

AVAILABLE FOR SESQUICENTENNIAL OBSERVANCES!

A National Traveling Exhibit

LIBERTY ON THE BORDER



Invite your guests to explore the physical, cultural, and ideological borders defined by the American Civil War.

These different borders shifted during the years leading up to the War, through the War years, and during various points from the end of the War to the present.

Individuals and local, state, and federal governments defined “liberty” differently—and often contentiously—especially when establishing and enforcing borders.

This exhibit covers three time periods: **Liberty Denied**: the events leading up to the War, **Liberty's Trial**: the War years, and **Liberty's Legacy**: how the Civil War has been and still is remembered.

Through photographs and documents, touchable replicas and artifacts, backdrops and dioramas, hands-on interactives, audio visual effects, diaries, and music, guests come to understand *why* the War came about, and what impact the War has had on the cultural fiber of the United States.



Cincinnati
Museum
Center

Department of Traveling Exhibits
1301 Western Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45203

(800) 733-2077, ext. 1-7061
(513) 287-7061
cnovy@cincymuseum.org

Liberty on the Border, A Civil War Exhibit

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- 2,500 square feet minimum of floor space required
- 10' ceiling height minimum required
- Additional electric required for audio and light effects
- Air-conditioned and environmentally monitored space

COST

- \$23,000 for period of 13 weeks average
 - \$5,000 deposit required with signed agreement
- \$7,500 pro-rated shipping for two trucks
- On-site insurance during the run of the exhibition
- Includes set-up and tear down assistance from CMC staff
 - Sample floor plan (our staff will work with you to create a custom floor plan)
 - Crate and blanket wrap lists
 - Shipping layouts for loading the trucks
- Includes supporting educational and marketing materials
 - Educational Materials may include:
 - Teacher guide (Grades 4 –8)
 - School program
 - Materials to create first-person interpretation scripts
 - Marketing Package may include:
 - Press releases
 - Print ad
 - TV spot
 - Digital exhibit images

EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

National Standards for US History (National Center for History in Schools)

- Era 5—“Civil War and Reconstruction (1850-1877)”
- Standard 1—The causes of the Civil War
- Standard 2—The course and character of the Civil War and its effects on the American people
- Standard 3—How various reconstruction plans succeeded or failed

Significant humanities themes (Social Studies Strands)

- American Heritage and historical perspective (history)
- Culture and Society (sociology/anthropology)
- World interactions (geography)
- Decision making and resources (economics)
- Citizenship rights and responsibilities (government and civics)
- Democratic processes (government)

Content and take-home concepts

Guests discover how “borders” functioned between states during the war and how they served to both connect and divide people. They will see different definitions and interpretations of “liberty”—before, during, and after the Civil War. Lessons learned about the past are applied to the present.

Guests take away from this exhibit a greater knowledge of how current issues—racial inequality and violence, regional nativism, antigovernment sentiments, the construction and definition of what is “American”—are linked to the Civil War.

The exhibit covers three time periods: **Liberty Denied:** The Events Leading Up to the War, **Liberty's Trial:** The War Years, and **Liberty's Legacy:** How the Civil War has been and still is remembered. These areas help the guest to better understand WHY the war came about, and what impact the War had on the cultural fiber of the States.

Several indicated areas with artifact cases allow for host institutions to present local perspectives through the use of collections and programming.

LIBERTY ON THE BORDER



Liberty Denied

Slave Society - As guests enter the exhibit, they are immediately confronted with the tension of pre-Civil War America. Guests view panels containing excerpts from the United States Constitution, statehood documents, and legislative examples of the denial of liberty to the entire black race. But, guests realize that this racial inequality contradicted the nation's fundamental commitment to equal rights and the concept of personal liberty.



The Reality of Slavery - Guests are confronted with the stark, grim reality of slavery as they view an artifact case containing parts of a slave's daily life-hand-cuffs, chains and manacles. Each day was fraught with physical and emotional hardship; however, no day more than auction day.

The Face of Slavery - Photographs, artifacts and replicas accompany a text panel that explains the divergent lives of slaves in different parts of the country prior to the outbreak of the War, including a reproduction of a poignant painting, "The Slave Auction", depicting auctioned slaves as they stand and sit, heads down in despair and hopelessness.



