



Photo courtesy of George Washington's Mount Vernon

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### **Planning for the Nation's 250th Anniversary is Underway in Virginia**

On July 4, 1776, exactly 247 years ago today, the 13 original American colonies declared their independence from Great Britain. Three short years from now, the United States will celebrate its 250th anniversary – the [semiquincentennial](#) – of that event. The Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250), created by the General Assembly, is busy making plans for this milestone anniversary, as well as coordinating and collaborating with every locality as each plans events across the state.

“Virginia has taken a key leadership role in the nationwide 250th commemoration, as is fitting for the state that is the Birthplace of the Nation,” said Delegate Terry Austin, Chairman of the VA250 Commission. “Virginia’s rich history extends to every corner of the Commonwealth, and the Commission is committed to a statewide commemoration that includes all, and in which every Virginian can see their story.”

Senator Mamie Locke, Vice Chair of the VA250 Commission noted, “Virginia will be prepared to show her history through all lenses, telling the stories of all communities and making it possible for every locality and every Virginian to shine and feel proud of our Commonwealth.”

The Commission's main goal is to convene a statewide commemoration and celebration that is multi-faceted and includes hundreds of partners and representatives from the wide array of historic sites, museums, and communities that enrich Virginia. There will be signature events, museum exhibitions, a mobile exhibition that will travel the state and beyond in a tractor-trailer, and much more.

Carly Fiorina, National Honorary Chairperson of VA250, noted, “Virginia has played this incredibly central, pivotal role in the founding of our nation and everything that’s happened since.” It makes sense for Virginia to take the lead on this commemoration. After all, Virginia’s history *is* America’s story.”

While the nation’s 250th commemoration will reach its peak and culmination on July 4, 2026, Virginia’s commemoration will continue through 2031, to mark the semiquincentennial of the decisive battle of Yorktown. That hard-fought victory effectively brought an end to the American Revolution and secured enduring independence for a fledgling nation.

To learn more, or to get involved with planning and events within your community, closely monitor [www.va250.org](http://www.va250.org) and follow [@varevolution250](https://twitter.com/varevolution250) on social media.

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