VIRGINIA’S HISTORY IS AMERICA’S STORY

VA250.org
Virginia’s History is America’s Story
Commission Membership

- General Assembly leadership
  - Del. Terry Austin, Chair
  - Sen. Mamie Locke, Vice Chair
- Colonial Williamsburg
- VMHC
- JYF
- Gunston Hall
- Monticello
- Secretary of Education
- Virginia Tourism

- Department of Historic Resources
- Library of Virginia
- Virginia Bar Association
- American Battlefield Trust
Virginia leads the nation’s 250th

- Strong state support
- Robust local committees
- Committed corporate partners

About VA250

- Honorary Leadership Council
- 50-state partnerships
Guiding Principles and Themes

• Statewide commemoration
• Multi-faceted and inclusive of all perspectives
• Every Virginian can see their story

Virginia’s history is America’s story. *What’s your story?*

In Virginia, the American Revolution was a war, and more than a war. It was a *Revolution of Ideas.*
$1.5 Billion economic impact to Virginia
22,000 Jobs created across the Commonwealth
$50 Million in state and local tax revenue
9 Million people participating in events and programs
Extensive media impressions, interviews, articles, social media interaction
Signature Exhibition with Traveling Panels

- Partnership between Virginia Museum of History and Culture and Jamestown Yorktown Foundation
- (Part I) 5,000 sq. ft. cutting-edge museum exhibition with online component for schools
- (Part II) Traveling Panel Exhibition
  - Provided to localities, at no cost, for display in small museums, libraries, community centers
Mobile Museum

Plans in Development
Mobile Museum: Schools
Mobile Museum: Centerpiece of Events
Signature Events and Conferences

1776

2026
A Common Cause To All
Save the Date!

2024
Monday, March 18 – Wednesday, March 20

2025
Monday, March 24 – Wednesday, March 26

Colonial Williamsburg
Williamsburg Lodge
• Fairfax Resolves
• Resolution of the Freeholders of Albemarle County
• Lafayette’s Grand Tour – 200th Anniversary
• Battle of Point Pleasant
• Fort Gower Resolves
• Yorktown Tea Party 250th
• Multi-state coordination of Historic Tea Party anniversaries
2025 Anniversaries and Events

- VBA law symposium
- Fincastle resolutions
- Patrick Henry’s “Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death” speech
- Gunpowder Incident
- Battle of Hampton
- Battle of Kemp’s Landing
- Battle of Great Bridge
Fifth Virginia Convention: Virginia’s Independence Day (May 15)
Virginia Declaration of Rights (June 12, Gunston Hall)
Sail 250 (June 19-24)
Independence Day (July 4)

Formation of First Baptist Church
First Meeting of General Assembly
2031: Siege of Yorktown and Cornwallis’ Surrender
American Independence is secured at Yorktown
Local VA250 Committees
Local VA250 Committees

Resources to support Local VA250 Committees

- Interactive Statewide Calendar of Events
- Dedicated page on VA250.org to highlight local history, events
- Customized logo with locality name
- Amplification of events across social media

- VA250 grant program to provide funding to local committees
  - Virginia Tourism VA250 Marketing Leverage Grants
    - Specifically includes *Road to Revolution* interpretive signage
  - Virginia Humanities VA250 Content Development Grants
  - Virginia Commission for the Arts Community Partnership Program Grants
Culpeper County

Chartered in 1749, Culpeper County was named for Lord Thomas Culpeper, Colonial Governor of Virginia, 1680-1683. That year, at the age of 17, George Washington was commissioned to survey and plot the Town and the County of Culpeper. The Town of Culpeper was chartered in 1759 by an Act of the General Assembly as the Town of Fairfax and it was recorded that the Town occupied a “high and pleasant situation.” It was named after Lord Culpeper’s grandson, Lord Fairfax the sixth. The early 27-acre courthouse village was developed on land included in a 1754 purchase by Robert Coleman. Coleman purchased the land from the oldest son of Virginia Governor Alexander Spotswood, who had received the land in a grant from the British Crown.

