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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 13, 2020

FORD'S THEATRE
MAY DIGITAL PROGRAMMING ANNOUNCED

LIVE STREAMED CONVERSATIONS
ON FACEBOOK, YOUTUBE AND TWITTER:

Common Myths about the Lincoln Assassination: Part II
May 14 at 4:00 p.m. EDT

New Live Series
Cabinet Conversations: Creativity, History and Leadership
Paul R. Tetreault with *Manhunt* Author and Historian James L. Swanson
May 20, at 4:00 p.m. EDT

Guided Virtual Tours and Public Webinars Continue on Multiple Dates

Sneak Preview Video of *Guys and Dolls* Number "Fugue for Tinhorns"

National Oratory Fellows Virtual Retreats for Student and Teachers

Washington, D.C.— Ford's Theatre continues digital programming throughout the month of May with new digital events. **On May 14 at 4:00 p.m. EDT, Ford's Theatre will live stream a conversation on its Facebook Live, YouTube and Twitter** platforms addressing common myths surrounding the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln.

Ford's Theatre also launches a new series of live-streamed events this month titled ***Cabinet Conversations: Creativity, History and Leadership***. Events will be simulcast by Ford's Theatre on its Facebook Live, YouTube and Twitter channels on various dates this spring and summer. The first of these events is a conversation with Ford's Theatre Director Paul R. Tetreault and author and historian James L. Swanson on May 20 at 4:00 p.m. EDT. Swanson will discuss how his interest in Abraham Lincoln began and his journey to write *Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer*.

Throughout the month of May, the Ford's Theatre education team offers **Guided Virtual Tours** of the historic site and **structured public webinars and interactive events on Zoom that are appropriate for**

history fans of all ages, including students in grades 3+. These programs explore Abraham Lincoln in Civil War Washington, Lincoln's assassination, the investigation into the assassination conspiracy, the history of Ford's Theatre and the Petersen House, and much more.

Following the postponement of *Guys and Dolls* at Ford's Theatre, production band members and three of the show's actors came together to record a virtual musical number— all from their individual homes.

View their socially-distanced musical number, “Fugue for Tindhorns,” on the Ford's Theatre YouTube channel, and at https://www.fords.org/performances/current-and-upcoming/guys-and-dolls/#jump_link_3.

Guys and Dolls is rescheduled to March 12-May 22, 2021. Special thank you to **Lead Sponsor:**

ConocoPhillips and **Underwriters:** Altria Group, General Motors Company and KPMG LLP. The Ford's Theatre 2019-2020 season is sponsored by **Chevron.**

Ford's Theatre **National Oratory Fellows** program—a year-long professional development program for educators of grades 5 through 8—culminates in a virtual retreat on April 30 and May 6, 7 and 13, 2020, that includes 40 teachers and their students from across America. Throughout the school year, the program uses video conferencing to connect teachers and Ford's staff, including an online meeting space to keep conversations active and collaborative. While the students and teachers normally gather in Washington to learn and perform in May, this year, their retreat is taking place via video-conference, including sessions on movement, memorization, point of view and speech coaching. Learn more about the National Oratory Fellowship online at <https://www.fords.org/for-teachers/programs/oratory/national-oratory-fellowship>.

Ford's Theatre education programs are supported by **Lead Education Sponsor BP America.**

Ford's Theatre also has new **web resources** that delve into the impact of the Lincoln assassination on the nation; the vigil for Lincoln on Tenth Street on the night of the assassination; and the journey of Lincoln's funeral train. Each resource provides primary sources and first-hand accounts. A full list of online resources and programs continues to be updated at <https://www.fords.org/for-teachers/digital-programs>.

May 2020 Virtual Events

Live-Streamed Conversations

Myths of the Lincoln Assassination

May 14 at 4:00 p.m. EDT

Join us online for a live-streamed conversation that will address common myths surrounding the Lincoln assassination. Event can be viewed on the Ford's Theatre YouTube page, on Facebook Live at <https://www.facebook.com/fordstheatre>, or on Twitter by following @FordsTheatre.

