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What is Rockbridge-VA250?

The VA250 commemorates the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, the Revolutionary War, and the United States' independence in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Throughout 2025-2028, Rockbridge-VA250 aims to encourage local, community-sourced initiatives to advance state and national efforts in celebrating the 250th anniversaries of America's Revolutions, which echo and build upon the commemorations and celebrations of "The Spirit of '76".

What can we do as a community?

To maximize our impact, the Rockbridge-VA250 Advisory Committee aims to empower you to creatively connect and advance our mission, in what Patrick Henry resonantly refers to as "Our Common Cause". In the following years, our community's distinctive stories and shared experiences will honor and add to our foundational and revolutionary history. We are committed to empowering those in Buena Vista, Lexington, and Rockbridge to host events and create sustained programming that encompasses our diverse communities, heritages, and interests.

With representatives from all three local governments and a multitude of leading cultural and civic organizations, the Rockbridge-VA250 Advisory Committee will work to identify, inform, and inspire community organizations and individuals to develop memorable celebrations and commemorations. These events will anchor us in time and place, with strong and sustainable means to help guide generations ahead. We will closely remember and commemorate the contributions of the educational institutions, military service, and sacrifice spanning four centuries, in both Lexington, Va., and abroad.

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How can I get involved? Where do we start?

As we aim to develop three years of public programming in 2025-2028, we encourage the participation and creativity of all Rockbridge citizens, with the hope of engaging all ages and occupations. We hope to see projects developed by local schools and universities, churches, museums, businesses, and non-profits. Like other localities across the state, events will not only be centered around history and museum involvement, but will integrate recreation, entertainment, the arts, and cuisine. Media and other forms of digital resources will help connect our authentic and distinctive stories with both local and national audiences. We hope that our range of civic goals and organizational interests will be connected, yet varied, in theme, spirit, scale, and mode of gathering.

Where can I find more information?

On our VA250 website, you can find resources for planning, grant opportunities, and relevant historical content for this movement. Their running roster of revolutionary sites and activities – both local and statewide – can be an especially helpful prompt in brainstorming meaningful ideas, while spurring partnerships with other peer organizations and neighboring localities.

Visit: VA250.org/rockbridge

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