



FIRST SPOUSE SERIES

ONE-HALF OUNCE PROOF AND UNCIRCULATED COINS

HIGHLY COLLECTABLE SERIES

American First Ladies are now honored with First Spouse Gold Coins, which are one-half ounce, 24 karat pure gold coins minted in collector proof and uncirculated versions. This series of gold coins introduced in 2007 and set to last until 2016 compliment and are released on the same schedule as the US Mint Presidential \$1 program which honors past Presidents at a rate of four gold coins each year.



THE FIRST SPOUSE GOLD COINS PROGRAM

The program is the first to feature women in a consecutive series of legal tender coins. The series of gold coins is authorized through the Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2005, which was signed into law (Public Law 109-145) on Dec. 22, 2005 by President George Bush. It calls for the following coin specifications:

- A \$10 denomination
- The same diameter as the \$1 coins
- Issued as counterparts and during the same period as the circulating Presidential \$1 coins

There are two cases where a President has had more than one wife during service and two coins are issued, like John Tyler. Tyler's first wife Letitia died during his second year in office. Tyler later married Julia while still President. Under the program, both Letitia and Julia First Spouse Coins were produced.



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MARY TODD LINCOLN 2010



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MARY TODD LINCOLN FIRST SPOUSE GOLD COIN *FIRST LADY, 1861–1865*

The United States Mint issued the Mary Todd Lincoln First Spouse Gold Coin in December 2010. This represented the final release of the year for the series, and the seventeenth release overall. One of the most popular First Spouse coin releases in recent years.

When her husband was first elected to Congress in 1847, Mary directed all her energy into helping advance his career and ultimately his bid for the presidency. After Lincoln became President in 1861, Mary served enthusiastically as his confidant and advisor. She hosted public receptions at the White House, which she called “handshake days,” on which hundreds of people, including blacks, would crowd into the East Room to greet her and the President.

The obverse of the coin features a portrait of Mary Todd Lincoln as designed and sculpted by Phebe Hemphill. Required obverse inscriptions include the First Lady’s name, the order of the Presidency and years of the term, “In God We Trust”, “Liberty”, and the date of issue.

The reverse of the Mary Todd Lincoln First Spouse Coin was designed by Joel Iskowitz and sculpted by Phebe Hemphill. It depicts a scene of Mrs. Lincoln visiting wounded Union soldiers, bearing flowers and books. Inscriptions include “United States of America”, “E Pluribus Unum”, and information on the gold content and fineness.

As a change from prior years, the United States Mint established the maximum mintage across proof and uncirculated versions of the coin at just 20,000 coins. This is half the level used for coins released during the first three years of the series.

COIN SPECIFICATIONS

Designer: Phebe Hemphill (obverse), Joel Iskowitz (reverse)

Sculptor: Phebe Hemphill (obverse & reverse)

Date: 2010

Mint: West Point (W mint mark)

Weight: 0.5000 troy oz. (15.554 g)

Composition: 0.9999 fine gold

Diameter: 1.041 inches (26.49 mm)

Thickness: 0.074 inches (1.88 mm)