Presidency Revealed Through Presidential Travel** on March 18 explores the history of how presidents have traveled the nation to meet with and speak to their fellow Americans. Join historian and author, Richard Ellis, as he shares the history of presidential travel and its impact on the changing relationship between American presidents and the citizens they serve.

The third and final program of the series, **Heroes, Statesmen, Philanderers, and Fools: The American Presidency in Popular Culture** on March 25 explores the American presidency as it has been depicted in television and film – from fictional characters like *West Wing*'s Josiah Bartlet to fictionalizations of real presidents in *Birth of a Nation* and the internet sensation *JibJab*. Although primarily intended to entertain, Chicago History Museum historian, Sarah Marcus' depictions will also offer criticism, praise, and alternative visions of contemporary political life.

More information on this series can be found at www.chicagohistory.org.

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The Chicago History Museum, a major museum and research center for Chicago and American history, is located at 1601 N. Clark Street. The Museum can be reached by CTA buses 11, 22, 36, 72, 151, and 156. Parking is conveniently located one block north of the Museum at Clark and LaSalle Streets (enter on Stockton Drive). Admission to the Museum is \$14 adults with audio tour, \$12 seniors/students with audio tour, free for children 12 years and younger. General Admission is free on Mondays. Please call 312.642.4600 or visit us at www.chicagohistory.org. The Chicago History Museum is affiliated with the Chicago Historical Society and acknowledges the Chicago Park District's generous support of all the Museum's activities.