

Lorenzo Cultural Center Registration is Now Open!

# Freedom Confirmed

February 24 - April 27

**EXHIBIT HOURS:**  
 Tuesday, Thursday-Saturday: 10am-4pm  
 Wednesday: 10am-8pm

In partnership with the Detroit Historical Society, the Albert L. Lorenzo Cultural Center will present Freedom Confirmed, February through April 2024. Complete with presentations, artifacts and displays, it will inspire and educate visitors about Abraham Lincoln's role in the Civil War and the key events that shaped American democracy and rights.

Although no battles occurred on state soil, Michigan residents played a crucial role in the American Civil War. Learn why Michigan's role in the war was both important and heroic. Discover how women contributed to the Civil War. We welcome you to participate as we delve into these topics and more.

While the exhibit and presentations are free to attend, we kindly request that you preregister for the presentations to ensure that we have enough seating available.

## PRE-EXHIBIT EVENTS

 Monday | February 12 | 1pm  
**Real to Reel: Lincoln (2012)**  
 Elton Weintz, moderator

1865—With the nation embroiled in still another year of Civil War and its high death count, President Abraham Lincoln brings the full measure of his passion, humanity, and political skill to what would become his defining legacy: to end the war and permanently abolish slavery through the 13th Amendment. Having great courage, acumen and moral fortitude, Lincoln pushes forward to compel the nation, and those in government who oppose him, to aim toward a greater good for all mankind.

Professor Elton Wientz will give a short cultural and historical context to the film and there will be time for Q&A following the film.

**Come along with Lincoln enthusiast Kevin Wood** as he transports us to the era of Lincoln's presidency. As one of the most admired and respected historical figures in our nation, President Abraham Lincoln is brought to life by Wood, who bears a striking resemblance to the president.



Tuesday | February 13 | 11am  
**A New Birth of Freedom | Field Trip Opportunity!**  
 Kevin Wood, speaker

Listen to Abraham Lincoln's own words about the history of the USA during his life, from his frontier upbringing to the Civil War years that almost tore the country apart but led to freedom for all. Learn how Mr. Lincoln rose from poverty to presidency with his self-education, determination and moral vision.

Tuesday | February 13 | 1pm  
**Lincoln on Slavery, Emancipation & Equality**  
 Kevin Wood, speaker

Mr. Lincoln explores how his views on slavery, emancipation and equality changed over time and how they affected the white-black relations in his era. He summarizes the history of slavery in North America and the political debates and compromises over it. He shares his personal and political opinions and actions on these issues, such as the Emancipation Proclamation, the enlistment of black soldiers, the rejection of colonization and the support of black voting rights.

Saturday | February 24 | 11am-12pm  
**True Black History Museum: As We Celebrate the Voice of the Ancestors**

A celebration of the Black American heritage through rhythmic movements featuring African American dancers, percussive sounds of African American drummers along with a rendition of the song of hope and freedom—The Black National Anthem.



Saturday | February 24 | one-day only | 11am-2pm  
**Traveling Collection**

The True Black History Museum displays authentic and historical items from the 1600s to today. The Collection celebrates the legacy and achievements of Black People in various fields. Come and learn about African American history through these artifacts, from ancient Africa to modern America. Join us for this one-day exhibit in Community Hall that showcases the contributions of African Americans in different areas of human activity. This presentation will include African American dancers along with a performance of The Black National Anthem.



February 12 & 13

**Come Celebrate Abraham Lincoln's Birthday! With Us!**



  
 Macomb Community College  
 Education • Employment • Economic Development  
**Discover. Connect. Advance.**  
 44575 Garfield Rd.  
 Clinton Twp., MI 48038-1139

**MACOMB COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
 Katherine Lorenzo, Chairperson | Frank Cusumano, Vice Chairperson  
 Kristi Dean, Secretary | Roseanne DiMarta, Treasurer  
 Joan Flynn, Trustee | Shelley Vitale, Trustee | Vincent Viviano, Trustee  
 James O. Sawyer IV, Ed.D., College President

Nonprofit Organization  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 Macomb Community College

GRAP20817MA

LORENZO CULTURAL CENTER

# Freedom Confirmed

Feb. 24 - April 27, 2024

Exhibit and Program Series



PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP:

THE ALBERT L. LORENZO  
**Cultural Center**  
 AT MACOMB COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
 MACOMB COUNTY'S PLACE FOR DISCOVERY

DETROIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY



LorenzoCulturalCenter.com | 586.445.7348 | 44575 Garfield Road (at Hall Road), Clinton Township, MI 48038

Thank you for investing in our vision and in our events. Your support is integral to our ability to serve our community and provide them with a diverse selection of entertainment close to home.

