

Hail to the Chief A PRESIDENTIAL HALL OF FAME

AS AMERICA PREPARES FOR WHAT PROMISES TO BE ONE OF THE MOST CONTENTIOUS AND EXPENSIVE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGNS IN HISTORY, THIS YEAR'S GEORGE WASHINGTON SYMPOSIUM WILL FOCUS ON THE FIRST AND BEST PRESIDENT AND THOSE WHO HAVE DONE A SUPERIOR JOB OF FOLLOWING IN HIS FOOTSTEPS.

MICHAEL BESCHLOSS, ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST HIGHLY REGARDED PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS, WILL BEGIN THE SYMPOSIUM BY DISCUSSING HIS NEW BOOK, *PRESIDENTIAL COURAGE: BRAVE LEADERS AND HOW THEY CHANGED AMERICA*, AND REVIEWING WASHINGTON'S SUPERIOR EXAMPLE OF LEADERSHIP AS THE NATION'S FIRST CHIEF EXECUTIVE. FIVE CELEBRATED AUTHORS AND SCHOLARS WILL THEN EXAMINE THE PERSONALITIES AND CHARACTER OF STANDOUT PRESIDENTS THROUGHOUT THE NEXT TWO CENTURIES.

WHAT DO THESE SIX REMARKABLE LEADERS HAVE IN COMMON? A PANEL OF PRESIDENTIAL EXPERTS WILL ATTEMPT TO SHED LIGHT ON THE TRAITS THAT TRANSFORMED THE GOOD INTO THE GREAT. AMERICA HAS BEEN FORTUNATE TO FIND AND NURTURE LEADERS WHO RISE TO THE OCCASION AND WHO ALSO PROVIDE INSPIRING LEADERSHIP TO OUR NATION AND THE WORLD. HOW CAN WE BEST RECOGNIZE THOSE WHO HAVE THE TALENTS AND DETERMINATION TO PROVIDE SIMILAR LEADERSHIP IN THE FUTURE?

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2

12 NOON - 2:00 P.M.

*Registration and Optional Tours
of the New Facilities*

THOSE WHO HAVE NOT YET EXPERIENCED THE NEW DONALD W. REYNOLDS MUSEUM AND EDUCATION CENTER ARE INVITED TO ARRIVE EARLY AND PARTICIPATE IN A SELF-GUIDED TOUR OF THE GALLERIES AND THEATERS. GUESTS WILL RECEIVE THEIR NAMETAGS AND ENTER THE NEW FACILITIES THROUGH THE VAUGHAN RECEPTION HALL IN THE MOUNT VERNON INN COMPLEX.

2:00 P.M. PRE-SYMPOSIUM LECTURE

George Washington and the Election of 1800

THE ELECTION OF 1800 FAMOUSLY PITTED JOHN ADAMS AGAINST THOMAS JEFFERSON, WITH A SUPPORTING CAST THAT INCLUDED ALEXANDER HAMILTON, JAMES MADISON, AND OTHERS. LESS FAMOUSLY, THAT CAST ALSO INCLUDED GEORGE WASHINGTON, WHOSE SHADOW HUNG OVER THE CAMPAIGN PRIOR TO HIS UNEXPECTED DEATH IN DECEMBER, 1799. LEADING HIGH FEDERALISTS HAD PRESSED WASHINGTON TO ACCEPT A DRAFT FOR THE PRESIDENCY IN PLACE OF ADAMS, WHO THEY DID NOT BELIEVE COULD WIN RE-ELECTION. THIS LECTURE DISCUSSES WASHINGTON'S ROLE IN THIS TUMULTUOUS ELECTION THAT FOREVER TRANSFORMED AMERICAN POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT.

EDWARD J. LARSON HOLDS THE HUGH AND HAZEL DARLING CHAIR IN LAW, IS UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR OF HISTORY AT PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY AND RECIPIENT OF THE 1998 PULITZER PRIZE IN HISTORY. THE AUTHOR OF NUMEROUS WORKS ON SCIENCE, MEDICINE AND LAW FROM AN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE, HIS BOOK ON THE ELECTION OF 1800, *A MAGNIFICENT CATASTROPHE*, WAS PUBLISHED THIS FALL BY FREE PRESS.

3:00 P.M. KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

*How George Washington
Invented Presidential Courage*

BASED ON HIS NEW BOOK, *PRESIDENTIAL COURAGE: BRAVE LEADERS AND HOW THEY CHANGED AMERICA*, ESTEEMED PRESIDENTIAL HISTORIAN MICHAEL BESCHLOSS WILL DISCUSS HOW GEORGE WASHINGTON ESTABLISHED THE TRADITION BY WHICH AMERICANS EXPECT GREAT PRESIDENTS TO RISK THEIR POPULARITY, THEIR REELECTION OR SOMETIMES EVEN THEIR LIVES TO ADVANCE THE NATIONAL INTEREST.

