

PaddyLynn



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MEET HARRIET BEECHER STOWE, ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST INFLUENTIAL NOVELIST



Paddy Lynn as Harriet Beecher Stowe

And author of **UNCLE TOM'S CABIN**. This little five-foot woman from New England stirred the conscience of America on issues of slavery and influenced the course of American history. Harriet was a housewife with six children, yet also a true abolitionist at heart who was determined to write a novel so powerful that it would change the way people viewed slavery once and for all. Her book sold millions of copies worldwide, became the best selling book ever- next to the Bible, and was translated in over 60 languages. She became an overnight sensation at a time when America was on the brink of the Civil War. Her popularity spread far and wide and made her a shaper of public opinion. It is no wonder that upon meeting her, President Abraham Lincoln said, "So this is the little lady who started this big war." Harriet was a true visionary in every sense of the word.

Professional storyteller and actress, Paddy Lynn, portrays author and humanitarian, Harriet Beecher Stowe in this insightful and emotional one-woman presentation.

Perfect for schools, libraries, clubs, festivals, and especially Black History Month.

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HARRIET BEECHER STOWE

Renowned author of UNCLE TOM'S CABIN

When I first started to research a storytelling piece on Harriet Beecher Stowe, I wasn't too certain that I would find her story to be interesting and appealing to the general public. I couldn't have been more wrong. Here was a woman who embodied the strength and fortitude of great women of the nineteenth century. Harriet was born into an established New England family of preachers, her father being a very prominent First Congregational Minister and her brother Henry Ward, equaling that fame as a preacher and great debater of the period. Harriet was well educated and extremely gifted; yet she could not publicly speak or even lead a prayer in church. She grew up at a time when slavery was on the minds of everyone, and she found herself relating to the abolitionists- despite the risks that accompanied it. She grew increasingly angry with the government and lack of intervention from the churches. When her family moved to Cincinnati, OH, which was at the crossroads between the North and the South, tempers were flaring and Harriet did her best to establish some order. Her biggest obstacle was she was a woman, and wasn't given much credence. She turned to writing to help educate people and get her message across. Most of the pieces she published fell on deaf ears. Then in 1852, when the Fugitive Slave Act went into effect, Harriet reached a new all time low. She was devastated. One day, when a certain letter from her sister-in-law arrived, Harriet knew what she had to do. She had to write something powerful enough to change the minds of people and to set in motion the need to abolish slavery once and for all. She wrote to Dr. Bailey of the National Era and sent him a sample of her story. She warned him it might take three or four installments before it was complete. Dr. Bailey sent her a check for \$300 and encouraged her to write this important piece of literature, UNCLE TOM'S CABIN. The rest is history.

This one-woman storytelling program on HARRIET BEECHER STOWE, relates her life and times, and many personal insights into this amazing woman. Harriet was a wife, a mother, an educator, a writer, and more importantly, a visionary. She felt chosen to write a book unlike any other, not only of that period, but even today. Harriet may have been a small five-foot white woman from New England but she had a profound impact on America. Why even President Lincoln upon meeting her said, "So this is the little lady who started this big war." Harriet's story is an inspiration to all of us struggling to do the right thing, and believing in ourselves. In this program I try and capture the heart and soul of this gentle powerhouse and share her story with all who will listen.

Harriet Beecher Stowe is a wonderful story for Black History Month. Invite Paddy to your school, church, library, or social event to share this remarkable story. Special discounts offered on this program from now through March. Contact Paddy for specifics and mention reading this page.

More information on Harriet can be found at:

<http://www.harrietbeecherstowecenter.org>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harriet_Beecher_Stowe

<http://www.womenwriters.net/domesticgoddess/Stowe1.htm>

<http://americancivilwar.com/women/hbs.html>

<http://digital.library.upenn.edu/women/stowe/StoweHB.html>



Paddy Lynn as Harriet Beecher Stowe