

ABRAHAM LINCOLN: HOOSIER HERO



“As you relive Lincoln’s legacy, it’s a real highlight because of your expertise! Abe couldn’t be portrayed better.”

—Eric Holcomb, Governor of Indiana

Awesome...Danny Russel’s talent brings to life Lincoln’s wonderful humor and then moves into expressing his heart about slavery in this delightful program.”

— Sue Ellspermann, former Lieutenant Governor of Indiana

Travel from a log cabin to the White House in this compelling performance. How did Lincoln overcome hardscrabble poverty, numerous business failures, and one undistinguished term in Congress to become our greatest president? How did he defeat slavery and preserve our Union? How did he win court cases, political arguments, and the hearts and minds of a nation?

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Hilarity, heartbreak, humanity and brilliant speeches abound as our 16th president recalls his boyhood years, prairie lawyer days, family life, political aspirations, Civil War tragedy and triumph, and ending slavery.

Danny Russel will bring this theatrical tour-de-force to your venue with his uncanny likeness to Honest Abe. He initially spent months researching and compiling the show during visits to Lincoln's birthplace in Hodgenville, Kentucky; his boyhood home in Spencer County, Indiana; Springfield, Illinois; Gettysburg, Pennsylvania; and Washington, D.C. Mr. Russel's years of performing have given him a wealth of material to draw from, and if desired, he will field questions after the program.

In his customary black suit and ever-present stovepipe hat, Lincoln takes us through a fascinating panoply of uproarious comedy, gentle reminiscence, political intrigue, and always insightful commentary on the human condition. It is all seen through the eyes of an individual for whom "all men are created equal" was a clarion call — bringing him national recognition in debates with Stephen Douglas as he decried

the "peculiar institution" as a moral and social evil, leading to his nomination for the presidency, inspiring the Emancipation Proclamation, justifying the "people's conflict" known as the Civil War, and resulting in the 13th Amendment which abolished slavery permanently.

As a boy in southern Indiana, Lincoln worked side by side with his father, mourned the deaths of family members, read the books that opened his mind, and developed a determination of spirit coupled with deep compassion for all people. This portrayal embodies a remarkable American whose legacy is more relevant than ever.



In addition to his illustrious acting career and numerous tours, Mr. Russel is a five-time grant recipient honored by the Indiana Arts Commission for theatrical excellence. "Abraham Lincoln: Hoosier Hero" is an intimate portrait of one of America's most beloved and revered figures.