

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 22, 2010 CONTACT: Joyce Kamen — 513.543.8109

"A Historic Evening at the Marcus Center" to Feature One-Night-Only Exhibit of Civil War Artifacts & Renowned Lincoln Scholar Harold Holzer

Event to include live interactive video presentation by author Harold Holzer entitled, "Lincoln, The Civil War and American Jewry"

CINCINNATI, OH:--- The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives (AJA) will present "A Historic Evening at the Marcus Center" on Thursday, March 18, 2010 at the AJA, 3101

Clifton Avenue, on the Cincinnati campus of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. This one-of-a-kind event will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a one-night-only display of Civil War artifacts from the vast collections of the American Jewish Archives. Items that will be exhibited include the diary kept by Edward Rosewater, the Jewish Civil War veteran who, as a telegraph operator, transmitted the text of the Emancipation Proclamation; the Congressional medal of Honor received by Union soldier David Urbansky; and Confederate currency bearing the likeness of Confederate statesman Judah Benjamin.

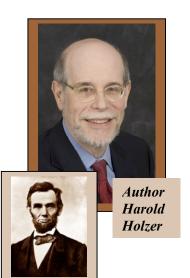
Attendees will also enjoy an elegant wine and hors-d'oeuvres reception.

At 6:30 p.m., guests will then gather in the AJA's Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati

International Learning Center for a live interactive video presentation entitled, "Lincoln,

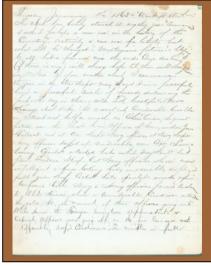
The Civil War and American Jewry" by world-renowned Lincoln scholar and author,

Harold Holzer.



The one-night-only exhibit will include this page from the diary of Edward Rosewater who transmitted the text of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation:

"Went to office at 10:30 pm. Star [illeg] has Proclamation of President substance setting free by his authority as President of the United States and Commander-in-Chief of A(rmy) and N(avy) all slaves in States..."



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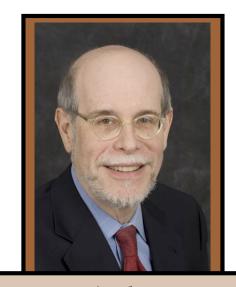
Following Mr. Holzer's presentation, a question-and-answer discussion session with Mr. Holzer will be led by Dr. Gary P. Zola, Executive Director of the AJA and Professor of The American Jewish Experience at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. "As throngs of Jews immigrated to the United States in the 1840s, 1850s and 1860s, Lincoln developed ongoing relationships with this burgeoning minority community through the political world and through his experiences in Illinois, Kentucky and Indiana," said Zola, who has also lectured widely on Lincoln and the Jews throughout the Bicentennial commemoration of Lincoln's birth (2009-2010). "Harold Holzer, whose scholarly writings include fascinating chronicles of the 16th President's special relationship with American Jews, will bring the event audience uniquely fascinating insights into the nuances of Lincoln's connection with the Jewish community. In many respects, Lincoln was the first American President who had personal and professional associations with members of America's Jewish community as he endeavored to understand their struggles and right injustices. These injustices included an inability for Jews to be commissioned as army chaplains during the Civil War and being expelled from Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi by then general U.S. Grant. Perhaps that is why so many Jews with whom he had these interactions felt spiritually connected to Lincoln."

<u>The event is free and open to the public.</u> Because space is limited, RSVPs are requested and will be taken on a first-come/first-served basis. For reservations, please contact Stacey Roper at the American Jewish Archives: 513-487-3000 or by e-mail at: sroper@huc.edu.

MEDIA: For more information, please contact Joyce Kamen at 513.543.8109.

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The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives, founded in 1947 by its namesake on the Cincinnati, Ohio, campus of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, is committed to preserving a documentary heritage of the religious, organizational, economic, cultural, personal, social and family life of American Jewry. The Marcus Center contains over 15,000 linear feet of archives, manuscripts, nearprint materials, photographs, audio and videotapes, microfilm, and genealogical materials.



Author Harold Holzer

Harold Holzer, Senior Vice President for External Affairs at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, serves also as co-chairman of the U. S. Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, appointed by President Clinton. He is the author, co-author, or editor of 35 books on Lincoln and the Civil War era. Among them are Lincoln President-Elect: Abraham Lincoln and the Great Secession Winter 1860-1861, The Lincoln Anthology, The Lincoln Image, The Confederate Image, The Lincoln-Douglas Debates, Lincoln as I Knew Him, Dear Mr. Lincoln: Letters to the President, Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory: The Civil War in Art, The Lincoln Family Album, Lincoln on Democracy (co-edited with Mario Cuomo), which has been published in four languages, and Lincoln at Cooper Union: The Speech that Made Abraham Lincoln President, which won a 2005 Lincoln Prize.