

History at Ford's Theatre

Reimagining and reinvigorating the way our patrons and the D.C.-metro community engage with history both in-person and online.

Ford's Theatre gives visitors a first-hand look at Civil War history in Washington and the impact of Lincoln's words and actions on our country today.

Historic Site

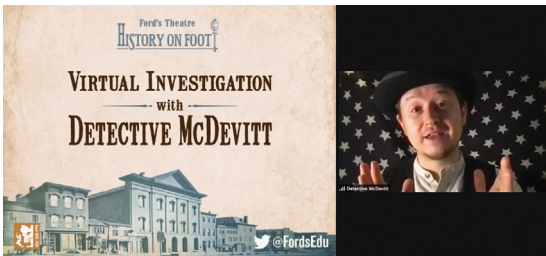
Ford's Theatre welcomed **260,624** visitors to the historic site last year.



View from the stage of the President's Box at Ford's Theatre. Photo © Maxwell MacKenzie.

Reaching People Through Social Media

Ford's Theatre Society reached more than **67,000** people digitally through our social media channels, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



Chris Stinson as Detective McDevitt.

Historical Programming

In addition to our mainstage productions, Ford's historically offers seasonal daytime programming that integrates the history of Ford's Theatre with live theatrical performance.

In our *Investigation: Detective McDevitt* program, visitors follow an actor playing the real-life Detective James McDevitt on a walking tour of downtown Washington, D.C., as he investigates the Lincoln assassination conspiracy. We also offered a virtual version of this program available for classrooms across the country.

2,053 students, teachers and lifelong learners participated in these programs in-person and online.



Michael Bunce and Stephen F. Schmidt in the Ford's Theatre one-act *One Destiny*. Photo by Gary Erskine.

One Destiny, a one-act play, tells the story of Lincoln's assassination through the eyes of two men who were present that night. We were excited to bring back audiences to live performances in spring of 2022. We also made our filmed version of this production available for viewing around the country.

7,100 students, teachers and lifelong learners participated in these programs.

Digital History Resources

Ford's Theatre maintains a robust online presence to extend learning resources to classrooms and online learners from across the country.

Education Pages

48,827 users visited the "For Teachers" pages of our website. These pages contain lesson plans for teachers, student learning activities, descriptions of Ford's Theatre programs for teachers and students and links to other resources. Teachers downloaded lessons from the site **9,719** times.

www.fords.org/for-teachers

Assassination Pages

240,661 users visited the assassination pages on the website (with **644,442** page views). This is a 41% increase in users and a 17% increase in page views compared to last year. This online exhibit encourages learners of all ages to trace the story of Lincoln's assassination on their own – from the genesis of the conspiracy to the event's impact on Lincoln's legacy.

www.fords.org/lincolns-assassination

Remembering Lincoln

This primary source learning site welcomed **29,117** users (with **72,276** page views) to explore personal responses to Lincoln's untimely death from around the United States.

rememberinglincoln.fords.org

Virtual Abraham Lincoln Institute Symposium



The Abraham Lincoln Institute and Ford's Theatre Society annually present a free symposium series focused on the life, career and legacy of President Abraham Lincoln. On April 12 and 13, 2022, we presented this symposium virtually featuring authors Christopher Bonner, Michael Burlingame, Thavolia Glymph, Jonathan W. White and others. These noted authors and historians discussed aspects of our 16th president's popular memory and legacy, his interactions with abolitionists and his evolving vision for emancipation.

Events were broadcast through Ford's Theatre digital platforms, including Facebook Live, YouTube, Twitter and the Ford's Theatre website.

Dr. Michelle A. Krowl, Civil War and Reconstruction Specialist for the Library of Congress's Manuscript Division and former Abraham Lincoln Institute President, introduced each speaker's presentation. Historian Edna Greene Medford facilitated a 30-minute viewer Q&A, following each program.



2022 Abraham Lincoln Institute Symposium Sessions

April 12, 2022 | Jonathan W. White
To Address You as My Friend: African Americans' Letters to Abraham Lincoln

April 12, 2022 | Christopher Bonner
Remaking the Republic: Black Politics and the Creation of American Citizenship

April 13, 2022 | Thavolia Glymph
The Women's Fight: The Civil War's Battles for Home, Freedom, and Nation

April 13, 2022 | Michael Burlingame
The Black Man's President: Abraham Lincoln, African Americans, and the Pursuit of Racial Equality

Generation Abe Returns



Photo by Heather Cipu.

Ford's Theatre Society's Generation Abe is a community of theatre and history lovers, ages 21-40. Joining this group gives members access to programming developed specifically for their interests and theatre ticket discounts. It's an opportunity to not only gain exclusive access to the Ford's Theatre historic site, but also to network with other young professionals. We were excited to resume gathering with this community during our 2021-2022 season. This year, we joined with members of Generation Abe in a backstage tour of the historic site and networking happy hours.

Generation Abe has **1,670** members.

Virtual History Workshops

As an option for lifelong learners who do not live locally and/or are unable to visit the theatre in person, Ford's Theatre offers live history-based virtual workshops throughout the year. These workshops explored a range of topics such as a tour of Ford's Theatre, the night of Lincoln's death inside the Petersen House, reactions to Lincoln's assassination, exploring Civil War Washington and what happened to Ford's Theatre after 1865.

2,385 lifelong learners participated in our virtual history workshops.



Ford's Theatre Virtual Field Trip.

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I truly enjoyed the 'After the Assassination' webinar yesterday. I've been to Ford's for the tour a number of times, but it's difficult to take the time to learn everything with a young child in tow... Thank you for the informative Zoom meeting yesterday. I have lived in Maryland my entire life and never knew the history and tragedy of the building after Lincoln's death.

-Virtual History Workshop Participant

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