We recognize that regardless of who we are, where we come from, what we have, or what we aspire to become, we all need people in our lives who are role models for principled leadership. Join us in honoring and empowering great leaders.
Our Lincoln Laureates teach and inspire us to lead “in the spirit of Abraham Lincoln” by contributing to the betterment of humanity. The collective knowledge, experience, and achievements of this remarkable brain trust of leaders uniquely positions The Academy to engage in the “unfinished work” of our time. Our work to honor and celebrate distinguished Illinoisans will remain preeminent as we seek to ensure principled, civic-focused leadership continues to be ignited, developed, and sustained in tomorrow’s leaders.

The Academy is now beginning the planning phase of an expanded commitment to enhance the experience and recognition of our Laureates and Student Laureates. This requires newly imagined and designed initiatives and infrastructure, including advanced technology with evolving web and social media platforms to create vibrant virtual networks and communities.

The impact of the Academy will not be judged by what we alone achieve, but by how we help inspire future generations to embrace the “unfinished work” of tomorrow with integrity, empathy, compassion and a collective purpose for the betterment of humanity.

— Abraham Lincoln
Excerpt from the Gettysburg Address
Engaging

LEGACY VOICES: LETTERS TO THE NEXT GENERATION
A series of letters written by Laureates to Student Laureates sharing their personal leadership stories and reflections on leading in the spirit of Abraham Lincoln.

LESSONS ON LEADERSHIP SERIES
An annual recording of interviews with Laureates to include questions on how they have intentionally led in the spirit of Lincoln.

STUDENT LAUREATE LEADERSHIP FELLOWS PROGRAM
A program to facilitate individual mentorships and internships.

STUDENT LAUREATE LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE
A competitive challenge grant inviting teams of Student Laureates to address a local or global challenge with a Laureate as an adviser.

LEADING IN THE SPIRIT OF LINCOLN TODAY LEADERSHIP SERIES
A forum for emerging leaders to explore the leadership attributes of Lincoln in the context of contemporary issues.

Empowering

TODAY’S LEADERS

“Commitment is what transforms a promise into a reality”

-- ABRAHAM LINCOLN

THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW

The Academy is committed to building upon our current work while enhancing our Lincoln Laureate engagement initiatives, adding sustained fiscal support to the Student Laureate Civic Engagement Awards, and building programs to connect Lincoln Laureates with Student Laureates.

We seek to enhance our current work by building a sustained source of funding for our Student Laureate Civic Engagement Awards, currently at $1,000 each. Sustained support will allow us to potentially increase the Award stipend over time while also directing other Academy resources to expanded programming and initiatives.

Some potential opportunities The Academy may consider with appropriate funding and support include:

CLASS OF 2017 STUDENT LAUREATES
To seize the remarkable opportunity to expand The Academy’s footprint and leverage our collective resources, we have established the Spirit of Lincoln Fund, an unrestricted fund to support the advancement of The Academy. This bold initiative will provide sustained support for current activities while allowing for expanded initiatives that will enhance the vibrancy and impact of The Academy across the state of Illinois.

INITIAL PRIORITIES FOR THE FUND INCLUDE:

- Sustaining Student Laureate Civic Engagement Awards
- Resourcing of Technology, Infrastructure, and Human Capital Investments
- Developing New Leadership Initiatives

Lincoln’s leadership legacy reminds us that every day we choose who we want to be and how we want to make an impact. Over time, our choices create a pattern of who we actually become - a discernible narrative, a map of intentional actions, a lived story - what some would call a legacy.

The most authentic way to honor a cherished legacy is to honor its covenants - its promises - and keep them alive. With a deep commitment to the state of Illinois, The Academy continues to ignite and inspire global leadership in the spirit of Lincoln. We invite you to become part of shaping the future of The Academy.

Your Call to ACTION

Your investment makes a difference.
TO ENSURE THE GROWTH AND SECURITY OF THE ACADEMY’S INVESTMENTS AND PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT OF THE SPIRIT OF LINCOLN FUND, THE ACADEMY HAS PARTNERED WITH THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR THE LAND OF LINCOLN (CFLL), AN INDEPENDENT, NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION LOCATED IN SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.

Through this partnership, you may support the Spirit of Lincoln Fund through gifts to CFLL. CFLL provides oversight of the investments and ongoing stewardship of the funds to ensure your intentions are honored. The Academy and CFLL are 501(c)3 organizations. Contributions are tax deductible for the investment and management of the funds entrusted to the CFLL.

We invite you to lead in the spirit of Abraham Lincoln by becoming a member of the Spirit of Lincoln Fund. Together, we will ignite the next generation of Illinois leaders to lead in the spirit of Lincoln and ensure his legacy remains vibrant and alive today.

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE SPIRIT OF LINCOLN FUND

BEYOND ENSURE THE GROWTH AND SECURITY OF THE ACADEMY’S INVESTMENTS AND PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT OF THE SPIRIT OF LINCOLN FUND, THE ACADEMY HAS PARTNERED WITH THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR THE LAND OF LINCOLN (CFLL), AN INDEPENDENT, NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION LOCATED IN SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS. THROUGH THIS PARTNERSHIP, YOU MAY SUPPORT THE SPIRIT OF LINCOLN FUND THROUGH GIFTS TO CFLL. CFLL PROVIDES OVERSIGHT OF THE INVESTMENTS AND ONGOING STEWARDSHIP OF THE FUNDS TO ENSURE YOUR INTENTIONS ARE HONORED. THE ACADEMY AND CFLL ARE 501(C)3 ORGANIZATIONS. CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

CFLL MAINTAINS THE HIGHEST PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR THE INVESTMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF THE FUNDSentrusted to the CFLL.

WE INVITE YOU TO LEAD IN THE SPIRIT OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN BY BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE SPIRIT OF LINCOLN FUND. TOGETHER, WE WILL IGNITE THE NEXT GENERATION OF ILLINOIS LEADERS TO LEAD IN THE SPIRIT OF LINCOLN AND ENSURE HIS LEGACY REMAINS VIBRANT AND ALIVE TODAY.
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