



REMEMBERING THE GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

GettyReady: A Utah Non-Profit Corporation, Partnering with the Utah Commission on Civic & Character Education to Celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address

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Project & Website Launch: September 17, 2013 (Constitution Day)

Website: www.gettyready.org

Address Anniversary: November 19, 2013

GettyReady Mission/Vision Statement:

As one of the foundation documents of our Nation, the Gettysburg Address stands the test of time for its message on freedom and equality. On November 19, 1863, in 272 words, President Abraham Lincoln spoke for approximately two minutes on a rather controversial subject for the time – the idea that all human beings are equal. Rule of law and American democracy survived the turbulent Civil War, as well as 150 years of challenges and even modern conflicts since the speech. The Address deserves recognition as a seminal American text, and our schools and community will be enriched by a lively, interactive celebration of its anniversary.

Objectives for Students & Community Members Participating with Project / Encourage both school-based and community-based learning:

1. Read, study, and memorize the text of the Gettysburg Address. Recite the Address. (Statewide recitation activities on November 19)
2. Understand the historical context and meaning of the Gettysburg Address: 1863, the toll of the Civil War on our Nation, 1963 – 100 years later referred to by Martin Luther King, 2013 – challenges to grow democracy around the world.
3. Explore the relationship between the Gettysburg Address and the Declaration of Independence. Honor Lincoln's message on freedom and equality.
4. Apply larger values and lessons of the Gettysburg Address to modern life: Appreciate a government of the people, Have respect for all and give equal treatment to all, Find strength in resolving conflicts with civility and courage.





What can you do to lead and support this Project?

- **Join with local business leaders to partner with our initiative and to support the effort with their sponsorship.** Contact our Project Manager, Michelle Oldroyd, to join with us. Tax deductible contribution is possible.
- **Contact your local schools, principals, teachers/social studies departments and PTA/PTSA organizations.** *Utah PTA is one of our key community partners to bring this opportunity to our students.*
- **Encourage the students you know to memorize and recite with us on November 19.** Encourage students to enter the Reflections Contest with entries celebrating Lincoln and the Gettysburg Address. Young people can celebrate this anniversary beyond social studies class – poems, music, art, dance, and videos are all possible methods for our youngest citizens to honor Lincoln’s message on freedom and equality. Let students know that they can upload their reflections on the Address, pictures and videos of them reciting the Address, or artwork about Gettysburg on our website beginning on September 17.
- **Memorize and recite with us on November 19! Any community member can participate.** Include your memorization/recitation in your businesses or meetings, and mention the Address and its significance in any presentations you offer. Our website will also give information about how families and community/religious/civic organizations can join in the celebration of the message of freedom and equality in the Gettysburg Address.

September 17: launch - www.gettyready.org - November 19: celebration