

Tennessee's History Festival is October 23-24 at Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park

Features performances of outdoor drama "*Liberty!*" for first time in Nashville

The sixth annual Tennessee's History Festival will be held October 23-24 at Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park in Nashville. This event blends education and entertainment, allowing school groups and families alike to experience more than five centuries of Tennessee history.

"Tennessee's History Festival offers something for the entire family and all age groups," said Park Manager Mike Cole. "These actors and exhibits highlight major players and events before and after Tennessee became a state in 1796. We are pleased to make our park available to the many people interested in sharing and learning about Tennessee's history."

The festival features living history where Tennessee stories come alive along the park's History Wall as great Tennessee characters like Davy Crockett, Andrew Jackson and Sgt. Alvin C. York interact among the public. Visitors will see an entire Colonial camp with native Americans, long hunters and period demonstrators from the late 18th century. A comprehensive representation of the American Civil War complete with Union and Confederate camps will reflect the whole civil War era at the other end of the park. There will also be cannon firing and mock battles from the civil War period on the park lawn.



Hundreds turnout in east Tennessee for the historical drama *Liberty!*.



Re-enactors at the foot of the state capitol.

The state's official outdoor drama, *Liberty!*, will be performed in Nashville for the first time ever as part of this year's festival. For more than 30 years, *Liberty!* has been drawing visitors from across the country to Sycamore Shoals in northeast Tennessee to learn about the compelling people and stories from the Tennessee frontier that shaped the outcome of the Revolutionary War. Original cast and crew will be delivering special performances of *Liberty!* in the park's amphitheater at

11 a.m. and 2 p.m., Oct. 23 and 24



These shows are made possible by the Sycamore Shoals State Park and Friends of Sycamore Shoals State Park.

The festival is free and open to the public. Activities will be offered from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. School groups are encouraged to plan their visits for Oct. 23 and register in advance. Educators may arrange for bus parking and special informational packets for their visits.

Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park is located at the foot of the State Capitol. The park is bordered by James Robertson Parkway, Jefferson Street and Sixth and Seventh Avenues. For more information about the park, visit www.tnstateparks.com/Bicentennial.



President Abraham Lincoln signs an autograph for a fan.



Colonial re-enactors share a laugh at the History Wall.



Liberty! performers bring history alive with must see performances.



Hernando de Soto and his horse display their armor.

For more information about the 2009 Tennessee's History Festival at Bicentennial Mall State Park, contact Jerry Wooten: (615) 741-5280 or email jerry.wooten@tn.gov

Tennessee's History Festival is made possible with generous support from *Tennessee State Parks*, *Bridgestone Americas*, the *Doubletree Hotel* and *Friends of Bicentennial Mall Capitol Mall State Park*.