



ECHOES



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Welcome to the "February 2009 Lincoln Tribute" issue of ECHOES for fans and audience of the Monmouth Civic Chorus. Look for an issue of ECHOES in your e-mail before each of our upcoming concerts.

MCC Celebrates Abraham Lincoln's 200th Birthday

Lincoln's life, legacy and love of music will be celebrated by the Monmouth Civic Chorus in honor of Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday. Led by Artistic Director Dr. Mark Shapiro, the Chorus will perform selections from operas Lincoln loved, spirituals and ballads of the time, a choral setting of Walt Whitman poems, and the stirring *Battle Hymn of the Republic*. Performance artist Lorraine Stone will portray Sojourner Truth, the slave-born abolitionist that Lincoln met and admired. The program is endorsed by the national Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission and the Borough of Red Bank.

The performance is on Sunday, February 8, 2009, at 3:00 p.m. at the newly renovated Count Basie Theatre, 99 Monmouth Street, Red Bank. All tickets are free of charge for this unique event; tickets are going fast and should be reserved through the Count Basie box office. For more information, call (732) 933-9333 or visit www.monmouthcivicchorus.org. Donations to support production costs are welcome.

The Monmouth Civic Chorus received the 2008 ASCAP/Chorus America Alice Parker Award, which recognizes a chorus for programming significant recently composed music that expands the mission of the chorus and challenges the chorus' audience in a new way. Critics have acclaimed the Chorus as "close to perfect" (*Asbury Park Press*), "sonorously impressive" (*The Star-Ledger*) and "exceptional" (*Red Bank Green*).

Performance Artist Lorraine Stone

Lorraine Stone, the performance artist portraying Sojourner Truth during the Lincoln concert, is a native of Asbury Park, NJ, currently residing in Eatontown. Lorraine got her start on stage as a child at the Bethel A.M.E. Church in Asbury Park, reciting poetry for church functions. There she discovered the works of Paul Laurence Dunbar, as recited by a church member, who knew all of Dunbar's poems written in dialect. By 16 she was on her way to becoming a "Performance Poet," performing at many local churches.

Those early days laid the groundwork for the creation of her one-woman show, "Words, Rhythms and Love," first presented in Asbury Park in 1998. She has been featured in many productions of the Dunbar Repertory Company, including Bessie Delany in "Having Our Say; the Delany Sisters First 100 Years" and Lena Younger, in "Raisin in the Sun." Recently she appeared as the Lady in Orange in the Essex County College production of "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf."

As "The Wisdomkeeper," the name of her performance company, her greatest roles are her portrayals of historic and heroic African American women, such as Sojourner Truth and Harriet Tubman. She brings these and others to life in schools, libraries, churches and historical societies. As a Performance Poet, Lorraine presents the works of such African American poets as James Weldon Johnson, Paul Laurence Dunbar and Langston Hughes.

Lorraine is a member of M'Zume Carnaval, a percussion ensemble presenting carnival rhythms from Brazil, Africa and Cuba and performed with Grupo Iwa Dada, African Dance Company for many years.

Classical Guitarist Featured in February's Lincoln Tribute

Christopher Kenniff, classical guitarist, is a critically acclaimed soloist and chamber musician who is frequently heard as a member of the acclaimed ensemble *Duo Fresco: New Directions for Viola & Guitar* (www.duofresco.net) and with acclaimed soprano Katherine Harris in *Duo Cantiga* (www.duocantiga.com). The *Newark Star-Ledger* has described him as having "a lush, liquid tone, remarkably clean fingering and a nicely varied touch," while *Classical New Jersey* writes, "Kenniff's presentation and playing stood out among the concerts of the Access to Art Series. His quiet, poignant play with dynamics was mesmerizing... his playing was idiomatic, beautifully voiced, and technically flawless...he left the listeners with the impression that he himself was thrilled to give the performance." Mr. Kenniff has won First Prizes in several competitions, most notably *Concour de Guitarre*, Domaine Forget, Quebec, Canada; and *Music Teachers' National Association Wurlitzer Collegiate Artists' Competition*.

Mr. Kenniff has premiered works by Emma Lou Diemer, Frank Ezra Levy, Matthew Halper, Raymond Wojcik, Paul Mack Somers, John Sichel, Sergio Parrotti and others. He will premiere a new work for guitar, viola and choir composed for him by Samuel Adler and a new concerto by Max Simoncic this season. Mr. Kenniff has performed at the Juneau Jazz and Classics Festival (Juneau, AK), the Chautauqua Festival (Chautauqua, NY), the Bowdoin Festival (New Brunswick, ME), the Crossroads of Tradition Festival (Bloomington, IN) and the Access to Art Chamber Music Festival (Cape May, NJ).

