Annual Lincoln/Schwengel Contests ending Truman’s 2008-2009
Lincoln Bicentennial

funded by US Rep.
Fred and Emily Schwengel’s
Alumni Endowment

Prizes: $200, $100 for each contest
Deadline: December 1, 2009

Oratory Contest: Storytelling
Prof. B. Poyner

In honor of his 200th birthday, remember and honor Lincoln’s love for story-telling. Imagine being among those at the Soldiers’ Home who had the unique opportunity of swapping a story with their President, “Honest Abe,” or being someone skewered politically by young Lincoln if you campaigned against him in Illinois. Explore the unkempt, irreverent frontier Lincoln, a speaker who could engage any audience through homespun humor.

Creatively tell a 4-5 minute story, real or imaginary, on any subject, but have a clear point to the story. Supporting material should include one piece of evidence and ample exposition. A manuscript should be sent to Dr. Barry Poyner, Communication Dept., 1110 Barnett. Should your speech be selected as a finalist, you should be prepared to share your story aloud before judges.

Historical or Literary Essay Contest
Prof. C. Breed

“The evil men do lives after them. The good is oft interred with their bones.” –Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar

Consider death and Mr. Lincoln. What did death do to the fundamental mixture of traits that once made the man? Who did he become, who is he now, and what can he be for the future? You’re welcome to consider the Whitman elegies as a way into this topic, or the Gallery show American Race, or the traveling display “Free at Last” in PML and the Remnant Trust books on display (John Brown’s family Bible, for example). This is a topic largely open to reflective interpretation, though research is an appropriate approach also: 3-5pp suggested length, submitted to cbreed@truman.edu or at the Dept. of English & Linguistics, MC 310.

Art Contest
Prof. R. Nelson

(deferred to Spring 2010)

Public reading of Whitman elegies by Samantha Jones, Robert Williamson, Darius Taylor, and Prof. Joe Benevento, Tuesday Nov. 3 at 7pm, University Art Gallery. Hosted by Sigma Tau Delta with refreshments after.

American Race, a national art show concerned with race, in the University Art Gallery, OP 1114, through Nov. 20.