Abolitionists and the Anti-Slavery Movement -

Panels display various abolitionists in Ohio and Kentucky, as well as some with national recognition. Original anti-slavery pamphlets are also on display.

Questions of Liberty - This computer game brings to light the different ways "Liberty" was questioned and expressed during the times. Click on a number of different characters and hear them describe their lives. Then choose from a selection of responses to explore how each of these characters may have described what liberty and freedom meant to them. This interactive includes the following characters: white southern woman, male slave, northern female immigrant, northern free black man, male slave owner and white southern non-slave holder.



1860 Election - The election of Lincoln precipitated the secession of states, which led to the beginning of the War. Guests can access a computer interactive that illustrates the vote results from around the country. Artifacts include original campaign ribbons, as well as a campaign kepi for the wide awakes.



Liberty's Trial

Enlistment - Guests approach the front of a recruitment office (diorama). An audio of voices of a recruiter is heard, as well as conversations between Secessionists, Unionists, and Conditional Unionists as they attempt to sway the recruit into their way of thinking. (This vignette is accompanied by recommended character outline for first-person interpretation).



Lincoln's Dilemma - Guests take on the role and responsibility of President Lincoln in this computer game. Discover how events may have played out differently depending on the choices made in dealing with Border States as an attempt to keep their loyalty with the Union or at least as neutral parties.



What Would You Do? - Guests assume the role of a Kentucky slave confronted with the choice of whether or not they should try and escape, and if so, to where? Guests select an option and look beneath flip panels to reveal the outcomes of their actions. (A number of these guest-decision stations will be incorporated throughout The War Years section of the Exhibit to illustrate the changing policies regarding fugitive slaves throughout the war in Kentucky and elsewhere.)

The Sanitary Commission - This diorama shows a booth at a sanitary fair with items for sale. Surrounding text panels show how women on both sides of the War supported the efforts through fundraising, nursing, making of bandages, etc. (A recommended character outline for firstperson interpretation accompanies this vignette).



Families In the War - This area of the exhibit explores the lives of women and children during the War. Guests learn how the War displaced many families, forcing women and children into new family and social roles. Elements of this panel and case arrangement include: artifact and reproduction toys, period books, photographs, everyday items and excerpts from family letters reflecting these life role changes.

Camp Nelson - Standing in front of this recreated shanty, guests view a video of a former slave woman who followed her husband to Camp Nelson so that he might enlist with colored troops. She explains how all the women and children were expelled in the winter of 1864, and how conditions were finally improved as recruits became more valued and vital for the War effort. Surrounding text panels with photos add to the Camp Nelson story as well as another, "What Would You Do?" flip panel system. (A recommended character outline for first-person interpretation accompanies this vignette.)



Brothers Lost - The guests are confronted with large images of the War's destruction with a total of the lives lost on both sides of the battles.

LIBERTY
ON THE BORDER
A CIVIL WAR EXHIBIT

Liberty's Legacy

The Diehards - Engaged by the photos, panels and original GAR and UCV artifacts guests learn the stories of the “diehards”, and the strong epics created by both sides for justification of their cause. Memories In Stone - Memorialization of the war was to take shape in many ways, but none more lasting than in the monuments erected over the years. Guests view photographs, panels and a small romantic statuette of a Civil War soldier aiding a wounded companion to discover the first monuments and what they show was going on culturally at the time to promote particular “Epics” or versions of the war. Emphasis is on monuments that promote the views of North, South, and blacks and emancipationists.



Fight for an Image - Guests view photographs and quotes of prominent black figures such as Frederick Douglass, black historian George Washington Williams and others as a part of the Black Epic and the efforts by the black community to promote their own story and overcome stereotypical characterizations of their race.



History Writ In Fire - A four-video kiosk presents the changing interpretations of the Civil War, during almost a century of film-making. Film clips from “Birth of a Nation”, “Gone With the Wind”, “Roots”, and “Glory” are included.



Black Imagery - Popular culture continued to portray black people with blatant racist stereotypes. Artifacts including a “Mammy” cookie jar, salt and pepper shakers, greeting cards, and advertisements illustrate the image of the “happy slave” propagated in popular culture, blackface vaudeville scenes, and movie posters.