Mr. Kenniff is a member of Kean University's Concert Artist Faculty and is the founder and director of the American String Teacher's Association of New Jersey's annual Chamber Music Institute (ASTA/NJ CMI) at Kean University. He has been recognized for contributions as a music educator by the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts and was named 2008 Studio Teacher of the year by the American String Teacher's Association of New Jersey. His students are frequent award winners and many have continued their studies at the nation's top collegiate and conservatory programs. Mr. Kenniff has presented workshops and master classes for ASTA/NJ, MENC, NJ State Council on the Arts, Music for All Seasons, the St. Louis Guitar Society and various collegiate/university music programs. He has recorded two compact discs: *Transfiguration* (works by Halper, DeFalla, Purcell, Kioulaphides and Adler) and *Christopher Kenniff plays works by Turina, Ponce, Roussell, Tedesco, Dowland, Scarlatti and Mertz*.

Victoria Clark to Lead a Workshop – Come Hear How a Star is Born

If you've ever wondered how a performer becomes a star, we invite you to come watch a Tony winner work with aspiring singers to make the magic happen. Victoria Clark will lead a workshop-style Master Class in vocal performance on Saturday, January 24, 2009 at 2:00 pm. at All Saints Memorial Church, 202 Navesink Avenue, Atlantic Highlands, NJ. Sponsored by the Monmouth Civic Chorus as a fundraiser, the Master Class Workshop will help singers develop vocal technique and interpretation, while entertaining and enlightening theater buffs and music lovers.

The public is invited to participate in the Master Class as observers who will learn from and enjoy the working session between the coach and individual performers, who include MCC singers, MCC past Vocal Scholarship winners, and musical theater performers. The Master Class Workshop will be followed by a reception with a chance to mingle with Ms. Clark, Maestro Mark Shapiro, and the performers.

Tickets are only \$35 to observe this unique experience with a Tony-Award winning actress and support MCC's 60th Anniversary season. Observers will hear outstanding musical performances and learn tips and techniques to improve their own singing, as well as have the opportunity to ask questions during this interactive workshop. For tickets, call 732-933-9333 or visit monmouthcivicchorus.org.

Victoria Clark received Tony, Drama Desk, and Outer Critics Circle Awards, as well as a Drama League honor, for her role in the critically-acclaimed musical *The Light in the Piazza* with Kelli O'Hara at Lincoln Center's Vivian Beaumont Theater in 2005. Her virtuoso performance in the Tony Award-winning musical has made her a favorite among audiences and critics, including *The New York Times'* Ben Brantley, who called Clark's work in *Piazza* "the best musical performance by an actress this season."

Ms. Clark made her Broadway debut in 1985 in *Sunday in the Park With George*, and has been a Broadway regular ever since, appearing in *Titanic*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Urinetown*, *Cabaret*, *Bye, Bye Birdie* and more. Her voice can be heard in many animated feature films, including *Aladdin*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Anastasia* and *Beauty and the Beast*. She is the

recipient of Lincoln Center's Joan Cullman Award for Extraordinary Creativity, the Norman Vincent Peale Award for Positive Thinking, and the Distinguished Artist Award from New York Singing Teachers' Assoc.

Ms. Clark has enjoyed an illustrious career as a director and teacher. She served on the faculty of Yale University's undergraduate music program and shares her considerable experience and knowledge as a master teacher and guest lecturer at Manhattan School of Music, The Juilliard School, Wright State University, Oklahoma University, Interlochen Arts Academy, SUNY Fredonia, Pace University, Orange County Performing Arts Center, and Det Danske Musicalakademi (The Danish Academy of Musical Theatre).

Save the Dates - Two MCC Events in May

Plan on joining us for our final concert of the season and our major fundraiser of the season:

- Sunday, May 3, 4:00 pm: Three Choral Diamonds – Mendelssohn, Szymanowski, Connesson
- Saturday, May 30, 7:30 pm: First-Ever “MCC Idol” Benefit – You vote for your favorite MCC performers

What's on Your Mind?

We'd love to know what you think about our concerts and our newsletter. Visit our web site, be our friend on Facebook, or e-mail marketing@monmouthcivicchorus.org to send us your comments.