Prince William County

Explore the 12 sites within Prince William County & the city of Manassas, Virginia designated as part of the Revolutionary War History Trail. The Revolutionary War History Trail connects visitors with the great campaigns and lesser-known sites of the Revolutionary War in this region. Illustrated signs combine storytelling with historic images at each historic site. Rippon Lodge Historic Site leads the county’s commemoration with events scheduled throughout the year.
Statewide Calendar of Events

Commemoration related events are already happening throughout Virginia and can be found in the listing below. If you would like VA250 to include events not currently listed here, please submit them to Trevor Grimm, at tgrimm@va250.org and continue to check back regularly for more events as they are scheduled and added to this site.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City/County</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>End Date</th>
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**Reign & Rebellion**
*November 05, 2022 - September 05, 2023*
*York County*
Discover Virginia through the lens of the Stuart monarchy, whose royal foot hold impacted and influenced early America and shaped the struggles and determination of those who lived in the colony in the 17th and 18th centuries. This upcoming two-fold...

**Loquacious Lucy, Queen for a Day**
*February 04, 2023 - March 11, 2023*
*City of Williamsburg*
When Lucy, a generous and loquacious enslaved child, learns that her best friend has been sold, her mother must teach her hard lessons about slavery and instill in her the pride of her ancestors. Every Saturday Feb 4 - Mar 11 (except Feb 11)...

**A Common Cause to All**
*March 10, 2023 - March 12, 2023*
*City of Williamsburg*
March 12, 2023 is the 250th Anniversary of Virginia forming its Committee of Correspondence in order to secure united action...

**8th Annual Prince William/Mantassas History Symposium**
*March 25, 2023 - March 26, 2023*
*City of Manassas*
Prince William County has many different layers to its history, and many individuals have shaped its complex past. Come learn about some of the early pioneers in County history at the Eighth Annual Prince William/Mantassas History Symposium. "Histor...

**Liberty Celebration**
*July 04, 2023*
*York County*
This Fourth of July, take in Liberty Celebration and salute the 247th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. The American Revolution Museum at Yorktown offers a special lineup July 4 to mark the patriotic occasion. From 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., visit...

**Harvest Day at Rippon Lodge**
*September 23, 2023*
*Prince William County*
Learn the history of harvest day during the colonial era at Rippon Lodge Historic Site. Crafts, picking fresh veggies from the garden, pumpkin painting, farm animals, lawn games, and other fun, family activities planned. Advanced registration strongly...

**Rippon Lodge 275th Celebration Finale**
*November 08, 2023*
*Prince William County*
In 1747, construction began on Rippon Lodge, one of the area’s oldest homes. For this anniversary celebration, Rippon Lodge Historic Site welcomes you to experience a day full of colonial living history demonstrations and impressions. military enca...
The oldest, extent building in our nation that once educated black students has been moved to its new home at Colonial Williamsburg. Click below to learn more about the Williamsburg Bray School. #VA250

View insights

Liked by monroehighland and 12 others
Tips for Local Committees

1. Convene interested stakeholders – work regionally – include DMO

2. Resolution of support passed by local governing body (grant eligibility)

3. Make a plan of events you’d like to do, anniversaries to mark, and apply for VA250 grants to support them

4. What’s your local story? Identify stories and sites that have contributed to the legacy and vibrancy of our state and nation

5. Let us help you tell that story!
   - Create a VA250 microsite and customized logo
   - Add Events and Places to Visit to VA250.org and Virginia.org
Tips for Local Committees

6. Request traveling programs as they become available and plan events around them
   • Mobile museum
   • Panel exhibition
   • Library of Virginia *Transcribe* event

7. **Keep good statistics!**
   • Comprehensive list of events (start a spreadsheet today)
   • How many people attended?
   • From where did they travel? (Zip codes)
   • Collect feedback, quotes
   • *We will request this data for economic impact reporting*

8. Always send us your good news for posting, amplifying, supporting!
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