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Lincoln, Civil War national traveling exhibit on display in Booth Library

JARAD JARMON
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CHARLESTON—A national traveling exhibit titled "Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War" will be on display at the Eastern Illinois University Booth Library starting Friday through Oct. 16.

According to a press release, the exhibit offers a different perspective on aspects of Abraham Lincoln's presidency.

The exhibition delves into how Lincoln used the Constitution to confront three intertwined crises including the secession of Southern states, slavery, and wartime civil liberties.

In addition to the national exhibit, related exhibits will be on display on a variety of subjects including Lincoln's connection to Coles County.

During the six-week period of the exhibit, the library will host several programs in line with Lincoln and the Civil War.

"Abraham Lincoln has always been a figure of much study and fascination, especially here in east-central Illinois," said Allen Lanham, dean of Library Services.

"This series will take a look at an especially stressful time of his life, as he struggled to make decisions that would preserve the Union during the Civil War."

The traveling exhibit was organized by the National Constitution Center and the American Library Association Public Programs Office.

The exhibit is open and free to the public.

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Events in relation to the exhibit strewn across Booth Library include the following:

- An opening program, "Liberty, Security, History: Lessons from Lincoln in the Civil War," at 7 p.m. Sept. 10 in the West Reading Room
- "Mary Lincoln in History and Memory" lecture at 4:30 p.m. Sept. 14 in the Witters Conference Room 4440
- "Dred Scott and the Road to the 14th Amendment" lecture at 4 p.m. Sept. 17 in Room 4440
- "Congressman Abraham Lincoln and Senator Barack Obama: The Evolution in War Powers from Congress to the White House" lecture at 3:30 p.m. Sept. 23 in Room 4440.

- "Constitutional Issues of Access to Education: Land-Grant Universities and Teacher Colleges after Lincoln" lecture at 4 p.m. Sept. 29 in Room 4440.
- "The Anti-Slavery Movement in Black and White" lecture and "Meet Harriet Tubman" lecture at 7 p.m. Oct. 1 in the West Reading Room.
- "Abraham Lincoln, Race, and Slavery" panel discussion at 4:30 p.m. Oct. 6 in the Coleman Hall Auditorium.
- "A Visit With the Lincolns," an event where people can talk to people acting as Abraham Lincoln and his wife, Mary Todd Lincoln, from 3 to 4 p.m. Oct. 9.