



The Give Something Back Foundation, Inc.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 3, 2008

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Lincoln Landing endorsed by the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

Lockport, Ill. — The Federal Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission has designated Lockport's Lincoln Landing as one of its officially endorsed historic sites. The Lincoln Landing public park being constructed in the heart of historic downtown Lockport will be dedicated Feb. 12, 2009, the bicentennial of Lincoln's birth.

Lincoln Landing is a joint project of the Will County Historical Society and Give Something Back Foundation. The centerpiece of the one-acre park, located along the old Illinois & Michigan Canal, will be a sculpture of Abraham Lincoln as a young Illinois legislator.

"This federal recognition is really significant," said Dr. Dennis Cremin, history professor at Lewis University. "Lockport's Lincoln Landing tells the story of Lincoln and the Illinois and Michigan Canal. Being recognized by the federal bicentennial commission places this site at the center of the nation's commemoration of Lincoln. It takes a local story and demonstrates its great national significance. It is really an honor for Lockport and the entire state."

The federal commission recognized only a handful of historic sites throughout the country. Within the State of Illinois, the commission endorsed only two -- Lockport's Lincoln Landing and the Lincoln Home National Historic Site in Springfield. For more information on the commission, visit <http://www.lincolnbicentennial.gov>.

Cremin added that the designation also recognizes the hard work and dedication of the Will County Historical Society and Give Something Back Foundation that have worked so hard to realize the vision of bringing to life the significant role of Abraham Lincoln and the I&M Canal to the nation.

The Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission (ALBC) commemorates the 200th birthday of Abraham Lincoln, emphasizing the contribution of his thoughts, ideals to America and the world, and serving as a catalyst for strengthening freedom, democracy and equal opportunity for all. The 15 members of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission were appointed by the President, the Senate and the House of Representatives following the passage of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act in 2000.

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This diverse and accomplished group was chosen based on their knowledge and study of President Lincoln and their dedication to educating others about Lincoln and that time in our history. In addition, two of the Commissioners are U.S. Senators and two are from the U.S. House of Representatives, who represent states where Lincoln lived, practiced law, and served in the legislature. The Commissioners are focused on informing the public about the impact Abraham Lincoln had on the development of our nation, and finding the best possible ways to honor his accomplishments. The Commission is led by Sen. Dick Durbin and Congressman Ray LaHood, both from Illinois, and noted Lincoln scholar Harold Holzer.

Give Something Back Foundation, based in Lockport, is committed to helping financially disadvantaged children, who are committed to academic excellence, complete a degree.

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