

"THE MYSTIC CHORDS OF MEMORY, STRETCH . . . FROM EVERY . . .
LIVING HEART AND HEARTHSTONE . . . ALL OVER THIS BROAD LAND."

~ ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S FIRST INAUGURAL ADDRESS,
MARCH 4, 1861

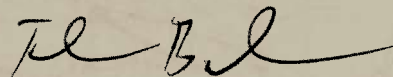
CELEBRATE THE AMERICAN RECORD!

President Lincoln's eloquent reference to "the mystic chords of memory" resonates today as we celebrate the importance of archives. The American record has enduring value and America's archives—in all their diversity of form and function—serve as its memory.

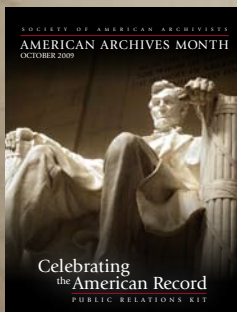
AMERICAN ARCHIVES MONTH is an opportunity "all over this broad land" to raise awareness about the value of archives—and archivists. This *2009 American Archives Month Public Relations Kit* provides basic materials that we hope you will adapt to make your own archives program more visible and more appreciated.

There is strength in numbers and our collective voice can be more powerful than individual voices. Set aside time throughout October—and throughout the year—to "Celebrate the American Record" using the tips and tools provided in this kit (and online at www.archivists.org/archivesmonth).

Just imagine the impact that our combined efforts can have on public awareness about the *mystic* power of archives!



Frank Boles
SAA President, 2008–2009



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

SAA gratefully acknowledges Declan McCullagh for the use of his beautiful photograph on the cover of this kit and on the 2009 American Archives Month Poster; the Cincinnati Museum Center (<http://library.cincymuseum.org/lincolnoriginals.htm>) for use of the images of the two presidential ballots and the Lincoln mourning ribbon on page 6 of this kit and on the 2009 American Archives Month Poster; the Council of State Archivists for its commitment to maintaining the Archives Week/Month directory and poster gallery on its website (www.statearchivists.org); the Archivists Roundtable of Metropolitan New York and the New England Archivists for their early work to launch Archives Week; the SAA Reference, Access, and Outreach Section; SAA's American Archives Month Task Force; and the many archivists who have taken the time and expended the energy to help make an impact on the public's awareness of archives and archivists.



Go to www.archivists.org/archivesmonth
for more ideas, tips, and resources.