

“A Standing Miracle”

Things to Make the Presentation As Effective As Possible

- Advance Publicity: Having as many people in the audience as possible will spread the message more and will encourage not only the audience but also the presenter. Josh can provide content to assist in your promotional efforts, if you wish.
- Length of Program: Please advise Josh at least one week (more is better) ahead of the date for the presentation whether you want the full (about 42 minute) presentation or the abridged (about 22 minute) version. Once that commitment is made, please make every effort to provide the full amount of time. The presentation of the length you have chosen will be presented, even if your meeting is running late. Please don't make this presentation impose on your guests by running past their time expectations.
- Physical Setting:
 - A raised platform (or “stage”) a minimum of about 8' wide by 6' deep would help the audience see the presentation. (Not essential, but helpful.)
 - Having the audience in less light and the “stage” in more light would enhance the effect of the presentation, if that can be done. In fact, the ideal would be theatrical lighting on “stage” and a dark auditorium. (Not essential, but helpful.)
- Sound:
 - A wireless microphone is helpful; essential if the crowd is very large or if there are audience members who need sound amplification, or ambient noises (like air conditioning or kitchen noises) or poor acoustics in the auditorium or presentation space. (A hand-held or other visible microphone will not work.) Having the ability to control the sound level in real time (i.e., a sound board and operator) is nice but not essential. Testing the sound level before the session begins is strongly advised.
 - The less any noises, movements, or other distractions compete with the presentation, the better.
 - Josh has a CD of music that can be used, if you have a reliable sound operator that's a quick study. If this option is desired, please advise Josh ahead of time.
- Setup: Please allow Josh 20 minutes before the expected arrival your first guest to set up his desk, chair, and props. (Josh brings these items with him.) And then allow at least 10 minutes for him to get into costume before the President's entrance.
- Dressing and Stage Access:
 - A dressing room (not accessed by the public and with access to restroom facilities) is necessary.
 - Unseen (or unobtrusive) access from that dressing area to the “stage” would be very helpful.
 - Please allow at least 10 minutes for Josh to get dressed prior to his “coming on.”
- Character Separation: Honoring the illusion of “President Washington” enhances the impact of the presentation and its message. So, when Josh is in costume, he's “President Washington;” otherwise, he's Josh or Judge Morriss. He tries not to mingle with the audience in costume. On the other hand, after Josh “returns,” he enjoys meeting your guests that may linger after the program.
- Other Business: Minimizing other “business” in your meeting, especially after the presentation of “A Standing Miracle,” will enhance the program. Avoiding lots of announcements, reports, and long discussions, if possible, will make your guests and their posteriors happier at the end of the session.
- Just Before Presentation Begins:
 - This brief introduction of Josh is requested: *“A Standing Miracle” was researched and written, and is being presented, by Josh Morriss, retired Chief Justice of the Sixth District Court of Appeals in Texarkana, Texas.*
 - Then, please have someone light the candle on Washington's desk and clear the matches from the stage.
 - Finally, follow with the following short paragraph: *Setting: March 4, 1797, Philadelphia, the office of the President. Washington, in the last minutes of his presidency, ends a life of service to his country by delivering a critically important message to those that are to follow.*