Holland Cooke Media Show Prep

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"Your all-time four most-monumental presidents of the United States?"

If we were just-now carving Mount Rushmore, which 4 presidents would you choose?



L-R: Washington, Jefferson, T. Roosevelt, Lincoln

Why these four presidents?

George Washington, (1st president) led the early colonists in the American Revolutionary War to win independence from Great Britain. He was the father of the new country and laid the foundation of American democracy. Because of his importance, Washington is the most prominent figure on the mountain.

Thomas Jefferson, (3rd president) he was the author of the Declaration of Independence, a document which inspires democracies around the world. He also purchased the Louisiana Territory from France in 1803 which doubled the size of our country, adding all or part of fifteen present-day states.

Theodore Roosevelt, (26th president) provided leadership when America experienced rapid economic growth as it entered the 20th Century. He was instrumental in negotiating the construction of the Panama Canal, linking the east and the west. He was known as the "trust buster" for his work to end large corporate monopolies and ensure the rights of the common working man.

Abraham Lincoln, (16th president) held the nation together during its greatest trial, the Civil War. Lincoln believed his most sacred duty was the preservation of the union. It was his firm conviction that slavery must be abolished.

Carving: October 4, 1927 - October 31, 1941 (14 years)

Presidents post-TR until carving commenced:

- William H. Taft
- Woodrow Wilson
- Warren G. Harding
- Calvin Coolidge

Presidents since then:

- Herbert Hoover
- FDR
- Harry Truman
- Dwight Eisenhower
- JFK
- LBJ
- Richard Nixon
- Gerald Ford
- Jimmy Carter
- Ronald Reagan
- George Bush Sr.
- Bill Clinton
- George Bush Jr.
- Barack Obama
- Donald Trump
- Joe Biden