

PRESIDENT THOMAS JEFFERSON TO DISCUSS LOUISIANA PURCHASE

At the invitation of the **place**, Former President Thomas Jefferson has agreed to address the people of **city or region** at **time and date**. The public has been invited. President Jefferson, portrayed by Dr. Gary M. Gray, will speak on his role in purchasing and exploring the Louisiana Purchase along with planning Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery to the Pacific Ocean. It is rare for Mr. Jefferson to speak in public, so this is a special opportunity for the people of **city or area** to experience this historical moment in time.

Dr. Gray is the author of *MR. PRESIDENTS: Voices of Freedom, Equality, and Dignity* (Presidential Press, ISBN: 0-9774194-0-1), now available at bookstores everywhere. Along with Jefferson, the book features nine historical "moments in time" featuring George Washington, Andrew Johnson, James A. Garfield, Theodore Roosevelt Franklin D. Roosevelt, Eleanor Roosevelt (with Erma Stewart as the first lady), and General Douglas MacArthur.

President Roosevelt will be introduced by Captain William Clark (portrayed by **add name**), one of the two greatest explorers in American history. Clark has just arrived (December 9, 1809) at Jefferson's Virginia home, Monticello, with news of Captain Meriwether Lewis' death. The two have been making arrangements for the distribution of Lewis' effects, and planning for the publication of Lewis' journals.

Dr. Gray is a historian, actor and writer renowned for his brilliant and historically accurate portrayals of seven of America's greatest citizens. His performances have received acclaimed reviews and standing ovations. Dr. Gray holds graduate degrees from Phillips University, Southern Methodist and Notre Dame, along with a doctorate from Oklahoma State University. He has performed/lectured in every state and worldwide, and taught at Phillips University and Northwestern Oklahoma State University. Dr. Gray is the author of eleven books and the former publisher and editor of two national magazines.

Dr. Gray has spent years researching TJ. He researched TJ's writings at the Jefferson Library at Monticello, visited the archivists at Monticello, and traversed the trail of Lewis and Clark from South Dakota to Oregon.

You will go back in time to December 9, 1809, and be a part of a delegation from Louisiana Territory who arrived to greet the former president. Jefferson agrees to discuss his unique role in the Louisiana Purchase and his master plan for exploration during his presidency. The Louisiana Purchase included areas of the future United States that became major trade routes, including the Port of New Orleans.

While Jefferson is primarily known as the writer of the Declaration of Independence, the third president and the founder of the University of Virginia, his focus on exploration of the west led to the Louisiana Purchase. Through his efforts and the diplomacy of Robert Livingston and James Monroe, and explorers like Lewis, Clark, and others, Jefferson's vision of the west was blooming when he left office.

Dr. Gray says that Jefferson was a brilliant man yet quiet man, whose knowledge and adventurous spirit helped built the United States into one of the great nations of the 19th century.

Host directors' name suggests *“the people of **city or area** will be fascinated by this unique portrait of one of America’s most brilliant men. President Jefferson was always in search of knowledge and at the same time was determined for the west to be American. This dual desire led to America doubling in size with the Louisiana Purchase and for a national vision that would soon stretch America from ‘sea to shining sea.’ Dr. Gray’s portrayal is historically accurate and reveals Jefferson’s unique character. Please plan to join us on **date**.”*