

PRESS RELEASE

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World War II Poster Exhibit at The Museums at Lisle Station Park Historic Train Depot

An exhibit featuring U.S. government posters from World War II opens Saturday, September 3 at The Museums at Lisle Station Park located at 921 School Street in Lisle. The exhibit features seven original posters printed by the United States government, which was actively involved in propaganda efforts to encourage citizens to support the war in Europe and Asia. Posters played a vital role in this effort.

The ubiquitous "I Want You for the U.S. Army," featuring a finger-pointing Uncle Sam, is the most recognizable image in the exhibit. Another recruitment poster features Uncle Sam again, this time rolling up his sleeves and urging young men to "Defend Your Country." Famous boxer Joe Louis is shown in a combat uniform saying, "We're going to do our part...and we'll win because we're on God's side." One poster features Abraham Lincoln and an African-American pastor protecting children of all races from the evil lashes of the Axis Powers, with Lincoln's quote "This world cannot exist half slave and half free."

The exhibit was put together by the Public Affairs staff of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, and the original posters are in the library's collection. It was displayed in the Governor's Tent at the 1995 Illinois State Fair as part of an exhibit commemorating the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II. It is now one of several traveling exhibits available from the Illinois Association of Museums. The exhibit will be on display at the Museums of Lisle Station Park through Saturday, October 15, 2011. Admission to the museum is free and hours of operation are Tuesday and Thursday from 1-4pm and Saturdays from 10am-4pm through Labor Day. Starting September 6, hours change to Saturdays from 1-4pm. Museum tours are available year-round by appointment. Visit www.LisleParkDistrict.org/museum or call 630-968-0499 for more information.

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