

Summer 2025: VH-VA250 Grant Recommendations (Round 3)

Recommended for funding

1) Arlington Historical Society

- **Program Name:** HistoryFest 250
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Arlington
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$10,000
- **Number of partners:** 4

Description: HistoryFest 250, a commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, is set to take place in May 2026 at Kenmore Middle School in Arlington, VA. The event aims to enhance community engagement with local history. The festival will feature pop-up exhibits, a mobile museum, a commemorative magazine, a student history contest, and an oral history video booth, with an expected attendance of over 2,000 visitors. The project's goals include increasing historical organization memberships, generating media coverage, and promoting community understanding of local history.

2) Birthplace of Country Music, Inc.

- **Program Name:** Songs of the Revolution(s)
- **VA250 Local Committee** – City of Bristol
- **Amount of award:** \$7,950
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$15,018
- **Number of partners:** 3

Description: The "Songs of the Revolution(s)" project, directed by Rene Rodgers and supported by organizations like the Birthplace of Country Music Museum, The Crooked Road, Mountain Empire Children's Choral Academy, and Theatre Bristol, aims to explore pivotal moments in American and Virginian history through music and spoken word performances. To be held at the Cameo Theater in Bristol, VA, the project will

feature 1-2 public/school performances that highlight events such as the Revolutionary War, Civil Rights Movement, and women's suffrage. The initiative includes developing K-12 lesson plans, a social media campaign, and collaborative humanities-based content, with funding sought for research, venue rental, script development, and educational resources. The project uniquely combines historical research and artistic performance to engage audiences with American historical narratives.

3) Botetourt Preservation Partnership, Inc.

- **Program Name:** Spirits Trail of 1776
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Botetourt
- **Amount of award:** \$6,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$6,000
- **Number of partners:** 5

Description: Botetourt Preservation Partnership seeks support for "Spirits Trail of 1776." This is a dynamic, all-ages community event that brings to life the deep and evolving history of Botetourt County, Virginia. Developed in alignment with the VA250 initiative and the mission of Botetourt Preservation Partnership, Inc., this program will engage the public in a vibrant celebration of place, heritage, and progress. By blending immersive interpretation with educational content, Spirits Trail of 1776 will highlight the county's significance in the broader story of Virginia's past, while also connecting that history to the present and future of the region.

4) Colonial National Historical Park

- **Program Name:** Adventure 250 Family Ranger Program
- **VA250 Local Committee** – York County
- **Amount of award:** \$9,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$22,000
- **Number of partners:** 2

Description: The Adventure 250 Family Ranger Program, run by Colonial National Historical Park from October 2025 to July 2026, aims to commemorate the 250th anniversary of American independence. The program engages families through interactive historical learning, involving stamp collection and activities that culminate in earning a commemorative medallion. Key partners include York County Economic and Tourism Development, Eastern National, and the Government Printing Office (GPO). Promotional strategies encompass social media campaigns, website

updates, flyers, and special events like Yorktown Day and Fourth of July. The project seeks to promote VA250 initiatives, strengthen community partnerships, and foster civic awareness. Funding will support booklet design, commemorative medallions, and stamps.

5) Dinwiddie County

- **Program Name:** Dinwiddie County's Roads to Revolution
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Dinwiddie County
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$10,000
- **Number of partners:** 4

Description: The "Dinwiddie County's Roads to Revolution" project, with additional support from Pamplin Historical Park and the Dinwiddie County Historical Society, aims to create a portable exhibit showcasing Dinwiddie County's pivotal role in the American Revolution. The project will feature 8 retractable banners, period-accurate costumes, and a VA250 exhibit brochure, exploring themes such as political action, economic strategy, and civic engagement. Promotional efforts will utilize social media, partner networks, and local media to spread awareness and highlight the county's strategic significance during the revolutionary period.

6) Djimon Hounsou Foundation

- **Program Name:** RUN RICHMOND 16.19 (2025)
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Richmond
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$15,000
- **Number of partners:** 5

Description: Djimon Hounsou Foundation seeks support to expanded programming focused on the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution during their annual Run Richmond 16.19 event. This signature event invites participants to run or walk through over 400 years of Black history—an immersive, educational, and emotionally resonant journey through Richmond's most historic landmarks. As participants move along our thoughtfully designed routes, they encounter key chapters in America's past—from the Transatlantic Slave Trade to the Revolutionary War, from the Civil War to the Civil Rights Movement and beyond—interweaving modern-day stories of resilience and unity.

7) Glass Glen Burnie Museum, Inc.

- **Program Name:** Revolutionary Valley Exhibition
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Winchester
- **Amount of award:** 10000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** 27,000
- **Number of partners:** 2

Description: The Museum of the Shenandoah Valley (MSV) is planning a groundbreaking Revolutionary Valley Exhibition opening on July 4, 2026, focusing on the Shenandoah Valley's complex role in the American Revolution. Curated by Nick Powers and directed by Nancy Huth, the two-year exhibition will cover 2,500+ square feet, featuring approximately 100 objects that explore diverse perspectives including indigenous peoples, colonists, and both enslaved and free Blacks. With advisors like Warren Hofstra, Ryan Bachman, and Jeff Coker, the project seeks \$10,000 to create custom exhibition furniture and a video about Sarah, a formerly enslaved woman. The exhibition aims to contextualize regional revolutionary history, diversify traditional narratives, and connect the revolution to ongoing civil rights movements.