The Voice of the Slave - Guests are engaged by audio narrative and photographs on a recreated Federal Writers Project desk that introduce the New Deal Writer’s Program, and its attempts at documenting the stories of former slaves. The benefits and problems of using these important stories in historical scholarship are also explored.

Your Hope for the Future- Guests are asked to leave their hope for further reconciliation and peace between the races in the U.S. This ever-changing new artifact continues on the tour of the exhibit, with hopes of inspiring thoughts and comments for generations to follow, and to further document the current pulse of race relations.



This area of the exhibit provides a chronology of the changing memory and interpretation of the Civil War. Guests come to realize how the nation began to romanticize the war, oversimplifying the complicated and complex issues surrounding it and its causes in the necessity of healing the nation. The cost of eliminating slavery were new borders between Black and White and the continuing fight for Liberty for all. Forms of “memory” and remembrance demonstrate the lasting impact the Civil War has had on our nation.



LIBERTY
ON THE BORDER
A CIVIL WAR EXHIBIT

Liberty on the Border: A Civil War Exhibit

ITINERARY

Revised 10/3/11

TOUR EXTENDED! AVAILABLE FOR SESQUICENTENNIAL OBSERVANCES!

4/5/03 – 9/2/03	Cincinnati Museum Center, Cincinnati OH (9,700 ft. ² version)
9/27/03 – 9/6/04	Owensboro Area Museum, Owensboro, KY
9/25/04 – 1/9/05	Sloan Museum, Flint, MI
1/29/05 – 5/30/05	Kalamazoo Valley Museum, Kalamazoo, MI
6/11/05 – 9/11/05	African American Museum & Library, Oakland, CA
9/24/05 – 1/8/06	Fresno Metropolitan Museum, Fresno, CA
3/4/06 – 9/17/06	Washington State Historical Society, Tacoma, WA
1/25/07 – 5/6/07	Orange County Regional History Center, Orlando, FL
5/26/07 – 1/6/07	Mill Springs Battlefield Museum, Nancy, KY
1/26/08 – 9/8/08	Southern Museum of Civil War & Locomotive History, Kennesaw, GA
9/27/08 – 1/4/09	Frazier International History Museum, Louisville, KY
1/24/09 – 5/10/09	Western Heritage Museum & Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame, Hobbs, NM
10/2/10 – 5/8/11	Center for History, South Bend, IN
9/10/11 – 1/8/12	National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, Cincinnati, OH
1/28/12 – 5/6/12	Charlotte Museum of History, Charlotte, NC
5/26/12 – 9/3/12	Hastings Museum, Hastings, NE
9/22/12 – 1/6/13	
1/28/13 – 8/25/13	Youth Museum of Southern West Virginia, Beckley, WV
9/21/13 – 1/5/14	
1/25/14 – 5/4/14	
5/24/14 – 9/8/14	

Tentative bookings are subject to change.

Liberty on the Border: A Civil War Exhibit is a production of Cincinnati Museum Center. ©CMC, 2001

Please contact us at (800) 733-2077, ext. 1-7061 or 1-7035 about availability beyond this published itinerary, or visit <http://www.cincymuseum.org/travelingexhibits>

Letter of Intent

You have expressed interest in hosting the **Cincinnati Museum Center's** traveling exhibit

Liberty on the Border: A Civil War Exhibit

For the following tour dates (please write in):

First choice _____

Second choice _____

If you wish to have these dates held for your organization, you must complete and return this form by mail or fax to the Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal, Department of Traveling Exhibits at the address listed below. If the form is not returned, we cannot hold a slot on the tour for your organization.

By signing this form, your organization agrees, for good and valuable consideration, to a hold on the first dates (or your second dates if the first dates are unavailable) listed above for your organization until 30 days after a written Agreement is issued. A written Agreement shall be issued within 14 days following CMC's receipt of this letter. A copy of this letter will be returned to you as confirmation of the hold on the above tour dates.

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____ Extension _____

Name (printed) _____

Title _____

Authorized Signature _____

Date _____

Please sign and return the original of this form to:

**Department of Traveling Exhibits
Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal
1301 Western Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45203
Fax: (513) 287-7062
E-mail: cnovy@cincymuseum.org**