

# ChicagoHistoryMuseum

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## **EMANCIPATION OR PRESERVATION?**

Discover the complex relationship between Abraham Lincoln and Fredrick Douglass through a dramatic performance.

CHICAGO (June 16, 2009) – In celebration of the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the Civil War, the Chicago History Museum presents *Emancipation or Preservation?*, a dramatic performance of the two formal meetings between President Abraham Lincoln and abolitionist Fredrick Douglass. Co-written by director Runako Jahi and Useni Perkins, the performance will be held on Sunday, June 21 from 2:00-3:00 p.m., and showcases the mutual respect Lincoln and Douglass had for one another, despite differing views on abolition and the preservation of the Union.

During their meetings, Lincoln and Douglass exchanged opinions on the most compelling issues of their time and the factors that proved to be catalysts for the Civil War. Both Lincoln and Douglass were self-made and ambitious, rising to success from humble backgrounds. Even as a young man, Lincoln was a consummate politician devoted to compromise, consensus-building, and moderation. Douglass was a reformer who spoke and wrote eloquently with passion for the abolition of slavery and for equal rights for African Americans. *Emancipation or Preservation?* is being presented in collaboration with the DuSable Museum of African American History and will explore the life, times, and leadership of the men who guided America through one of the most tumultuous periods of its history. Tickets for this performance are free with Museum admission.

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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](http://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.