MICHAEL BESCHLOSS IS AN AWARD-WINNING HISTORIAN AND THE AUTHOR OF EIGHT DISTINGUISHED BOOKS ON THE AMERICAN PRESIDENCY. NAMED BY *NEWSWEEK* AS "THE NATION'S LEADING PRESIDENTIAL HISTORIAN," HIS WORKS INCLUDE THE ACCLAIMED *NEW YORK TIMES* BEST-SELLER, *THE CONQUERORS: ROOSEVELT, TRUMAN AND THE DESTRUCTION OF HITLER'S GERMANY, 1941-1945*.



4:00 P.M. REFRESHMENT BREAK

4:30 P.M.

Theodore Roosevelt's Three Washingtons

THEODORE ROOSEVELT WAS A LIFELONG ADMIRER OF GEORGE WASHINGTON (AND AN EQUALLY PASSIONATE DEBUNKER OF THOMAS JEFFERSON). AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY IN 1899, HE FAMOUSLY QUOTED WASHINGTON IN A SPEECH THAT BECAME THE CORE OF HIS SUBSEQUENT DEFENSE POLICY AS PRESIDENT. HE ALSO CITED WASHINGTON IN DECLINING A THIRD TERM AT THE HEIGHT OF HIS POWERS IN 1908. ROOSEVELT'S "SECOND" WASHINGTON WAS BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, THE MOST EMINENT BLACK MAN OF THE ROOSEVELT ERA. IN 1902, TR ENTERTAINED DR. WASHINGTON AS HIS SOCIAL EQUAL IN THE WHITE HOUSE, AND CREATED A FIRESTORM OF OUTRAGE IN THE WHITE SEGREGATIONIST SOUTH. HIS "THIRD" WASHINGTON WAS THE NATION'S CAPITAL, WHERE HE LIVED FOR MORE THAN TWENTY YEARS, AND WHICH HE LEFT SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCED IN BEAUTY AND WORLD PRESTIGE.



EDMUND MORRIS IS A WRITER BEST KNOWN FOR HIS BIOGRAPHIES OF UNITED STATES PRESIDENTS. HIS FIRST BOOK, *THE RISE OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT* WON THE PULITZER PRIZE AND AMERICAN BOOK AWARD IN 1980. HIS BOOK *THEODORE REX* (2001), WAS THE SECOND IN A PROJECTED THREE-VOLUME CHRONICLE OF THE LIFE OF THE 26TH PRESIDENT.

5:30 P.M.

Reception and Book signing

IN THE VAUGHAN RECEPTION HALL. AUTHORS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO AUTOGRAPH BOOKS PURCHASED AT THE SHOPS AT MOUNT VERNON.

6:30 P.M.

The Presidential Palate

IN HONOR OF PRESIDENTS PAST AND PRESENT, CHEF RICK THOMPSON HAS CONSULTED WHITE HOUSE MENUS TO CREATE A DINNER TO SATISFY EVEN THE MOST DEMANDING COMMANDER IN CHIEF.

8:00 P.M.

Music from the White House

USING EXCERPTS FROM THE WHITE HOUSE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION'S OUTSTANDING FILM, *IN TUNE WITH HISTORY*, PIANIST BURNETT THOMPSON WILL TAKE GUESTS ON AN HISTORIC AND ENTERTAINING JOURNEY THROUGH PRESIDENTIAL HISTORY - FROM A MUSICAL PERSPECTIVE. WITH SELECTIONS RANGING FROM CLASSICAL TO JAZZ, INCLUDING A DUET WITH MA XIAOHUI, VISITING FROM SHANGHAI, PARTICIPANTS WILL EXPERIENCE THE WHITE HOUSE AS A BUILDING ALIVE WITH MUSIC, AND IN TUNE WITH HISTORY.

