## **ABRAHAM LINCOLN: AMERICAN HERO**

"As you relive Lincoln's legacy, it's a real highlight because of your expertise! Abe couldn't be portrayed better." –Eric Holcomb, Governor of Indiana

Awesome...Danny Russel's talent brings to life Lincoln's wonderful humor and then moves into expressing his heart about slavery in this delightful program."

> Sue Ellspermann, former Lieutenant Governor of Indiana

Those legendary character strengths—his honest nature, love of learning, mastery of language, respect for hard work, empathy for his fellow man, opposition to slavery and ability to lead—were shaped largely by Lincoln's time in the Midwest.

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Hilarity, heartbreak, humanity and brilliant speeches abound as our 16th president recalls his Indiana boyhood, prairie lawyer days, family life, political aspirations, Civil War tragedy and triumph, and slavery's ultimate demise.

Danny Russel will bring this theatrical tourde-force to your venue with his uncanny likeness to Honest Abe. He initially spent months researching and compiling the show during visits to Lincoln's birthplace in Hodgenville, Kentucky; his boyhood home in Spencer County, Indiana; Springfield, Illinois; Gettysburg, Pennsylvania; and Washington,

D.C. Travel from a log cabin to the White House in this compelling portrayal embodying a remarkable American whose legacy is more relevant than ever.

In his customary black suit and ever-present stovepipe hat, Lincoln takes us through a fascinating panoply of uproarious comedy, gentle reminiscence,

political intrigue, and always insightful commentary on the human condition. It is all seen through the eyes of an individual for whom "all men are created equal" was a clarion call — bringing him national recognition in debates with Stephen Douglas as he decried the "peculiar institution" as a moral and social evil, leading to his nomination for the presidency, inspiring the Emancipation Proclamation, justifying the "people's conflict" known as the Civil War, and resulting in the 13th Amendment which abolished slavery permanently.

Growing up in Indiana, Lincoln worked side by side with his father, mourned the deaths

> of family members, read the books that opened his mind, and developed a determination of spirit coupled with deep compassion for all people. His time in the Hoosier State propelled Lincoln to become a master of the English language, a lawyer of the highest standing and ability, a nationally known orator and one

of the world's greatest statesmen.

In addition to his illustrious acting career and numerous tours, Mr. Russel is a six-time grant recipient honored by the Indiana Arts Commission.