Lincoln Fun Stuff: Make a Word

How many words can you make from the letters our 16th President's Name?

Abraham Lincoln.

Our puzzle creator found over 50 words. See how many you can find.

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Lincoln Word Find: Circle the Words Below in the Grid

L	N	U	F	E	R	O	C	S	S	E	R	D	D	A	L	A	R	U	G	U	A	N	I	E
E	H	O	D	G	E	N	V	I	L	L	E	G	B	J	C	F	A	R	M	E	R	S	C	Q
G	Z	S	I	X	T	E	E	N	T	H	P	R	E	S	I	D	E	N	T	P	O	N	B	U
I	D	D	O	T	Y	R	A	M	E	L	A	A	P	T	V	M	H	M	A	B	E	E	O	A
S	S	X	A	B	A	B	E	A	R	H	L	N	O	D	I	N	C	C	M	D	R	B	U	L
L	Q	E	M	C	X	M	N	H	A	A	N	T	O	Z	L	O	E	X	N	O	P	E	R	I
A	C	T	G	L	O	A	A	M	D	O	F	O	J	N	W	O	E	E	M	A	X	E	A	T
T	O	M	B	R	I	J	L	L	I	X	W	G	I	X	A	M	P	H	P	N	C	Z	M	Y
O	E	X	I	D	A	I	P	T	C	L	P	B	N	N	R	E	S	H	T	O	O	B	E	S
R	L	A	N	C	N	B	U	E	E	O	A	O	E	I	D	U	B	A	N	E	T	M	R	S
C	L	I	N	C	O	T	L	S	N	C	R	D	E	N	R	C	M	S	R	D	T	K	I	E
R	E	L	O	M	I	T	U	U	G	N	R	P	I	T	N	P	T	X	Y	A	O	C	C	R
D	N	L	O	T	T	O	P	O	I	A	Y	F	N	O	R	R	S	K	U	O	N	D	A	D
E	N	I	S	A	H	H	L	H	H	E	O	U	D	O	U	Y	C	G	T	R	M	N	N	D
T	H	N	B	S	A	J	M	E	W	N	O	N	M	C	I	U	E	E	N	L	A	O	C	A
A	O	O	U	N	P	K	O	T	O	M	R	K	T	O	T	T	B	R	B	I	R	T	O	G
C	M	I	K	R	E	G	N	I	R	E	D	I	U	N	E	R	A	K	U	A	K	G	U	R
U	E	S	I	X	T	Y	T	H	H	S	O	D	E	S	T	A	M	P	Q	R	S	N	S	U
D	S	R	E	Y	W	A	L	W	C	N	L	K	A	R	M	N	N	O	I	N	U	I	I	B
E	T	L	S	W	R	E	S	T	L	E	R	E	P	O	T	O	L	F	M	C	C	H	N	S
F	E	I	S	A	N	G	A	M	O	N	R	I	V	E	R	A	D	O	L	L	N	S	C	Y
L	A	N	L	E	L	D	L	E	I	F	G	N	I	R	P	S	E	E	C	E	B	A	B	T
E	D	C	O	O	P	E	R	R	E	D	A	E	R	D	I	V	A	H	E	N	S	W	M	T
S	E	O	P	O	T	N	E	M	D	N	E	M	A	H	T	N	E	E	T	R	I	H	T	E
D	A	S	S	A	S	S	I	N	A	T	I	O	N	L	O	C	N	I	L	I	F	L	X	G

Abolition of slavery	Constitution	Freedom	Indiana	Penny	Springfield
Abraham Lincoln	Cooper (Union Speech)	Gettysburg Address	Kentucky	Railroad	(State) Legislator
(Homestead) Act	Cotton	(Ulysses S.) Grant	Lawyer	Reconstruction	Thirteenth Amendment
Assassination	Declaration of Independence	(Nancy) Hanks	Log Cabin	Sangamon River	Tomb
Avid Reader	Deringer	Hardin (County)	Martyr	(Four) Score	Union
Axe	Elwood (Illinois)	(William) Herndon	Mary Todd (Lincoln)	Self Educated	US House (of Representatives)
Barges	Emancipation Proclamation	Hodgenville	Memorial	Sinking Spring Farm	Washington, DC
Battle	Equality	Homestead	Moon	Sixteenth President	Whig
(John Wilkes) Booth	Farmers	Illinois	Mount Rushmore	(Peoria) Speech	White House
Civil War	(Fords) Theatre	Inaugural Address	Our American Cousin	Stamp	Wrestler

Bonus: Lincoln is listed an extra two times in the puzzle – can you find them?
 Abe is listed five times – can you find them? MCC is listed three times – can you find them?
 How old is MCC? The answer is in the puzzle. Can you find it?

