

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oshkosh Public Museum Announces New Dates for *The Tsar and the President* Exhibition

**The dates of the Oshkosh Public Museum's summer exhibition, *The Tsar and the President*, have been rescheduled for July 12, 2008, through October 12, 2008. The exhibition will now run for an extended period of time at the museum to enable more visitors to experience the collection.**

Oshkosh, WI – May 8, 2008 – The Oshkosh Public Museum announces a date change for its summer exhibition, *The Tsar and the President*, which will now run July 12, 2008, through October 12, 2008. The exhibition dates have been rescheduled from their original time frame due to a modification in the exhibition schedule.

Brad Larson, director of the Oshkosh Public Museum, says, "Due to the very limited number of showings the exhibition is scheduled for in the United States, we anticipate strong visitation from throughout Wisconsin and neighboring states, and the extended time period will allow more visitors to experience this unique collection. Also, with the exhibition now scheduled into October, school groups will have the opportunity to visit and explore first-hand a turning point of American history."

*The Tsar and the President* explores 19<sup>th</sup> Century Imperial Russia and Civil War America and the friendship between Russia's Tsar Alexander II and President Abraham Lincoln. The exhibition displays the grandeur, majesty and richness of Imperial Russia through artifacts such as Alexander II's personal belongings and property of the Russian Empire. Many of the riches and relics presented have never before traveled outside of Russia. The splendor of Imperial Russia is contrasted by the humble roots and life of Abraham Lincoln and war-divided America. Included in the exhibition are historically important objects from Ford's Theater, where Lincoln's assassination occurred, as well as personal items associated with Lincoln's life and presidency.

Despite the vast differences in their backgrounds, their shared principles and camaraderie united Alexander II and Abraham Lincoln as leaders. This is the thread that winds its way through the exhibition.

In conjunction with *The Tsar and the President*, the Oshkosh Public Museum will present its own Civil War exhibition and tribute to Abraham Lincoln. The Civil War exhibition will highlight the role of Oshkosh in the war and will feature pieces from the Oshkosh Public Museum collection, including muskets, flags and uniforms from the Union Army. The tribute to Abraham Lincoln will include Lincoln artifacts from the Wisconsin Historical Society and local collectors and will feature a multimedia presentation of Lincoln images and speech excerpts.

*The Tsar and the President* was organized by the American-Russian Cultural Cooperation Foundation in Washington, DC. Its presentation at the Oshkosh Public Museum is the first stop on the exhibition's tour and is one of only two scheduled showings in the United States.

The Oshkosh Public Museum was founded in 1924 and is accredited by the American Association of Museums. The museum houses artifacts, photographs, film and archival materials that represent the material culture, ideas and values of Oshkosh and the Lake Winnebago Region. The museum is dedicated to bringing history and heritage to life through creative, quality exhibitions, programs, publications and other educational experiences. It is a

center for the preservation of local culture and encourages citizens to discover their community and its heritage.

The Oshkosh Public Museum is located at 1331 Algoma Boulevard. The museum is open Tuesday – Saturday, 10:00 am – 4:30 pm and Sunday, 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm. Admission is charged; please visit [www.oshkoshmuseum.org](http://www.oshkoshmuseum.org) for rates. (Special admission fees will be in effect for *The Tsar and the President* exhibition. Please call (920) 236-5799 for pricing.)

For more information on the Oshkosh Public Museum and *The Tsar and the President* exhibition, call (920) 236-5799 or visit [www.oshkoshmuseum.org](http://www.oshkoshmuseum.org).

Contact:

Megan Del Debbio, marketing and membership coordinator  
Oshkosh Public Museum  
(920) 236-5763  
[mdeldebbio@ci.oshkosh.wi.us](mailto:mdeldebbio@ci.oshkosh.wi.us)  
<http://www.oshkoshmuseum.org/>

###