

**\*NEW\*** Experience our Exciting Visiting Exhibit!

***FREE AT LAST: A History of the Abolition of Slavery in America* Exhibition  
Presented at the Westport Historical Society**

Kansas City, MO (May 1, 2010)—The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History’s national touring panel exhibition, *FREE AT LAST: A History of the Abolition of Slavery in America*, visits the Westport Historical Society and Harris-Kearney House Museum, 4000 Baltimore, Kansas City, Missouri, June 5-25, 2010. The exhibition draws visitors into an interaction with the history of the abolition movement through the end of slavery, offering the chance to consider racism in America today through the lens of its complex historical event.

*FREE AT LAST: A History of the Abolition of Slavery in America* investigates the question of how slavery in America developed into an institution, and how it came to be condemned as it divided the nation during the Civil War. Visitors can explore an early fragment of Abraham Lincoln’s “House Divided” speech, letters by abolitionists and slaves, and personal letters from soldiers who fought in the Civil War. Views of these rare documents, previously unavailable to the public nationally, are accompanied by photographs, broadsides, and other images, give a rare opportunity for adults and youth alike to experience the abolition of slavery and contemplate the challenging legacy of slavery in America.

*FREE AT LAST: A History of the Abolition of Slavery in America* focuses on the Founding Era, Slave Resistance, Slavery and the Law, Abolition, Abraham Lincoln and Emancipation, and African Americans in the Civil War. Curated by David Brion Davis, Sterling Professor of History at Yale University, and James Oliver Horton, Benjamin Banneker Professor of American Studies at George Washington University, this national touring exhibition is made possible by funding from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, New York City, with additional support from Park University’s Program of History and Phi Alpha Theta Chapter, Zeta Omicron.

The exhibition will be available for viewing Wednesdays-Saturdays from 1 PM-4 PM. Admission will be \$5.00 per person. Group tours may be arranged by contacting the Westport Historical Society at [westporthistorical@gmail.com](mailto:westporthistorical@gmail.com) or (816)-561-1821.