

# ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

## Albany Institute of History & Art

125 Washington Avenue Albany, NY 12210

T: (518) 463-4478; F: (518) 462-1522

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## NEWS

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 7, 2015

### CONTACT:

Erika Sanger  
Director of Education  
[sangere@albanyinstitute.org](mailto:sangere@albanyinstitute.org)  
(518) 463-4478 ext 404

Aine Leader-Nagy  
Marketing Associate  
[leader.nagya@albanyinstitute.org](mailto:leader.nagya@albanyinstitute.org)  
(518) 463-4478 ext 408

## ALBANY INSTITUTE TO HOST FREE READING & DISCUSSION SERIES ABOUT ABRAHAM LINCOLN

*Lincoln on the Civil War: Selected Speeches is a six-part series made possible  
by the New York Council for the Humanities*

ALBANY, NY— The Albany Institute of History & Art is excited to host a reading and discussion series that will explore the rhetoric, political skill, and moral transformation of the United States' sixteenth president, Abraham Lincoln. *Lincoln on the Civil War: Selected Speeches* is a six-part weekly series that will meet at the Albany Institute of History & Art on Thursday evenings at 6PM from October 15 through November 19, 2015. This series is free and open to the public, but registration is required.



Local historian and author Giacomo Calabria

Giacomo Calabria (pen name Jacopo della Quercia), local historian and author of the 2014 thriller *The Great Abraham Lincoln Pocket Watch Conspiracy*, will lead the discussion. Calabria is an educator and history writer whose work has been featured on the comedy website Cracked.com, BBC America, CNN Money, and the *Huffington Post*. The class will read and discuss nine of Lincoln's speeches, as well as other writings.

In conjunction with this series, a new exhibition of selected works from the Albany Institute's collections are now on display in cases in the museum's atrium. The small exhibition focuses on Abraham Lincoln's connections to Albany, New York and showcase materials ranging from

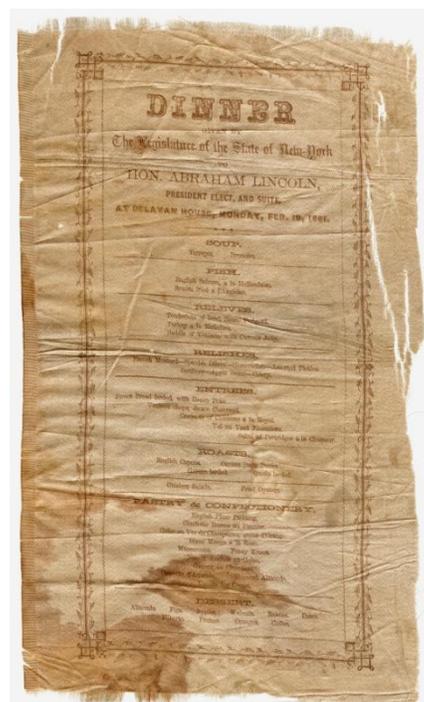
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contemporary photographs and engravings to dinner menus and personal diaries. *Abraham Lincoln: The Albany Connections* opened on September 26, 2015.

The Albany Institute will make available on loan a limited number of copies of *Lincoln on the Civil War: Selected Speeches*. Reading material **may also be found online**. To register for the series and borrow a copy of the book, contact Barbara Collins, Education Coordinator, at (518) 463-4478 ext 405 or [collinsb@albanyinstitute.org](mailto:collinsb@albanyinstitute.org). A link to the event may be found in the **calendar section of the museum's website**.

This free program has been made possible with a grant from the New York Council for the Humanities. Learn more about the Council and its work on their website, <http://www.nyhumanities.org/>.

The Albany Institute of History & Art is located at 125 Washington Avenue in Albany, New York. Free parking is available in the museum's lot at the corner of Elk and Dove Streets. The museum is open Wednesday-Saturday 10AM-5PM, Thursdays until 8PM\*, and Sunday Noon-5PM. On Tuesdays, the museum is open to registered groups only. The museum is closed on Mondays and some holidays. Admission is free for Institute members; \$10/adults; \$8/seniors; \$8/students with ID; \$6/children 6-12; FREE/children under 6. \*AIHA now offers free admission on Thursdays from 5PM-8PM. For more information, visit [www.albanyinstitute.org](http://www.albanyinstitute.org) or call (518) 463-4478.



Delavan House Menu, Ink on silk, 1861, Albany Institute of History & Art, 2010.30

Founded in 1791, the Albany Institute of History & Art is New York's oldest museum. Its collections document the Hudson Valley as a crossroads of culture, influencing the art and history of the region, the state, and the nation. With more than 35,000 objects and one million documents in the library, it is an important resource for the region, giving our community a sense of the part the Hudson Valley played in the American story, and our own place in history. Permanent and temporary exhibitions are open year-round and create a sense of place, allowing visitors to meet the people who helped shape this region. Over 25,000 people visit the Albany Institute of History & Art every year, enjoying the collections, workshops, school programs, and lectures, helping to build an understanding of the history and culture of our region. Among the museum's best-known and most-loved collections are the 19<sup>th</sup> century Hudson River School landscape paintings by artists like Thomas Cole and Frederic Church, the 19<sup>th</sup> century sculpture collections, and, of course, the famous Albany Mummies that came to the museum in 1909 and have been on view ever since. For more information, please visit [www.albanyinstitute.org](http://www.albanyinstitute.org) and be sure to follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/albanyinstitute](http://www.facebook.com/albanyinstitute)) and Twitter (@AlbanyInstitute).

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