

Product Review of "Abraham Lincoln in Song" Music CD

From [Espie Estrella](#),
Your Guide to [Music Education](#).

Guide Rating - ★★★★★

The Bottom Line

Chris Vallillo is an Illinois State Scholar for the Smithsonian Institution's traveling exhibition on Roots Music, New Harmonies. His passion for music and history is clearly evident in his latest cd offering titled *Abraham Lincoln in Song*. This cd makes history come to life and celebrates Lincoln's legacy through music that you'll love listening to.

Pros

Historically-rich selection of songs

Excellent vocals and arrangement

Great packaging

Very informative liner notes

Used vintage instruments such as a 1940's Gibson Southern Jumbo guitar and a 1927 Gibson tenor lute

Cons

None

Description

Produced by Chris Vallillo and released under Gin Ridge Music

Contains 13 carefully selected songs that are associated to Abraham Lincoln

Songs were researched to be historically accurate and highlights Lincoln's life through contemporary folk and period songs

Showcases Chris Vallillo's vocal ability and musicianship through the use of vintage instruments

Endorsed by the Illinois Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission

Cover photo is from the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum and the cd is packaged in an environmentally-friendly cardboard

The liner notes contains historical information pertaining to each song

For teachers, this cd will make a great addition to any history, social studies or music curriculum

Songs are expertly arranged and recorded made more appealing by Chris Vallillo's singing

Price: \$15.00

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In honor of President Abraham Lincoln's bicentennial birthday celebration this February, Chris Vallillo, a singer-songwriter, performer, six-string and bottleneck slide guitarist, has released his latest cd titled *Abraham Lincoln in Song*. The said cd contains 13 carefully selected songs that celebrate the life and legacy of one of America's most beloved presidents.

Abraham Lincoln in Song takes you to a historically-rich voyage through contemporary folk songs and period music such as "Battle Cry of Freedom" and "Aura Lee." The musical instruments used in each song (e.g. harmonica, jews harp and bottleneck slide guitar) add to that nostalgic feeling and Chris Vallillo's ability as a singer/storyteller holds you captive.

The packaging is well-designed with a cover photo from the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum and additional images of Lincoln on the inside. The information under each song gives you a better understanding of its connection to Lincoln. For example, the song "El-A-Noy" is said to be a favorite of his and the song "We Are Coming Father Abraham" is said to have been sung to him by Union Troops before he delivered his famous Gettysburg Address. This is a perfect example of incorporating music to teach history in an engaging way.