**THANK YOU SUPPORTERS!**

Presenting Sponsor



Grantors



The Kresge Foundation

Sonya K. Brett Memorial Fund for Cultural Enrichment Programs

Media Partners





# EXHIBIT PROGRAMS

Saturday | February 24 | 1pm

## Freedom Confirmed: President Abraham Lincoln's Courage to Create Change

Curator Talk

Rodney David Deal, curator

Learn about the Freedom Confirmed exhibit that presents a compelling analysis of President Lincoln's moral transformation during his Civil War Presidency from its original curator, Rodney David Deal. Mr. Deal is also the founder of Freedom Confirmed, an organization that promotes unified diversity through education, and has spent many years on this topic. *(Program repeats April 27, 11am)*

Thursday | February 29 | 1pm

## Shout Hallelujah!

North Star Gospel Chorale

Join us for a performance that honors the religious celebration of enslaved people in the Deep South. The North Star Gospel Chorale uses music to show how enslaved people kept their community together, and their new way of praying that linked the African slaves' past with their American present.

Friday | March 1 | 11am

## Born Free & Equal: Michigan's Colored Regiment

Maurice Imhoff, speaker

"Let the black man get upon his person the brass letters U.S., let him get an eagle on his button, and a musket on his shoulder, and bullets in his pocket, and there is no power on the earth or under the earth that can deny that he has earned the right to citizenship"—Frederick Douglass, April 6, 1863.

Following the Emancipation Proclamation, the U.S. military formed the United States Colored Troops. Even as black soldiers fought and died, their citizenship status remained uncertain. Racist policies limited opportunities for black soldiers to become line officers and paid them lower wages than whites. Join Maurice Imhoff, who will cover the story of the first Michigan Colored Regiment, otherwise known as the 102nd United States Colored Troops, discussing its early authorization to present-time remembrance.

Saturday | March 9 | 11am

## Abraham and Mary Lincoln: In Love and War

Daniel Epstein, speaker

Lincoln's marriage has long been a subject of curiosity, wonder and controversy. This talk will offer some insight into the personal dynamics of the relationship and how it was shaped by Lincoln's career and the Civil War.

Wednesday | March 13 | 11am

Museum Theatre

## The Iron Brigade, Part I: The Recruit

Jacob Musgrave is an apple farmer. His father and grandfather were apple farmers before him. He has a bright future ahead of him, a new wife and a thriving business. But when General John Gibbon of the Army of the Potomac's Iron Brigade comes to Detroit in dire need of munitions and men, Jacob finds himself a private in the newly formed 24th Michigan Infantry Regiment, on his way to Fredericksburg to take on the Confederate Army! Program repeats March 16 at 11am and April 4 at 11am.

Friday | March 15 | 11am

## The Iron Brigade, Part II: The Black Hat

Museum Theatre

Three years later, a battle-hardened Jacob looks back at a career as a "Black Hat," a nickname given to the tenacious fighters in the Iron Brigade. He's risen through the ranks, and now must try to find his way in a post-Civil War world, in his own home, and while serving the most important post-war duty of his life. His world has been forever changed, and he must learn what that means to him. Program repeats March 16 at 11am and April 4 at 11am..

Friday | March 15 | 1pm

## Copperheads and Radicals: Michigan Partisan Politics During the Civil War

Martin J. Hershock, speaker

A consideration of Michigan's politics during the Civil War era and the impact of that political culture on the state's waging of war with ties drawn to the national political landscape.

Saturday | March 16 | 11am

Museum Theatre

## The Iron Brigade, Part I: The Recruit

For description, see March 13 event listing.

Saturday | March 16 | 1pm

Museum Theatre

## The Iron Brigade, Part II: The Black Hat

For description, see March 15 event listing.

Friday | March 22 | 1pm

## Soldiers in the Shadows: Michigan's Company K

Eric Hemenway, speaker

During the Civil War, the largest all-Indian regiment in the Union Army was part of the Michigan's First Sharpshooters, Company K. Company K was primarily Odawa and Ojibway from the Lower Peninsula and fought in some of the pivotal battles towards the end of the war. Their story is unique in the fact that their ancestors fought against the Americans and the federal government tried to remove them from Michigan in the 1830s. Why did they fight? What did they come home to? This talk explores the stories of this largely unknown group of fighters.