Cabinet Conversations: Creativity, History and Leadership

First Event: Paul R. Tetreault with James L. Swanson

May 20 at 4:00 p.m. EDT

Historian and author James L. Swanson joins Ford's Theatre Director Paul R. Tetreault for a conversation about Abraham Lincoln and the assassination. Swanson will discuss when his interest in Lincoln began and his journey to write *Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer*. This event can be viewed on the

Ford's Theatre YouTube page, on Facebook Live at <https://www.facebook.com/fordstheatre>, or on Twitter by following @FordsTheatre.

Scheduled Digital Programs

Inside the Petersen House

May 14, 21 and 28 at 1:00 p.m. EDT

The Petersen House is known as the place where President Lincoln died. But have you ever wondered about the people who lived there? Ford's Education introduces you to the people who lived in the Petersen Boarding House and their neighbors. Learn how the house became a national historic site and museum. Explore primary sources and first-person perspectives as we go inside the Petersen House. This session is 30 minutes plus time for Q&A. Appropriate for grades 3 and up. Registration is free at <https://www.fords.org/for-teachers/programs/distance-learning>.

Reacting to the Lincoln Assassination

May 12 and 26 at 1:00 p.m. EDT

How did people around the United States feel following the death of President Abraham Lincoln? Ford's Education examines primary sources to reveal how individuals reacted to the time of uncertainty following the president's death. This session is appropriate for all history fans, including students in grades 5 and up. Registration is free at <http://www.fords.org/for-teachers/programs/distance-learning>.

Exploring Lincoln in Washington, D.C.

May 15 at 1:00 p.m. EDT

Ford's Theatre Education and The National Mall and Memorial Parks explore President Abraham Lincoln's Washington, D.C., through places that mattered to Lincoln during his lifetime and places where he matters to us today. This session is 40 minutes. Appropriate for all history fans, including students in grades 3 and up. Registration is free at <http://www.fords.org/for-teachers/programs/distance-learning>.

Guided Virtual Tours

May 19 at 1:00 p.m. EDT

Ford's Education staff takes you on a virtual tour of Ford's Theatre. Learn about President Lincoln's life in Washington, D.C., review the events of his assassination at Ford's Theatre and consider President Lincoln's legacy. This session is 30 minutes, plus time for Q&A. Appropriate for all history fans, including students in grades 3 and up. Registration is free at <https://www.fords.org/for-teachers/programs/distance-learning>.

Investigation with Detective McDevitt

Available by Request

60 minutes (\$90)

On the night of April 14, 1865, Detective James McDevitt was on duty at the Washington Metropolitan Police headquarters, a half-block from Ford's Theatre. Just before 10:30 p.m., frantic witnesses rushed in with horrifying news: President Lincoln had been shot at the theatre. Join Detective McDevitt as he revisits the sites and reexamines the clues from the investigation into the Lincoln Assassination Conspiracy. For students grades 5 and up. Request a session online at <http://www.fords.org/for-teachers/programs/distance-learning>.

Ford's Theatre Q&A/ Custom Connection

Available by Request

30 minutes (Free)

You take the lead and ask our Ford's education staff your questions about President Lincoln, the assassination, Ford's Theatre and Civil War Washington History. Appropriate for grades 2+. Learn more and book a free session by visiting <http://www.fords.org/for-teachers/programs/distance-learning>.

Digital Tours and Online Resources

The following Ford's Theatre online resources are available at any time for learners of all ages. Additional resources will continue to be updated at <https://www.fords.org/for-teachers/digital-programs>.

Lincoln's Assassination

Online resource: <https://www.fords.org/lincolns-assassination>

A popular 26-year-old actor, Confederate sympathizer and white supremacist named John Wilkes Booth had plotted for months to abduct President Abraham Lincoln and give the Confederacy another chance. Three days before the assassination, hearing the president talk of his plans to bring the nation together—in particular, Lincoln's plans to grant some African American men the right to vote—Booth's plans turned murderous.

Lincoln's Death

Online resource: <https://www.fords.org/lincolns-assassination/lincolns-death>

After John Wilkes Booth shot President Abraham Lincoln at Ford's Theatre, soldiers carried Lincoln across Tenth Street, so that he could pass his last moments peacefully, surrounded by those who knew him best. He died in the Petersen family's boarding house at 7:22 a.m. on April 15, 1865.

