

Happy 200th Birthday, Mr. President!

Announcing
the Lincoln Bicentennial Competitions*
in Art—Essay—Oratory

Awards for excellence:

\$200 first place, \$100 second place, or a week's travel this summer to Springfield, IL and Washington, DC, funded by alumni Fred and Emily Schwengel's endowment.

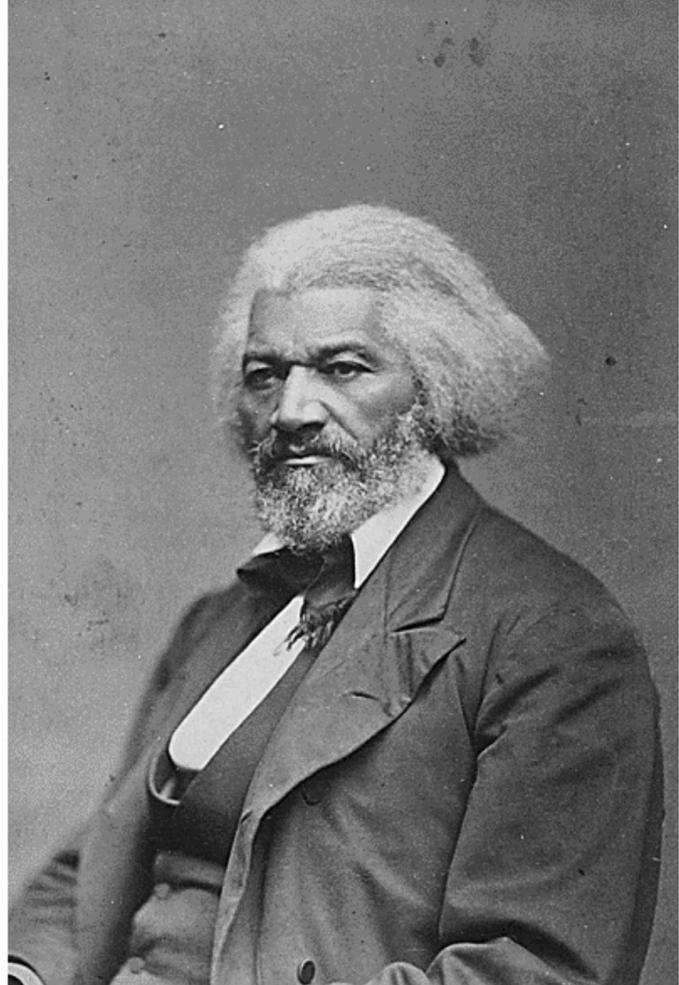
Contest submissions are due by Friday, March 27, to the appropriate faculty judges, who are available for consultation and advice anytime beforehand:

Art—Matt Derezinski

Essay—Chett Breed

Oratory—Barry Poyner

The "**Lion of Anacostia**," Frederick Douglass speaking of Pres. Lincoln 11 years after his assassination, said:



“ He was preeminently the white man's President, entirely devoted to the welfare of white men.... The race to which we belong were not the special objects of his consideration. Knowing this, I concede to you, my white fellow-citizens, a pre-eminence in this worship at once full and supreme. First, midst, and last, you and yours were the objects of his deepest affection and his most earnest solicitude. You are the children of Abraham Lincoln. ”

(From Douglass' impromptu speech at the dedication of "The Freedmen's Monument in Memory of Abraham Lincoln" in Washington DC, 1876. It is available online at this site: www.teachingamericanhistory.org/libraryindex.asp?documentprint=39)

Douglass' 1876 speech can enrich the ways that subsequent Americans, black and white--and red, brown, and yellow, recalling Pres. Obama's inaugural benediction--the ways we have grown to regard Lincoln, ways that continue to change as our country changes. What does Douglass contribute to our view of Lincoln? What does this speech do for our view of Douglass? Reviewing the entire speech online, write—draw—paint—sculpt—or speak, to emphasize both or either person as your primary interest.

Look for the April 22 performance
on-campus of the touring play,
"Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass:
A Friendship Unique"
sponsored by
the Lincoln Bicentennial Committee.