

# PRESS RELEASE

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## LIVING HISTORY: A WALK THROUGH TIME

*Program to focus on The Nature Institute and region history*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 12, 2015**

Godfrey, Ill- Learn about The Nature Institute's (TNI) past from those that know it the best; John M. Olin, Aune Nelson, James John Audubon and more. Dozens of costumed, local historians will be at TNI, located at 2213 South Levis Lane in Godfrey, Ill, for a "Living History: A Walk through Time" on Saturday, Nov. 21 starting at 10 a.m. Admission is \$10 per person. All money acquired through this event will go to assist TNI in their mission of preservation, restoration and education.

Some speakers will be in full costume with in-period artifacts by their sides. Guests will be allowed to move along the eight historical stops of the trail at their leisure (map will be provided to guests as a take home booklet).

Historical stops along the trail include: Larry Reid, WBGZ's Outdoors with Larry Reid, as John M. Olin; Brad Winn, Lewis and Clark State Historic Site #1, as an expedition re-enactor with the keel boat replica; story teller and author Brian "Fox" Ellis as John James Audubon and Prince Maximillian, and Eric Robinson, Underground Railroad Tours, talking about TNI property and its important role in the road to freedom.

"Living History: A Walk through Time' gives us not only the opportunity to teach the Alton area about TNI, it will also allow us to provide a visual learning experience that will hopefully captivate audiences and inspire in-home discussions" says Ramona Puskar, education assistant for TNI.

Puskar first became inspired for this event while employed at Dunes Learning Center in Chesterton, Ind. The center is similar to TNI's efforts in environmental education. "While working there we put on a comparable event for 4th graders that took them through important occasions from pre-European settlement to today." She continued, "I thought, 'what a perfect event to adapt for TNI friends and family'."

Puskar is most looking forward to seeing Reid portray John M. Olin, due to his personal history encompassing much of the United States. Puskar herself will be in costume as a spectator for the Lincoln-Douglas Debates.

TNI is a conservation and environmental education organization whose mission is to foster an awareness and appreciation of the natural world through preservation, restoration and education. They own roughly 450 acres of preserved land with several miles of hiking trails. Trails are open for public use from dawn to dusk. TNI trails will be closed January through March 2016.

For more information on "Living History: A Walk through Time" or any other upcoming TNI events, visit [www.TheNatureInstitute.org](http://www.TheNatureInstitute.org) or call (618) 466-9930.

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