

Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Secretary of the District of Columbia



Stephanie D. Scott, Ph.D.
Secretary of the District of Columbia

July 29, 2009

Vincent C. Gray, Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Gray,

Attached please find my report on expenses for the District's celebrations of DC Emancipation Day, 2009. This report is required by D.C. Official Code Title 1, Chapter 1, Subchapter VI, § 1-183(c).

The report is a summary explanation of all activities and expenditures (\$23,306) for the week's worth of activities, so far this fiscal year.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephanie D Scott".

Stephanie D. Scott

cc: Mayor Adrian M. Fenty
All Councilmembers
Office of Financial Resource Management

District of Columbia Emancipation Day - April 16, 2009 Report of the Secretary of the District of Columbia

D.C. Official Code Title 1, Chapter 1, Subchapter VI, § 1-183(c) states:

By August 1st of each year, the Secretary of the District of Columbia shall submit a report to the Council that shall include a specific accounting of the expenditure of money in the Fund and any remaining balance. The report shall include:

- (1) The name of any donors or list of anonymous contributions;
- (2) The amount of each contribution;
- (3) A description of any donated property;
- (4) A description of the use of monies for presenting the Emancipation Day Parade; and
- (5) Costs of parade-related programs, activities, and functions for which the money have been expended.

Further, D.C. Official Code Title 1, Chapter 1, Subchapter VI, § 1-183(a) states:

For the purposes of this subchapter, the term:

- (1) “Emancipation Day Parade” means the parade, and associated activities, held to celebrate and commemorate District of Columbia Emancipation Day.

Fiscal Year 2009 was a year of completing projects begun in prior years. In partnership with the Office of Cable Television, the documentary started in FY08, *Enslavement to Emancipation* was completed. This documentary was originally conceived as an education piece on the precursors to the signing of the District of Columbia Compensated Emancipation Act of 1862. During the past year the Office of the Secretary added to the content that was prepared in 2008, bringing the story up through the 20th century to the present day. The documentary premiered on DC Cable Channel 16 on Emancipation Day, April 16, 2009, and was subsequently made available as an “on demand” selection, to which the DC Emancipation Day page on our website now links.

While the documentary was in production by the Office of Cable Television, the Office of the Secretary worked with the DC Humanities Council to complete a companion booklet to the documentary that was originally drafted for the Humanities Council five years prior, in 2004. The booklet was updated and edited by the Secretary, 20,000 copies were printed, and copies were distributed during the Emancipation Day events, including the lecture series and at concerts. Titled “Ending Slavery in the Nation’s Capital,” the booklet was immediately made available for free download on the DC Emancipation Day web page. Because the printed copies of the booklet were not available until April 14, we were not

able to distribute many before Emancipation Day, but we have plans to work with the DC Public Schools and community groups in advance of the 2010 commemoration.

DONATIONS

We received no donations for celebrations of Emancipation Day 2009, nor were any solicited.

EXPENSES

ENSLAVEMENT TO EMANCIPATION:

The costs for the documentary and booklet discussed above total \$16,325. This includes \$14,640 for printing 20,000 of the “Ending Slavery in the Nation’s Capital” booklets, and \$1,685 for 1,000 copies of the documentary DVD.

EMANCIPATION WEEK LECTURE SERIES:

As usual, the Office of the Secretary of the District of Columbia continued our annual lecture series during the week prior to DC Emancipation Day. In 2009 we partnered with organizations as diverse as the Friends of DC Emancipation Day, Busboys and Poets, and the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission to commemorate DC Emancipation Day.

We listed thirty events on the dc.gov/emancipationday page in 2009, with twenty-one events occurring within the week of DC Emancipation Day. There were no expenses for the lecture series, as most of the events were organized by various community partners, and the Office of the Secretary served as a clearinghouse of information on events commemorating the day.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL CONCERT:

The largest event was the Easter Sunday concert planned in partnership with the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission (ALBC). The ALBC recreated the 1939 Easter Sunday Marian Anderson Concert at the Lincoln Memorial, with Denyce Graves, and we partnered with them by paying for Sweet Honey in the Rock to be a part of this historic concert. The expenditures associated with the concert were \$6,981.

SUMMARY

The total spent for the week of DC Emancipation Day was \$23,306, of which, 70 percent was spent on educational materials.