Lincoln Quotations: Test Your Knowledge of Selected Lincoln Quotes

A house divided against itself cannot _____	A) Stand B) Fall C) Multiply
Those who deny _____ to others, deserve it not for themselves	A) Gifts B) Freedom C) Liberties
As I would not be a slave so I would not be a master. This expresses my idea of _____.	A) Right B) Democracy C) Decency
Let us have faith that _____ makes might	A) Fight B) Money C) Right
I leave you, hoping that the lamp of liberty will burn in your bosoms until there shall no longer be a doubt that all men are created _____	A) Free B) Equal C) Free and Equal
I am rather inclined to _____, and whether that be wise or not, it is at least more unusual nowadays to find a man who can hold his tongue than to find one who cannot	A) Rest B) Silence C) Sentiment
Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the _____ that all men are created equal.	A) Thought B) Reason C) Proposition
Leave nothing for _____ which can be done today	A) Later B) Tomorrow C) Tonight
...The mystic chords of _____, stretching from every battlefield and patriot grave to every living heart and hearthstone all over this broad land, will yet swell the chorus of the Union...	A) Memory B) Music C) Battle
And this, too, shall _____ away	A) Pass B) Run C) Fly
Neither party expected for the war, the _____, or the duration, which it has already attained.	A) Length B) Magnitude C) Effect
Every effect must have its _____	A) Reason B) Day C) Cause
All that I am, or hope to be, I owe to my _____ mother	A) Angel B) Angelic C) Beautiful
Always bear in mind that your own _____ to succeed is more important than any one thing	A) Reason B) Resolution C) Wish
Am I not destroying my enemies when I make _____ of them?	A) Ridicule B) Enemies C) Friends
America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we _____ ourselves	A) Destroyed B) Hurt C) Cursed
As our case is new, we must _____ anew	A) Think B) Act C) Think and Act
Be sure you put your feet in the right place, then stand _____	A) Tall B) Firm C) Beside me
Better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak out and remove _____.	A) All doubt B) All hope C) All quiet
Books serve to show a man that those original _____ of his aren't very new at all	A) Ideas B) Thoughts C) Words
Character is like a tree and reputation like its shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the _____.	A) Character B) Reputation C) Real thing
Die when I may, I want it said by those who knew me best that I always plucked a _____ and planted a flower where I thought a flower would grow	A) Thorn B) Thistle C) Bud
Don't interfere with anything in the _____. That must be maintained, for it is the only safeguard of our liberties	A) Law B) Constitution C) Good Book
Everybody likes a _____	A) Present B) Dog C) Compliment
I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any _____.	A) National treasure B) National crisis C) National need
You cannot escape the _____ of tomorrow by evading it today	A) Dedication B) Responsibility C) Rebuilding
I have never had a feeling politically that did not spring from the sentiments embodied in the _____.	A) Constitution B) People's Law C) Declaration of Independence
... I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within said designated States, and part of States, are, and _____ shall be free...	A) Therefore B) Henceforward C) Forever more
Let every American...swear by the blood of the _____, never to violate...the laws of the country; and never to tolerate their violation by others	A) Revolution B) War C) Dead
It is not merely for today, but for all time to come that we should perpetuate for our children's children this _____ government.	A) Great B) Great and Free C) Free

Lincoln Quotations: Multiple Choice Answers

- | | | | | | |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. A | 6. B | 11. B | 16. A | 21. C | 26. B |
| 2. B | 7. C | 12. C | 17. C | 22. B | 27. C |
| 3. B | 8. B | 13. A | 18. B | 23. B | 28. B |
| 4. C | 9. A | 14. B | 19. A | 24. C | 29. A |
| 5. C | 10. A | 15. C | 20. B | 25. B | 30. B |

We hope you've enjoyed the "February 2009" issue of The Monmouth Civic Chorus' *ECHOES!*
We welcome your comments, suggestions, and ideas for the future.

Send comments or questions to: newsletter@monmouthcivicchorus.org

Send address changes or unsubscribe requests: mailinglist@monmouthcivicchorus.org

Monmouth Civic Chorus

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