



NEWS NEWS

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“PRESIDENT AND MRS. LYNDON JOHNSON” TALK ABOUT THEIR LIFE IN THE WHITE HOUSE

RICHMOND, Va. – The Virginia War Memorial, 621 S. Belvidere St., Richmond, will host historical interpreters, Will and Sue Wills, who will bring the 36th President and First Lady to life on Wednesday, October 27, 2010, at 12:00 noon in the new Paul and Phyllis Galanti Education Center.

In 1991, William created a course to teach for the University of Maryland Eastern Shore Elderhostel which he entitled “Presidents and Their First Ladies, dramatically speaking”. Over the next six years, William researched and wrote performance pieces ranging between 30-60 minutes, which he and Sue then presented as “dramatically read dialogues” in a classroom setting.

When the couple closed their theater company in Ocean City, during which time they logged at least 4,000 performances, they began touring with their presidential programs. They added costumes to make the presentations more “theatrical” but retained the simple “reading” format utilizing simply two lecterns (although many of the pieces really are memorized). Using this simplest of theatrical formats, they have been able to not only recreate history, but to move audiences to laughter and tears.

Now in their 15th year, the couple has done over 4,000 of these presentations. Their “stages” range from small libraries to presidential museums, from retirement communities to legitimate theaters. Probably the highest tribute to their quality is that many venues have invited them back year after year – in some cases all 15 years- and they have made 31 presentations at our nation’s Presidential Library/Museum sites.

Will and Sue will portray the whirlwind courtship of the President and Lady Bird. It has been said that “Bird” grew into an astute business woman, and Lyndon became known as “The Master of the Senate.” He also became known for his bigger than life personality, and as Lady Bird herself said, “Life with Lyndon was one big adventure.”

This event is free and open to the public with free parking for our guests.