



Friends of Historic New Utrecht

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Eds: For pictures from previous Lincoln Day events with Mr. Getty as Abraham Lincoln, please contact Bob Buonvino at (917) 345-9000 or (718) 234-9268. Pictures show Mr. Getty's remarkable resemblance to Abe Lincoln.

We invite your coverage starting at 10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 13, at New Utrecht High School, with more than 1,300 students in attendance, and at 7:30 p.m. in the New Utrecht Parish House, 18th Ave. and 84th St., Bensonhurst, where the general public will attend a free Lincoln Day program featuring Mr. James Getty.

Photo by Vincent La Marca

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[New Utrecht Reformed Church - Since 1677](#)

Immediate Release

Lincoln 'Comes Alive' for Students and Others in Brooklyn

BROOKLYN - The historic organization Friends of Historic New Utrecht is again sponsoring an educational program for students and others interested in the role Brooklyn has played in U.S. history. And again this year the noted Lincoln impersonator, James Getty, plays the part of the nation's 16th president.

"Mr. Lincoln's" first appearance Monday, Feb. 13, will be at New Utrecht High School where at 10 a.m. he will speak to more than 1,300 students. That night, at 7:30 p.m., the general public is invited to attend a Getty program of life in the days of Lincoln in the Parish Hall at the New Utrecht Reformed Church, 18th Ave. and 84th St. Admission is free. Parking is available in the church lot.

Until two years ago the Lincoln Day programs had been held in the New Utrecht Reformed Church building, which dates from 1828. The Friends organization has shifted some of its programs to other places during a \$2 million campaign to repair and restore the Brooklyn landmark. "It is tragic that the historic building where living history programs can be offered in such a unique way must remain closed to school children and others," says Robert Buonvino, Friends president. The New Utrecht church was founded in 1677.

Seniors organizations, veterans and other historic groups are among the general public invited to the evening program to hear Mr. Getty's homespun stories about Abraham Lincoln's youthful years, along with other recollections of his personal and political life, and the anguish he felt over Gettysburg. He will deliver the Gettysburg Address.

Mr. Getty, from Gettysburg, Pa., has given a one-man show not only at The Battle Theater in Gettysburg but on television and in theaters around the country and in Canada. He has worked with the Library of Congress, the

Smithsonian Seminars, the Corcoran Gallery and with universities including Johns Hopkins. His voice is that of the president in two A&E programs, and he appears in the Turner television film "The Ironclads."

Funding for the Getty appearances in Brooklyn is provided by the Dorothy Commanday Foundation, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, and the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development.

The "history lesson" in which Mr. Lincoln "comes alive" before students from the 4th grade through the senior year of high school also is made possible through the assistance of New Utrecht High School Principal Howard J. Lucks and Vice Principal Joseph Rizzi. Students will come from several parts of Brooklyn, including Bensonhurst, Bay Ridge, Sunset Park and Mill Basin, according to program coordinator Angela Sarro.

More information on the Monday evening program and on the Friends of Historic New Utrecht and its educational-cultural efforts centering on the strategic role of Brooklyn in the history of the nation may be obtained by calling (718) 234-9268 or (718) 256-7173, e-mailing mail@historicnewutrecht.org and on the Web sites www.historicnewutrecht.org and www.newutrechtchurch.org.

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