Investigating the Assassination

Online resource: <https://www.fords.org/lincolns-assassination/investigating-the-assassination>

Why did John Wilkes Booth assassinate President Abraham Lincoln? How did investigators learn what happened and why? Join Detective McDevitt as he conducts his investigation.

Impact on a Nation (NEW)

View online: <https://www.fords.org/lincolns-assassination/impact-on-a-nation>

News of Abraham Lincoln's assassination spread quickly across the United States and beyond in 1865. Many grieved, but others celebrated the death of a man they considered a tyrant. Reactions to Lincoln's assassination varied and did so in ways that might surprise us. Use this page to investigate how people around the United States and world reacted. What do their feelings about Lincoln's assassination tell us about how they saw the larger questions facing the United States as its Civil War drew to a close?

The Vigil on Tenth Street (NEW)

View online: <http://www.fords.org/lincolns-assassination/lincolns-death/night-on-10th-street>

After soldiers carried President Abraham Lincoln into the Petersens' boarding house, a crowd gathered outside on 10th Street to await word. What would happen to their beloved leader? What would happen to the country? Explore the only first-person representation of the scene, and see what eyewitnesses had to say.

Lincoln's Funeral Train (NEW)

View online: <https://www.fords.org/lincolns-assassination/impact-on-a-nation/lincoln-s-funeral>

An estimated seven million people turned out in 11 cities to mourn the slain Lincoln as his funeral train carried his body back to Springfield, IL. See where his funeral train traveled.

Remembering Lincoln: A Digital Collection of Responses to the Lincoln Assassination

In 1865, as people around the nation and around the world learned of the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln, they recorded their reactions in many forms—from written materials like diaries and letters to decorative items like ribbons and flags. Discover personal items and remembrances from the Americans whose lives were touched by the president's death and its national and international aftermath. Website includes more than 850 primary sources drawn from more than 40 libraries, archives, museums and private collections. The website also includes educational resources to make the collection useful to teachers and students. The collection is viewable online at <https://rememberinglincoln.fords.org>. Primary source transcription opportunities are available. Learn more about transcription on the Ford's Theatre Blog: <https://www.fords.org/blog/post/digital-history-activity-historical-document-transcription-and-research-for-remembering-lincoln>.

Explore the History of Ford's Theatre on Google Arts and Culture:

<https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/fords-theatre>

View a Fly-Through of Historic Ford's Theatre:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qr2LMvHrZ64>

Ford's Theatre Society

One of the most visited sites in the nation's capital, Ford's Theatre reopened its doors in 1968, more than a hundred years after the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. Operated through a partnership between Ford's Theatre Society and the National Park Service, Ford's Theatre is the premier destination in the nation's capital to explore and celebrate Abraham Lincoln's life and legacy.

Ford's Theatre Society was founded under the guidance of executive producer Frankie Hewitt, who, during her 35-year tenure, established Ford's as a living, working theatre producing performances that highlighted the diversity of the American experience. Since the arrival of Paul R. Tetreault as Director, critics and the theatregoing public have recognized Ford's for the superior quality of its artistic programming. With works from the Tony-nominated *Come From Away* and the nationally acclaimed *Big River*, to the world premieres of *Meet John Doe*, *The Heavens Are Hung In Black*, *Liberty Smith*, *Necessary Sacrifices*, *The Widow Lincoln* and *The Guard*, Ford's Theatre is making its mark on the American theatre landscape. In the past decade, the mission of Ford's Theatre Society expanded to include education as a central pillar. This expansion led to the creation and construction of the Center for Education and Leadership, which opened in February 2012. Under the current leadership of Board of Trustees Chairman Phebe Novakovic and through the lens of Lincoln's leadership and legacy, Ford's today endeavors to advance Lincoln's "unfinished work" with programs and performances that cultivate empathy, encourage dialogue and bridge divides in our American life. Since 2018, the Society has had a Platinum rating in GuideStar and a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator.

For more information on Ford's Theatre and the Ford's Theatre Society, please visit www.fords.org.

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