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CivicFest: 35 World-Class Exhibits

White House in Miniature – Take a look at a miniature version of the White House. A 60- by 20-foot detailed replica of the famous 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. address features nearly every aspect of the president’s residence and its contents, including rooms typically closed to the public. The one-inch-to-one-foot scale model includes tiny telephones that ring, quarter-inch television sets that turn on, fountains that spray water and chandeliers that illuminate.

Air Force One – Tour a full-scale replica of an Air Force One fuselage and have your picture taken for a keepsake memory.

Forgotten Founders, Historic Documents & Medallions of Freedom – Learn stories of the four presidents of the Continental Congress and 10 presidents of the United States in Congress Assembled before George Washington’s inauguration, told through documents and artifacts.

Oval Office – Tour a replica of the White House Oval Office – sit behind the president’s desk, sign a bill into law and have it captured on camera as a souvenir.

Freedom Rising – Experience a unique multimedia presentation developed by the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. Learn the story of the Constitution of the United States and its impact from 1787 through today.

Founders Documents 1774-1790 – Read the Articles of Confederation, a wet ink transfer of the Declaration of Independence, the 1784 Treaty of Paris signed by President Thomas Mifflin and Rhode Island’s 1787 front page printing of the Constitution.

The Great Mississippi – Watch a presentation highlighting the importance of the Mississippi River.

Innovation Minnesota – Celebrate Minnesota business, technology and invention: Betty Crocker[®], the Pillsbury[®] Doughboy[™], Scotch[®] tape, Wheaties[®], Rollerblades[®], water skis, Dairy Queen[®], the pacemaker, SPAM[®], sandpaper, open-heart surgery, Post-It[®] notes, the Jolly Green Giant[®] and the Bundt[®] pan.

Convention Floor – Experience a re-created convention floor with bunting, state stanchions and balloons. Participate in author book readings, free ‘road show’ appraisals of political memorabilia and exhibit-related speakers.

Explore Minnesota’s Great Outdoors – Explore a multimedia exhibit showcasing Minnesota’s diverse topographies and vast range of recreational opportunities, created in conjunction with the state’s Explore Minnesota tourism agency and Department of Natural Resources.

Minnesota Sports History – View a timeline highlighting the amateurs, professionals, inventors and innovations that have played an important role in the state’s sports history.

Three Centuries of Political Memorabilia – Witness authentic posters, rare buttons, hats, banners and more that date as far back as the 18th century.

Presidents' Walk – Stroll the President's Walk and view a multitude of artifacts from each of the 43 U.S. presidencies.

A Salute to Minnesota's Greatest Generation – Watch videos that explore the lives and legacies of Minnesotans who grew up amid the Great Depression, came of age during WWII and participated in the postwar boom.

First Ladies' Gowns – Take in the fashions of Mary Todd Lincoln, Mamie Eisenhower, Jacqueline Kennedy, Laura Bush and others as you browse a collection of more than two dozen first ladies' ball gowns.

Presidential Limousines – Examine the official limousines of Presidents Reagan and Roosevelt. Ronald Reagan's 1986 Cadillac model will be on display, along with FDR's 1938 Cadillac Secret Service limo that was equipped with a wheelchair ramp.

Presidential Entertaining – Receive an etiquette lesson as you peruse through White House china table settings from eight different administrations.

White House Pets and Animals – Gather facts about the White House pets and animals through a multimedia exhibit chronicling these minor celebrities – from Martha Washington's parrot to present day.

First Family Letters – Take a moment to read first family letters – including those from George and Laura Bush – praising the model White House.

Oval Office Dioramas – View Oval Office models as decorated by several presidents.

Hail to the Chief! – Act as an incoming president and take the Oath of Office.

Walleye School of Fish – View a display of four-foot wooden walleyes created by young artists celebrating the iconic artistic, recreational and cultural aspects of Minnesota life and history.

Minnesota! – Learn about Minnesota history: MN 150 – the Sesquicentennial celebration; Minnesota Quilts – the state's history in quilts; Minnesota's American Indian Culture; Votes for Women – Minnesota's role in the suffrage movement; and the Minnesota State Fair 1854-2008.

The Eagle, National Emblem of the United States – See a live eagle up close and personal and the Great Eagle Shield from the 1876 Centennial Exposition at this exhibit celebrating the history and conservation of America's nation emblem, produced in collaboration with the National Eagle Center and University of Minnesota Raptor Center.

Decision 2008 – Vote on the name of the new eagle from the National Eagle Center using historic and modern voting machines.

Presidential Timeline – Visit multiple interactive kiosks that explore the 12 20th-century presidents through photographs, audio recordings and video.

Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial – Experience an interactive commemoration of the 200th birthday of Abraham Lincoln from the Presidential Library and Museum.

Presidential Health – Examine the health and medical treatment of U.S. presidents and the role of their White House physicians.

Strike Up the Bandwagon – Glimpse a circa 1900 U.S. bandwagon used in several inaugural parades on loan from Circus World Museum in Baraboo, Wis.

American Artwork: The Flag of the United States of America – Witness the evolution of the nation's flag. A true example of beautiful American artwork, more than 150 authentic historic flags will be on display.

White House Rose Garden – Take in the beauty of the 60-foot White House façade and Rose Garden as you enter CivicFest.

C-SPAN Campaign 2008 – Tour the 45-foot C-SPAN bus, equipped with mobile multimedia demonstration centers and TV production units used for live programs such as C-SPAN's Washington Journal.

Best Buy Live Stage – Enjoy a week-long schedule of special programs, including live performances showcasing Minnesota talent.

From Haven to Home – Learn about key dates in American Jewish history and the story of diverse groups of Jewish immigrants who made the United States their home.

Medals of Honor – Get a firsthand look at the different Medals of Honor, the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force bestowed upon an individual serving in the Armed Services of the United States.

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