

# LESSONS FROM THE PAST TO GUIDE YOUR FUTURE



Our opening presenter will come a long way to be with you—all the way from Heaven! America's 16<sup>th</sup> First Lady, Mary Todd Lincoln, walks onto the stage and, with both humor and pathos, immediately begins to reveal fascinating, private stories from her famous family and ways to keep others from making the same mistakes she did.

*Lessons from the Past* is a stunning motivational program for your conference or corporate meeting. M. Kay duPont, CSP, CPDT, and author of the award-winning *Loving Mr. Lincoln: The Personal Diaries of Mary Todd Lincoln*, will enthrall you with details and lessons from Mary Lincoln's life, captivate your attention, and warm your heart. Authentically dressed, and using Mary's "own words," Kay will take you back to the 1800s, inside the life of Mary and Abraham Lincoln, and all the way to the White House.



Woven into Mrs. Lincoln's story are lessons of universal appeal to help you be more successful and enjoy life more. Because of her 20/20 angelic hindsight, and her "friends in high places," Mary now has a unique understanding of life, love and success, and the principles she mentions can be customized for your group and organization.

When you leave this program, you'll feel like you've been allowed inside the home of one of the world's most famous couples to share their life and their mistakes. You'll also be reminded of the values that never change, no matter what century you're in—determination, accountability and strong relationships. Your group will love this program! As one recent participant wrote, "Amazing presentation. Enjoyed it very much. What a great start to a conference!" And from another: "Enjoyed the means of presentation. A different touch and I learned some history too! Wonderful tone that kept my attention with hesitation and emphasis on key points."

If you want to WOW your participants, give them motivation with a unique interpretation!

*Thank you so much for inviting me to experience the lessons of Mary Todd Lincoln at the Grove Park Inn. I truly enjoyed your performance and was most impressed with your ability to melt into the role of Mrs. Lincoln.*

—Thomas M. Oliver, Asheville Chamber of Commerce, Asheville SC

**As a special bonus, we can also provide your group with autographed copies of Kay's award-winning book, *Loving Mr. Lincoln: The Personal Diaries of Mary Todd Lincoln*. Ask us about quantity discounts!**

**Theatrical and Educational versions also available.**

For more information, contact M. Kay duPont  
Kay@LovingMrLincoln.com, www.MaryTLincoln.com

## REVIEWS

“The silences in the room during pauses said it all. This was an extraordinary presentation. Fabulous presentation of the difficult notion of paradoxes. What a powerful way to communicate these tough life lessons! I'm sure people 'got' stuff it would otherwise take years to get.”

*Participant at Clemson Univ Businesswomen's Conference, Harrisburg PA*

“Great job! You made Mary Lincoln come alive like I have never seen her before. This is the way for people to learn—by making the lessons real. Wonderful. You treated Mr. Lincoln with sensitivity, and Mary's love for him shone through the entire presentation. Bravo!!”

*Richard Freeman, Lincoln and Civil War Presenter*

“Wonderful!! So interesting, kept my attention. I learned a lot, not only in regard to things today, but I learned about history as well. She did a fantastic job!”

*Participant at Clemson Univ Businesswomen's Conference, Harrisburg PA*

“I have never seen anything like it at a conference. It was a wonderful way to start the day. I can't wait for her to put out a DVD.”

*Participant at Clemson Univ Businesswomen's Conference, Philadelphia PA*

“During my career, I have attended many conferences and trainings. This was the best, most creative, most memorable presentation I have ever heard. Awesome!”

*Participant at Clemson Univ Businesswomen's Conference, Asheville NC*

“Your portrayal of Mary Todd Lincoln is outstanding.”

*David Rector, Curator, Teaching Museum South*

“You made the character of Mary Todd Lincoln come alive. Your performance is a prime example of history that is not just places and dates. The terms captivating, educational, and entertaining describe your production perfectly.”

*Ron Kemp, Roswell Folk & Heritage Bureau*

“You were superb! I truly enjoyed your presentation and the hard work it took to learn. I admire how you wove the story line throughout the motivational presentation to optimize the amount of historical data you pieced into the work, as well as how entertaining you were! Bravo!”

*Sam Sears, audience member, Atlanta, GA*

M. Kay duPont (Mrs. Lincoln) was a wonderful keynote address speaker. I have been to many conferences through the year and I have never attended anything like this.

*Participant at Clemson Univ Businesswomen's Conference, Philadelphia PA*

## EXCERPTS

You know, sometimes I'm sent down to earth just because I'm causing too much trouble upstairs, but usually it's to share some things I wish I'd known when I was still here and to help someone else guide their future. That sounds odd, doesn't it? Learning life lessons from a woman who's been dead for 120 years? Just remember that angel sight is 20-20 and I've spent those years learning from some wise folks in some very high places. Now that I think about it, I've been pretty calm up there lately, so I must be here because one of you isn't feeling your best today.

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**Lesson:** Be careful what you aim for. My ambition to live in the White House started when I was very young...long before I met Abraham. He never really wanted the office in the beginning, and I pushed him every way possible to get there. Oh, don't get me wrong. I was still a good wife and mother, but I wanted more. I wanted to be important and famous. I wanted...no, honestly, I needed...to be loved and admired by everyone, even strangers. I suspect some of you have felt that need too. But it didn't take long to realize that those needs weren't nearly as important as the people who already loved me. I learned the hard way that the tragedy of life may actually be choosing the wrong goals. So, as you plan your life, carefully weigh all the possibilities and repercussions of what you want to do and where you want to go. Someday, many years from now, when you're facing your own mortality, you won't wish you had another dollar, or another plaque, or newer BMW, so aim for results that will truly benefit you.

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**Lesson:** Understand life's paradoxes: When I'd complain about what people were saying, Abraham would tell me to look for the paradoxes. If Willie was around, he would inevitably run outside in excitement and return in disappointment. “Papa,” he'd say, “There ain't no pair a ducks out there.” And Abraham would say, “Not pair of ducks, Son, paradoxes, like enigmas and oxymorons.” Then Willie would open the door wide and say, “No, Papa, there ain't no piglets or morons out there either.” So Abraham would explain to all of us that a paradox is a situation that contradicts itself, like when you drink hot tea and it cools you down.

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You need to start planning your future right now. God only put you here on consignment, so today could be your last day on this glorious earth. It could be could be the last chance you'll have to feel the wind blowing through your hair or the touch of your feet on the ground. It could be your last hour to watch your children play or to tell someone how very much you love them. It could be your last day to step in that old mud puddle. Tomorrow could be gone in the flash of a bullet, in the tick of a clock.