



## Today in History

*December 18, 1865*

▲ **Slavery was abolished across the United States and its territories following the ratification of the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution**

**1779:** English actor and dancer Joseph Grimaldi, creator of the white-faced circus clown, was born

**1956:** Japan became the 69th member of the United Nations. There are currently 193 members

**1991:** The first international project to save the world's rainforests was launched in Brazil

**2009:** The Spanish region of Catalonia voted to ban the controversial sport of bullfighting