

for immediate release

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National and Statewide Civil War Exhibits Coming to North Canton

NORTH CANTON, Ohio, August 25, 2014 – The North Canton Public Library is one of 50 sites nationwide selected to host Civil War 150, a national traveling exhibition that will be on display in the Little Art Gallery beginning Wednesday, September 18 through Saturday, October 4, 2014.

The exhibit will allow patrons to experience the battle through the eyes of major political figures, soldiers, families, and freedmen. By virtue of letters, personal accounts, and images, it will become evident how people grappled with the end of slavery, the nature of democracy and citizenship, the human toll of civil war and the role of a president in wartime.

An opening reception, featuring a lecture delivered by humanities scholar and Walsh University Professor, Kelly Selby, will be hosted in the gallery September 18 beginning at 5:30 p.m. Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln will be in attendance as well. Attendees should plan to visit the concurrent opening of the “Ohio in the Civil War” exhibit on display at the North Canton Heritage Society just across the street from the library. All are welcome.

The Gilder Lehrman Institute developed the exhibition to mark the Civil War Sesquicentennial. The Civil War 150 is divided into five panels: The Nation Divides, 1861: The Union is Dissolved, This Cruel War, 1863: Turning Points, and The Price of Victory (1864–1865). Drawing from the Gilder Lehrman Collection, each section traces major events during the Civil War.

In addition to the Civil War 150 display, the gallery will feature several Civil War Era artifacts on loan from the Massillon Museum’s collection as well as the artwork of Amy Lindenberger. Amy’s work depicts with great sensitivity the personal realities of the Civil War in the lives of both soldiers and civilians, and provides a wonderful complement to the battle scenes and high drama depicted by other Civil War artists.

The North Canton Public Library is proudly partnering with the North Canton Heritage Society to offer free programs and events for the public in conjunction with Civil War 150. “We are so fortunate to have the North Canton Heritage Society located just across Ream Street from the library,” explained Christina Weyrick, community relations manager for the North Canton Public Library. “They have worked with us each step of the way on this project and have secured their own exhibit to display in conjunction with Civil War 150. These community partnerships are very important to us, and allow us to bring even greater programming and experiences the North Canton community.”

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September 6 – October 5: Ohio in the Civil War on display at the Heritage Society

Beginning September 6, the North Canton Heritage Society will host Ohio in the Civil War, a traveling exhibit exploring Ohio's participation in the war and focusing on individuals' choices that impacted local communities and the course of the war. The Heritage Society will house the exhibit through October 5. Through the lens of three themes - Democracy, Transformation, and Memory - the exhibit explores topics such as civil rights, political dissent, pacifism, religion, and popular culture and reveals patterns in our country's response to such topics throughout history and to the present day. The exhibit was developed by the Ohio Historical Society in partnership with the Ohio Humanities Council and American Electric Power.

Additionally, the Heritage Society recently acquired a diary written by former North Canton (then New Berlin) resident, Henry Holl. Holl was an amateur historian and a soldier in Co. E of the 162nd Regiment of the Ohio Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War. Along with his diary, the Heritage Society will display Holl's gun and other personal objects he owned during the war. Additionally, the Heritage Society's will display several Civil War era artifacts and photos, including an image of Civil War veterans marching up Main Street.

For this exhibit, the North Canton Heritage Society has published excerpts from the early reminiscences of Civil War veteran and New Berlin historian Henry C. Holl. Written in 1911, the narrative tells of life in New Berlin during the turbulent times of the war and his experiences as an enlistee. In addition, the Heritage Society is publishing a map and guide to the burials of the more than 20 Civil War veterans in the North Canton (originally Zion) Cemetery on Pittsburg Road. Both items are available for purchase in the Heritage Society gift shop.

September 18: Civil War 150 opening reception featuring Kelly Selby and Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln re-enactors at the library at 5:30 p.m.

September 20: View the 29th Ohio Volunteer Infantry encampment outside the Heritage Society from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

September 20: View Civil War documentaries throughout the day in the library's Little Art Gallery from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

September 27: The library welcomes guitar enthusiast Steve Ball for a presentation featuring six Martin guitars as well as actual sheet music from the Civil War time period.

October 14: The North Canton Public Library invites the community to reflect and participate in October's Readable History Book Discussion, for a group discussion of *The Amistad Rebellion: An Atlantic Odyssey*.

About Civil War 150

Civil War 150 is a national traveling panel exhibition organized by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History in partnership with The Library of America. The project, *Civil War 150: Exploring the War and Its Meaning through the Words of Those Who Lived It*, has been made possible in part through a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities: Exploring the human endeavor.

About the National Endowment for the Humanities

Created in 1965 as an independent federal agency, the National Endowment for the Humanities supports learning in history, literature, philosophy and other areas of the humanities. The National Endowment for the Humanities grants enrich classroom learning, create and preserve knowledge, and bring ideas to life through public television, radio, new technologies, museum exhibitions and programs in libraries and other community places. Additional information about the National Endowment for the Humanities and its grant programs is available on the Internet at neh.gov.

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About the Library of America

A nonprofit publisher and cultural institution, The Library of America was founded in 1979 with seed funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Ford Foundation to help preserve and foster appreciation for the nation's literary heritage by publishing and keeping permanently in print authoritative editions of America's best and most significant writing. Since then more than 200 hardcover volumes have been published, and the series, which celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2007, is widely recognized as the unofficial national edition of American writing. More information about The Library of America may be found at loa.org.

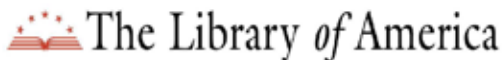
About the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History

Founded in 1994 by Richard Gilder and Lewis E. Lehrman, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History is a nonprofit organization devoted to the improvement of history education. The Institute has developed an array of programs for schools, teachers, and students that now operate in all fifty states, including a website featuring the more than 60,000 unique historical documents in the Gilder Lehrman Collection, gilderlehrman.org. Each year the Institute offers support and resources to tens of thousands of teachers, and through them enhances the education of more than a million students. The Institute's programs have been recognized through awards from the White House, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Organization of American Historians.

For additional information, please contact North Canton Public Library community relations manager, Christina Weyrick at 330.499.4712 x331 or ccooper@northcantonlibrary.org.

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The project is presented by



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