BURNETT THOMPSON IS A WELL-KNOWN PIANIST, COMPOSER, AND EDUCATOR WHOSE WORK IN THE D.C. AREA SPANS MORE THAN 25 YEARS. EDUCATED AT THE HOCHSCHULE FUER MUSIK IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA, AND THE NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC, HE HAS PERFORMED WITH THE WASHINGTON CHAMBER SYMPHONY, THE SMITHSONIAN JAZZ MASTERWORKS ORCHESTRA, AND THE NATIONAL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA. MA XIAOHUI IS A RENOWNED CHINESE EHRU SOLOIST.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3

8:00 A.M. CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:00 AM

The Second Washington

ANDREW JACKSON AND AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

ANDREW JACKSON WAS THE TOWERING FIGURE OF AMERICAN PUBLIC LIFE DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY. FOLLOWING HIS VICTORY AT THE BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS IN 1815, JACKSON WAS WIDELY HAILED AS THE SECOND GEORGE WASHINGTON. THE FIRST WASHINGTON HAD WON INDEPENDENCE FOR THE UNITED STATES AT YORKTOWN; THE SECOND WASHINGTON - JACKSON - CONFIRMED IT AT NEW ORLEANS. JACKSON HELD ADDITIONAL APPEAL AS THE EMBODIMENT OF EMERGING AMERICAN DEMOCRACY: THE FIRST COMMON MAN TO BE ELECTED PRESIDENT, THE FIRST WESTERNER, THE FIRST WINNER IN AN ELECTION IN WHICH THE PEOPLE, RATHER THAN THE STATE LEGISLATURES, CHOSE MOST OF THE ELECTORS. JACKSON GOVERNED AS HE WAS ELECTED, MAKING THE PRESIDENCY PECULIARLY THE OFFICE OF THE PEOPLE - FOR BETTER AND WORSE.



H. W. BRANDS, PH.D. IS THE DICKSON ALLEN ANDERSON CENTENNIAL PROFESSOR OF HISTORY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS IN AUSTIN. HIS BOOKS INCLUDE *THE AGE OF GOLD, THE FIRST AMERICAN*, AND *WHAT AMERICA OWES THE WORLD*. HIS BOOK *ANDREW JACKSON: HIS LIFE AND TIMES* WAS A CHICAGO TRIBUNE BEST BOOK OF 2005 AND A WASHINGTON POST BESTSELLER.

10:00 A.M.

The Psychological Roots of Lincoln's Successful Leadership

DOUGLAS SOUTHBALL FREEMAN WROTE THAT DURING THE CIVIL WAR, ABRAHAM LINCOLN MANAGED "IN SOME MYSTERIOUS MANNER" TO INFUSE HIS "UNCONQUERABLE SPIRIT" INTO THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTH. THAT ABILITY, ALONG WITH HIS UNCANNY KNACK FOR PERSUADING ALL THE HIGHLY DISPARATE FACTIONS OF HIS PARTY TO COOPERATE, WAS THE KEY TO LINCOLN'S SUCCESS AS PRESIDENT. IT WAS ROOTED IN HIS EXCEPTIONAL PSYCHOLOGICAL MATURITY AND WHOLENESS, WHICH HE ACHIEVED ONLY AFTER AN EXCRUCIATING BUT FRUITFUL MID-LIFE CRISIS.



MICHAEL A. BURLINGAME, PH.D. IS SADOWSKI PROFESSOR OF HISTORY EMERITUS AT CONNECTICUT COLLEGE. HE HAS DEVOTED HIS SCHOLARLY ENERGIES TO INVESTIGATING THE LIFE AND TIMES OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN AND IS THE AUTHOR OF SIX BOOKS ON THE 16TH PRESIDENT. HIS FOUR-VOLUME BIOGRAPHY OF LINCOLN IS DUE OUT NEXT YEAR FROM THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY PRESS.

11:00 A.M. REFRESHMENT BREAK

11:15 A.M.

The Defining Moment:

WHY PRESIDENTIAL LEADERSHIP COUNTS



WHEN FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT CAME TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENCY DURING THE DEPTHS OF THE GREAT DEPRESSION IN 1933, THE UNITED STATES WAS ON ITS KNEES. MANY AMERICANS WERE UNSURE IF CAPITALISM AND DEMOCRACY WERE AT AN END. THROUGH HIS ASTONISHING LEADERSHIP, FDR RESTORED THE HOPE AND FAITH OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. WHILE ROOSEVELT WAS THE ONLY PRESIDENT WHO DEFIED GEORGE WASHINGTON'S TRADITION OF SERVING NO MORE THAN TWO TERMS, HE RESEMBLED WASHINGTON IN RALLYING THE COUNTRY TO CONTINUE ON A DEMOCRATIC PATH. FOR ALL OF THEIR SHORT-COMINGS, BOTH WASHINGTON AND ROOSEVELT WERE THE PERFECT MATCH OF MAN AND MOMENT.

JONATHAN ALTER IS THE AUTHOR OF A WIDELY-ACCLAIMED *NEWSWEEK* COLUMN THAT EXAMINES POLITICS, MEDIA AND SOCIAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES. HE FREQUENTLY INTERVIEWS AMERICAN PRESIDENTS AND WORLD LEADERS, REGULARLY BREAKS NEWS, AND HAS AUTHORED MORE THAN 50 *NEWSWEEK* COVER STORIES. HIS NEW BOOK, *THE DEFINING MOMENT: FDR'S HUNDRED DAYS AND THE TRIUMPH OF HOPE*, WAS PUBLISHED EARLIER THIS YEAR.

