

# AMERICA

## MADE IN VIRGINIA



**“GIVE ME LIBERTY OR GIVE ME DEATH”**  
**250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event Recap**

**March 23, 2025**  
**ST. JOHN'S CHURCH | RICHMOND, VIRGINIA**



# VA250

*"I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!"*

Patrick Henry, March 23, 1775

At the Second Virginia Convention, held within the hallowed walls of St. John's Church in Richmond, Patrick Henry ignited the flames of revolution with his legendary speech. His words galvanized the Virginia delegation, leading to a resolution that committed Virginia troops to the Revolutionary War.

250 years later, on March 23, 2025, St. John's Church and VA250 brought history alive with a series of reenactments in the very spot where this pivotal moment unfolded. This program featured keynote addresses from VA250 National Honorary Chair Carly Fiorina and filmmaker Ken Burns, making his first public appearance to promote his newest and highly anticipated documentary PBS documentary series "The American Revolution" premiering November 16, 2025. The event was livestreamed and is now archived on the VA250 website.



Governor Glenn Youngkin gives his remarks.



Filmmaker Ken Burns speaks to the audience.



VA250 Commission members Ben Dendy, Chair Terry Austin, Chief Steve Adkins, Filmmaker Ken Burns, and VA250 National Honorary Chair Carly Fiorina.



The reenactment of Patrick Henry's famous speech, 250 years later.

## By the Numbers

### In-Person

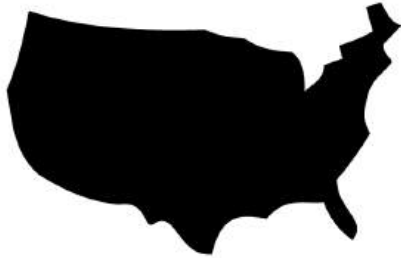


**985 in attendance**  
at St. John's Church

### Livestream



**3,514 Total Views**  
3,154 VA250.org & Vimeo  
360 YouTube  
**9,989 Impressions**



### **Top states during livestream**

- |                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Virginia     | 5. Massachusetts   |
| 2. New York     | 6. Illinois        |
| 3. Pennsylvania | 7. Maryland        |
| 4. Georgia      | 8. Washington D.C. |

### Social Media Impact

March 23, 2025

Social Platform	Facebook	Instagram	LinkedIn
Reach/Impressions	21,727	3,140	670
Engagement	1,322	444	103
Follows (on March 23, 2025)	+89	+76	+6

### Website Impact

March 23, 2025

Social Platform	Users	Views
VA250 Website	4,771 4,251 NEW	12,089
Patrick Henry 250 <sup>th</sup> Page	1,771	2,598

## What People Are Saying



**deebee4021** Thank you for live-streaming this important historical moment. I will be watching from the Midwest.



**Sharon Harris**

What a fantastic and emotionally overwhelming program and presentation today !!! I watched it online and cried throughout it and have continued to cry ever since. Mere words cannot express how proud and grateful I am to have been given the opportunity to see this . Thank you ❤️



**Rich Kuser**

I literally had tears well up. The performance was so well done and believable that it was beautiful beyond words. Watching such a historical moment and feeling that emotion of everyone will leave a lasting impression on my life. Please let the historians who did today's presentation know that I am beyond mere gratitude to them all. I truly am. Thank God for Virginia



**Ryan Daniels**

As a living historian who has been involved in some of the MA250th programs, this was a great performance. Can't wait to see more!



**Keith Kirk**

I watched it live on line from Georgia. It was beyond excellent! Brought tears to my eyes! And Carly Fiorina's speech was amazing!



**Andy McLeod** • 2nd

Democracy defense, civics | Public history, preservation, licensed Washington ...

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"Give me liberty or give me death!" I have always been proud, humbled to have been born on the same date as Henry's stern eloquence! 🍰

Like · 6 | Reply



## In The Media

Over 1 billion  
media impressions



### National Media

- Associated Press
- Fox News
- The American Conservative
- CBS Evening News
- Washington Post
- NPR
- Politico
- National Geographic
- The Daily Mail
- Yahoo! News
- MSN.com

### State/Local Media

- Richmond Times-Dispatch
- Cardinal News
- Axios Richmond
- Richmond Magazine
- WWBT-TV
- WRIC-TV
- WVTF-FM
- The Richmonder
- Richmond Free-Press



CARDINAL NEWS 250

## Patrick Henry's words have echoed through the centuries, and around the world

His famous "Give me liberty or give me death" speech is still being quoted, including during the Tiananmen Square uprising in China.

Richmond  
magazine

FOOD & DRINK NEWS & FEATURES ARTS LIVING R • HOME BRIDE BEST OF RI

### 'It Is What We Expect of You'

Patrick Henry changed the course of history with a speech — though we're not sure exactly what he said

BY HARRY KOLLATZ JR. MARCH 21, 2025



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## 'Give me liberty or give me death' turns 250. Here's what it meant in 1775

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

PUBLISHED: 01:06 EDT, 23 March 2025 | UPDATED: 13:31 EDT, 24 March 2025



The phrase "Give me liberty or give me death!" has survived the centuries like a line in a Shakespeare play.



The Washington Post  
Democracy Dies in Darkness

Retropolis

## Did Patrick Henry really say 'Give me liberty or give me death'? Maybe not.

The Virginia delegate may have spoken those words on March 23, 1775, but some historians doubt it. And at least two other men deserve credit for the rest of it.

March 21, 2025

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