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Pulitzer Prize-Winning Author to Speak

August 23, 2007

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Pulitzer Prize-winning writer and presidential historian Doris Kearns Goodwin will visit the Illinois Wesleyan University and Illinois State University campuses on Tuesday, September 18, for the 6th Annual Ames/Milner Visiting Author Program.

Goodwin will appear at IWU for a presentation titled “Leadership Lessons from Abraham Lincoln” beginning at 2 p.m. in the Hansen Student Center (300 East Beecher St., Bloomington). The event is free and open to the public. She will discuss her most recent work, *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* (2005). Reaching number one on the *New York Times* Best-Seller List, the book has been optioned for a movie. Highlighting several historical figures, the work centers on how Lincoln’s political mastery shaped one of the most significant presidencies in the nation’s history.

A world-renowned historian, Goodwin has been reporting on politics and baseball for more than two decades. Her expertise has been sought as a commentator for NBC and a consultant for PBS documentaries on Lyndon B. Johnson, the Kennedy family, Franklin Roosevelt and Ken Burns’ documentary *The History of Baseball*.

Goodwin earned a doctorate from Harvard University, where she later taught courses on government, including a class on the American Presidency. She came to the attention of President Lyndon B. Johnson after writing an article about him in the *New Republic* in 1968. She left Harvard to serve as Johnson’s assistant during his last year in the White House, and later helped Johnson prepare his memoirs.

It was her 1995 book *No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: The Home Front During World War II* (1995) that earned her a Pulitzer Prize, as well as a Harold Washington Literary Award and the New England Booksellers Association Award. Her following novel was a departure from the arena of presidents. *Wait Until Next Year: A Memoir* recounts her youth in the 1950s and her love for the Brooklyn Dodgers.

The following is Goodwin’s schedule for the Visiting Authors Program on September 18:

- 2-3 p.m.: A presentation with Q&A, Center Court, Hansen Student Center, Illinois Wesleyan University.
- 7-8 p.m.: Talk by Goodwin, “Leadership Lessons from Abraham Lincoln,” Braden Auditorium, ISU.

Following the presentation will be a book signing at the Barnes & Noble College Book Store in the ISU Bone Student Center.

Goodwin’s visit is sponsored by Illinois Wesleyan University, Illinois State University and the Barnes & Noble College Book Store. For additional information about the Ames/Milner Visiting Author Program, contact Karen Schmidt, university librarian for The Ames Library, at (309) 556-3350.



Doris Kearns Goodwin

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