12:15 P.M. LUNCH AT THE MOUNT VERNON INN

1:30 P.M.

President Reagan:

THE TRIUMPH OF IMAGINATION



THE 40TH PRESIDENT WAS AN ACCOMPLISHED POLITICIAN, A BOLD AND EVEN RECKLESS LEADER, A GAMBLER, A MAN WHO IMAGINED AN AMERICAN PAST AND AN AMERICAN FUTURE -- AND MADE THEM ALL REAL. RONALD REAGAN WAS A MAN OF IDEAS WHO FULFILLED A SHORT LIST OF GRAND GOALS WHICH INCLUDED THE DESTRUCTION OF WORLD COMMUNISM, THE DOWNSIZING OF TAXES AND GOVERNMENT, AND A REVIVAL OF AMERICAN PATRIOTISM. KNOWN AS "THE GREAT COMMUNICATOR," HE CHANGED THE WORLD, FOR BETTER OR WORSE, AND WAS A MAN WHO UNDERSTOOD THAT WORDS ARE SO OFTEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN DEEDS.

RICHARD REEVES, SENIOR LECTURER AT THE ANNENBERG SCHOOL FOR COMMUNICATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, IS AN AUTHOR AND SYNDICATED COLUMNIST WHOSE WRITINGS HAVE APPEARED IN MORE THAN 100 NEWSPAPERS SINCE 1979. HE IS THE AUTHOR OF *PRESIDENT KENNEDY: PROFILE OF POWER*, *PRESIDENT NIXON: ALONE IN THE WHITE HOUSE*, AND *PRESIDENT REAGAN: THE TRIUMPH OF IMAGINATION*.

2:30 P.M. REFRESHMENT BREAK

2:45 P.M.

Roundtable Discussion

AS A CONCLUSION, FOUR SYMPOSIUM PRESENTERS --JONATHAN ALTER, H. W. BRANDS, MICHAEL BURLINGAME, AND RICHARD REEVES -- WILL REGROUP FOR A FINAL ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION. THEY WILL BE JOINED BY AWARD-WINNING PRODUCER, REPORTER AND NEWS ANCHOR KATHLEEN MATTHEWS, WHO NOW SERVES AS EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS AT MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL, AS MODERATOR. THE GROUP WILL DISCUSS QUALITIES THAT HAVE MADE A HANDFUL OF CHIEF EXECUTIVES STAND OUT FROM THE OTHERS.

4:00 P.M. SYMPOSIUM ADJOURNS

ALL PROGRAMS TAKE PLACE IN THE ROBERT H. AND CLARICE SMITH AUDITORIUM, LOCATED AT THE MOUNT VERNON INN COMPLEX.

FEES

THROUGH THE GENEROSITY OF THE BARRA FOUNDATION, MOST EXPENSES FOR THE SYMPOSIUM HAVE BEEN UNDERWRITTEN. HOWEVER, SYMPOSIUM PARTICIPANTS ARE REQUIRED TO PAY A \$175 (\$150 FOR MEMBERS) FEE FOR THE TWO-DAY SYMPOSIUM TO DEFRAY CATERING EXPENSES. SINGLE-DAY FEES ARE NOT AVAILABLE.

PARKING

PLEASE PARK IN THE WEST VISITOR PARKING LOT.

LODGING

SEVERAL HOTELS ARE LOCATED IN OLD TOWN ALEXANDRIA, JUST NINE MILES FROM MOUNT VERNON: HOLIDAY INN (703.549.6080); SHERATON SUITES (703.836.4700); AND MORRISON HOUSE (800.367.0800).

QUESTIONS?

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT 703.799.8650.

THIS IS A TICKETLESS EVENT. YOUR NAME WILL BE ON A RESERVATION LIST AT THE DOOR.

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON SYMPOSIUM IS SUPPORTED BY A GENEROUS ENDOWMENT ESTABLISHED BY THE BARRA FOUNDATION

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT MOUNT VERNON PROGRAMS VISIT MOUNTVERNON.ORG

IMAGES OF ANDREW JACKSON, ABRAHAM LINCOLN, FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT, RONALD WILSON REAGAN AND THEODORE ROOSEVELT COURTESY OF THE WHITE HOUSE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION (WHITE HOUSE COLLECTION)

Hail to the Chief

A PRESIDENTIAL HALL OF FAME



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON SYMPOSIUM
NOVEMBER 2-3, 2007