The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives presents

**A Just and Lasting Peace:** Abraham Lincoln’s Plans to Reunite the Nation

Author and CNN Anchor John Avlon will discuss his new book on Lincoln’s quest for peace with the AJA’s executive director, **Dr. Gary P. Zola**

*author of We Called Him Rabbi Abraham: Lincoln and American Jewry, a Documentary History*

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TUESDAY

**SEPT 20**

**4:00 PM**
Lincoln and the Fight for Peace
by John Avlon

A groundbreaking, revelatory history of Abraham Lincoln’s plan to secure a just and lasting peace after the Civil War—a vision that inspired future presidents as well as the world’s most famous peacemakers, including Nelson Mandela and Martin Luther King, Jr. It is a story of war and peace, race and reconciliation.

Lincoln and the Fight for Peace reveals how Lincoln’s character informed his commitment to unconditional surrender followed by a magnanimous peace. Even during the Civil War, surrounded by reactionaries and radicals, he refused to back down from his belief that there is more that unites us than divides us. But he also understood that peace needs to be waged with as much intensity as war. Lincoln’s plan to win the peace is his unfinished symphony, but in its existing notes, we can find an anthem that can begin to bridge our divisions today.

JOHN AVLON is a senior political analyst and anchor at CNN. He is an award-winning columnist and the author of Independent Nation, Wingnuts, and Washington’s Farewell. Previously, he was the editor-in-chief and managing director of The Daily Beast and served as chief speechwriter for the Mayor of New York during the attacks of 9/11. He lives with his wife Margaret Hoover and their two children in New York.

We Called Him Rabbi Abraham: Lincoln and American Jewry, a Documentary History
By Dr. Gary P. Zola

Over the course of American history, Jews have held many American leaders in high esteem, but they maintain a unique emotional bond with Abraham Lincoln. From the time of his presidency to the present day, American Jews have persistently viewed Lincoln as one of their own, casting him as a Jewish sojourner and, in certain respects, a Jewish role model. This pioneering compendium— The first volume of annotated documents to focus on the history of Lincoln’s image, influence, and reputation among American Jews— considers how Lincoln acquired his exceptional status and how, over the past century and a half, this fascinating relationship has evolved.

DR. GARY P. ZOLA is the Executive Director of The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives (AJA) and the Edward M. Ackerman Family Distinguished Professor of the American Jewish Experience & Reform Jewish History at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR). His latest book is New Perspectives in American Jewish History: A Documentary Tribute to Jonathan D. Sarna co-authored with Dr. Mark A. Raider.