



NEWS RELEASE

City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks

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A CIVIL WARTIME HOLIDAY CELEBRATION *10th annual presentation at the Drum Barracks Museum in Wilmington*

WILMINGTON – The Drum Barracks Civil War Museum, a City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks facility at 1052 Banning Blvd. in Wilmington, will hold its 10th annual “A Civil War Christmas” free holiday program on Saturday, December 5, and Sunday, December 6, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. both days.

Tour the museum to experience how Christmas was celebrated in the early 1860s through authentic re-creations of holiday festivities, with decorations, entertainment including seasonal songs that are sung and played on a collection of vintage hand bells, and more.

Ladies from the U.S. Sanitary Commission (which was the precursor of the American Red Cross) will talk about their efforts to provide soldiers with supplies the Army could not, and to ensure their health and safety. Medical practices used during the era will be demonstrated and displayed, as will artifacts and weapons, and sewing machines and techniques. There will also be reenactments of battlefield encounters and surveillance practices.

The museum also has a two-part exhibition recognizing the bicentennial of the year in which President Abraham Lincoln was born. “Lincoln and California” chronicles his interest in visiting the Golden State after the war and possibly even settling here. “Lincoln in Everyday Life” shows the prevalence of the image and name of the 16th president today.

For more information about the Drum Barracks “A Civil War Christmas” or the museum call (310) 548-7509. Guided tours are offered Tuesday through Thursday at 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., noon, and 1:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday at 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m., and 2:30 p.m. through the end of the year; a \$5 donation is requested for visitors age 12 or older.

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For more information about Department of Recreation and Parks events, activities, services, programs, and facilities, go to www.laparks.org, or call 311, or (213) 202-2700.