Saturday | March 23 | 1pm

## Civil War Music

Dodworth Saxhorn Band

If you have ever wondered what the music of the Civil War era sounded like, this is your opportunity! The Dodworth Saxhorn Band recreates the experience of 19th century band music using authentic instruments together with dramatic segments, dialogue and comedy performed by their singers. Each of these segments ties together songs and instrumental pieces to tell a story and give an authentic Civil War-era experience.

Thursday | April 4 | 11am

Museum Theatre

## The Iron Brigade, Part I: The Recruit

For description, see March 13 event listing.

Friday | April 5 | 11am

Museum Theatre

## The Iron Brigade, Part II: The Black Hat

For description, see March 15 event listing.

Thursday | April 11 | 11am

## We are Coming, Father Abram: Michigan in the Civil War

Roger Rosentreter, speaker

When Michiganders learned that southerners had fired on the U.S. flag flying over Fort Sumter in the Charleston, South Carolina harbor, they were not surprised. As Governor Austin Blair had declared weeks earlier, secession was "revolution, and revolution... is treason, and must be treated as such." Within weeks, the First Michigan Volunteer Infantry Regiment arrived in the nation's capital where an appreciative president welcomed them with the words, "Thank God for Michigan." Eventually, more than 90,000 Michiganders served in Union blue, seeing action in all the war's major battles and hundreds of lesser clashes. As one Detroiter later concluded, they performed the duties "every citizen owes to a free and fraternal government." Michigan State University History Professor Roger Rosentreter discusses Michigan's unique contribution to the war effort.

Thursday | April 11 | 1pm

## The Harder Part: Michigan Women Go to War

Roger Rosentreter, speaker

The important but underappreciated role Michigan women played in the Civil War included a widely acclaimed battlefield nurse, a teacher who earned the moniker "Michigan's Florence Nightingale," an accomplished war correspondent, and a twenty-two-year-old who concealed her female identity for two years to serve in the ranks. Naturally, most Michigan women stayed home--managing farms, raising children, organizing soldiers' relief societies and worrying about their loved ones. In so many ways, women contributed to suppressing the rebellion. Join us for this talk by Michigan State University History Professor Roger Rosentreter.

Friday | April 12 | 11am

## Abraham Lincoln in the Kitchen: His Life in Six Dishes

*This presentation is available both in-person and virtually.*

Rae Katherine Eighmey, speaker

Rae Eighmey's book *Abraham Lincoln in the Kitchen* looks at our 16th president's life through the extraordinary stories of what he ate, cooked and served. In this presentation, Eighmey provides a culinary perspective on the life and times of Abraham Lincoln, one of our nation's favorite and most esteemed presidents.

Saturday | April 20 | 11am

## Michigan Men in the Civil War

Kim Crawford, speaker

Kim Crawford is a retired newspaper reporter and the author of two books on Michigan soldiers in the Civil War. Additionally, his experiences with Civil War roundtables, as curator of an exhibit at the Sloan Museum, and as a speaker on the topic, have broadened his knowledge of Michigan's Civil War soldiers and their experiences and views as citizen soldiers who served in the Union Army of the Potomac from 1861-1865.

Wednesday | April 24 | 11am

## Striking at the Root of the Rebellion: Lincoln, the Emancipation Proclamation & the Cause of Freedom

Roger Rosentreter, speaker

On January 1, 1863, Detroit's African Americans enthusiastically celebrated the day's most momentous news—President Abraham Lincoln had used his war powers to sign the Emancipation Proclamation; America's divisive "peculiar institution" was another step closer to its ultimate demise. Yet, Lincoln understood his actions required constitutional confirmation. In early 1865, Congress adopted the 13th Amendment declaring slavery was dead. In the days immediately after the war ended—as the defeated Rebels sought to re-slave the four million freedmen—Congress affirmed the equal rights of America's newest citizens by adopting the 14th and 15th Amendments. Learn about this turbulent time from Michigan State University History Professor Roger Rosentreter.

Saturday | April 27 | 11am

Curator Talk

## Freedom Confirmed: President Abraham Lincoln's Courage to Create Change

Rodney David Deal, curator

For description, see Feb. 24 event listing.

Saturday | April 27 | 1pm

## Music of the Civil War

5th Michigan Regiment Band

After 108 years, from 1865–1973, Michigan's Civil War era regimental band was just a memory. Then as a State of Michigan Bicentennial project, the original 5th Michigan Infantry Band was recreated in the form of the 5th Michigan Regiment Band. The band plays on antique and replica Civil War instruments. Their repertoire of 1860s music includes marches, polkas, schottisches, waltzes and songs arranged for the group by Lieutenant Colonel Guy Smith, Conductor.

