Guidelines for Completing the *Paths to Freedom* Cast List

- Start by assigning one student to each line. The traditional cast list contains 20 speaking roles for this play but can be adapted for 17-27 speaking parts.

- Students who do not feel comfortable performing a speaking role can play a non-speaking part (see end of cast list) or be a crew member helping behind the scenes.

- With the 20 speaking roles, some students are assigned to “double characters,” meaning that they play more than one role. The assignments were determined using the following criteria:
  - The characters are not in the same scene (or scenes that are close together).
  - If you chose to use costumes, no costume change is required to play both characters.

- *If you have more students than parts,* feel free to split up the “double characters” (i.e., one student can play Fred Seward and another student can play Count Gurowski). This will add 7 additional speaking parts.

- *If you do not have enough students to complete the cast list,* you double up a few roles to get the speaking parts down to 17 and not have any overlap in scenes.
  - Frederick Douglass/Any additional character
  - Mary Todd Lincoln/Rebecca Pomroy
  - Tad Lincoln/any General or Admiral
CAST LIST

PATHS TO FREEDOM
Slavery, Emancipation, and the Power of the President

CAST LIST

Narrator:
1. Frederick Douglass ____________________________

Main Character:
2. President Abraham Lincoln _______________________
   Note: The student assigned to this role should be outgoing, and able to read well. Abraham Lincoln
   has more lines than any other character.

President's Family:
3. Mary Todd Lincoln, Wife __________________________
4. Tad Lincoln, Youngest son _________________________
   Note: Tad was a real troublemaker. A lively student would play this role well!

Cabinet Members and other characters:
5. Edwin Stanton/ Henri Mercier __________________________
6. William Seward/Ward Lamon __________________________
7. Salmon P. Chase __________________________
8. Edward Bates/ Lord Richard Lyons _______________________
9. Montgomery Blair/ Charles Sumner _______________________
10. Caleb Smith/ James Bayard __________________________
11. Gideon Welles/ Edward Rosewater __________________________
12. Fred Seward/ Count Adam Gurowski __________________________
   Note: Gurowski’s character is very dramatic
13. Fanny Seward __________________________
   Note: She was an enthusiastic young lady
14. Kate Chase __________________________
15. Anna Seward (Fred Seward’s wife) __________________________
Note: Daughter of Secretary Chase; she is intelligent, proud, and a tad snobby!

16. General Ambrose Burnside, Union Army __________________________
   Note: This character should wear sideburns; the other kids may laugh about it. The student playing
   Burnside should be outgoing, and not easily embarrassed.

17. General Lorenzo Thomas, Union Army __________________________

18. Admiral Andrew Foote, Union Navy __________________________

19. Rebecca Pomroy __________________________
   Former nurse to Tad Lincoln

20. Elizabeth Keckley __________________________
   Mrs. Lincoln's friend and dressmaker. She was also formerly enslaved.

**Non-Speaking Roles**
These students can appear on-stage in the background of scenes but do not need to perform lines.

Union Soldiers:

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Extra Gentlemen:

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Extra Ladies:

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