



Kevin J. Wood

Portrayals of President Abraham Lincoln

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Lincoln the Lawyer

Program for Libraries, Senior Residences, Community Groups, Etc.

President Abraham Lincoln shares his experiences and thoughts on the law, including his own long and varied career as a lawyer. He discusses his preparation, mostly through self-study, and his own philosophy/approach to the law. He talks about the interesting life of a circuit-riding lawyer on central Illinois' Eighth Judicial Circuit. He discusses some of his most important cases, such as the Rock Island Railroad Bridge Case, the "Almanac Trial", and the "Chicken Bone Trial". He shares his advice to actual and prospective lawyers, such as to seek to discourage litigation, to never charge exorbitant fees, or his admonishment that "if you cannot be an honest lawyer, resolve to be honest without being a lawyer". Finally, he also talks about how his legal training influenced him as President, including his view of the Constitution and his nominees to the Supreme Court, all approved with no fuss!

This program is most appropriate for adults and for older youth/teenagers (recommended for 12 years old on up); younger children are still welcome, but may not find the material particularly interesting. It runs 60 minutes and is followed by an additional time of Q&A, photos, and informal interaction. It is also available virtually, whether live via video conferencing (Zoom) or live-streaming (Facebook Live or YouTube Live) or as a pre-recorded video. And it is also available in Spanish (*Lincoln el abogado*).

Mr. Lincoln is portrayed by Kevin Wood, a professional Lincoln presenter who bears a remarkable resemblance to "the Great Emancipator" and who is extremely knowledgeable about his life and times. Mr. Wood has been portraying Mr. Lincoln since the year 2000, and on a professional basis since 2015. He has made 1,200 appearances in 26 states plus Washington DC and two foreign countries: Canada and Spain. Mr. Wood also writes a blog – "*Loath to Close... Still!*" – which encourages others to reflect upon and learn from President Lincoln's life and legacy. For more information, visit www.mrlincoln.com.