8) Grayson County Tourism

- **Program Name:** Foundations of Freedom: Stories, Songs & Sustenance of the Revolution
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Grayson County
- **Amount of award:** \$6100
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$6,100
- **Number of partners:** 5

Description: The Grayson County Historical Society is organizing "Foundations of Freedom: Stories, Songs & Sustenance of the Revolution" at the Historic 1908 Courthouse in Independence, VA. The project targets 250 6th-grade students and the general public, offering an immersive educational experience about the Revolutionary War era. Activities include demonstrations, cooking tastings, musical lectures, broom making, quilting, a museum scavenger hunt, and a VA250 mobile exhibit. The event will be evaluated through student surveys, participant feedback, attendance tracking, and social media engagement, with the goal of exploring diverse Revolutionary War narratives and local historical connections.

9) Hampton Roads Educational Telecommunications Association, Inc. DBA WHRO

- **Program Name:** Hampton Roads at 250: Celebrating Local Stories through Public Education Media
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Norfolk
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$10,000
- **Number of partners:** 2

Description: WHRO Public Media is undertaking the "Hampton Roads at 250" project, focusing on highlighting untold stories of Revolutionary War contributions in the region. The project, with additional funding by the Commonwealth History Fund and WETA, will produce multimedia content including video vignettes, a weekly podcast series, radio segments, and live broadcasts. Led by key personnel Heather Mazzone, Mike Diller, and Chuck Doud, the initiative aims to engage audiences in Southeastern Virginia, including K-12 students, teachers, and local historians, by exploring local historical narratives through nonprofit media. The project's goal is to help the community better understand and appreciate their local history.

10) Office of Historic Alexandria

- **Program Name:** Sails on the Potomac
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Alexandria
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$14,4000
- **Number of partners:** 5

Description: Office of Historic Alexandria seeks support for "Sails on the Potomac," a three-day public history festival scheduled for June 12–14, 2026, as part of the Sail Virginia 2026 Affiliate Harbor program. This event directly supports the goals of the VA250 Commission by commemorating Alexandria's significant contributions to the American Revolution and exploring its legacy through inclusive and educational programming.

11) Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation

- **Program Name:** "Oh, Henry!" A Revolutionary Performance about Patrick Henry's Life and Legacy

- **VA250 Local Committee** – Charlottes County
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$24,458
- **Number of partners:** 4

Description: The "Oh, Henry!" theatrical project is a comprehensive performance exploring Patrick Henry's life and legacy, featuring five live performances across Virginia in May-June 2026. Starring Patrick Henry Jolly, a direct descendant of the historical figure, the play aims to highlight Henry's pivotal role in the American Revolution. The production will include five performances at venues like 246 The Main Cultural Arts Theatre and St. John's Church in Richmond, with an additional 30 educational presentations for schools. Professionally filmed for broader reach, the project anticipates 1,000 in-person spectators and potentially over 50,000 total viewers by the end of 2026.

12) Stratford Hall

- **Program Name:** The NNK250 We the People Academic Symposium
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Westmoreland County
- **Amount of award:** \$9900
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$10,096
- **Number of partners:** 4

Description: The NNK250 We the People Academic Symposium, scheduled for October 3-4, 2025 at Stratford Hall, will explore the Northern Neck's role in the American Revolution. Led by Project Director Gordon Steffey and featuring Dr. John Ragosta as keynote speaker, the event will examine diverse perspectives on independence through panels on archaeology, Washington commemoration, slavery, Leedstown, 18th-century architecture, and environmental history. The symposium aims to promote historical education, raise awareness of the revolutionary legacy, and encourage reflection on citizenship.

13) Taubman Museum of Art

- **Program Name:** CELEBRATING FREEDOM! Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness as seen by American Artists
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Roanoke
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$32,4200

- **Number of partners:** 4

Description: The Taubman Museum seeks support for "CELEBRATING FREEDOM! Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness as seen by American Artists." This will be a year-long initiative in 2026 featuring four exhibitions and counterpart educational programming that explore the evolution of American ideals through the lens of visual art. Centered on the question “What is Freedom?”, the project highlights artworks—primarily paintings—by American artists from the nation's founding to the present. Special attention will be drawn to artists of Virginia heritage and depiction of events that occurred in Virginia.

14) The Army Historical Foundation

- **Program Name:** Exhibit catalog support for CALL TO ARMS: The Soldier and the Revolutionary War
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Alexandria
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$10,000
- **Number of partners:** 5

Description: The CALL TO ARMS exhibit catalog for the National Museum of U.S. Army's 250th anniversary commemoration will highlight diverse Revolutionary War soldier experiences through 288 rare artifacts and life-sized dioramas. The project will feature unique narratives including Anna Maria Lane and Thomas Nichols, aiming to provide comprehensive perspectives on the war. The catalog will be available in print and digital formats, distributed via museum websites and social media, with potential to increase museum visitation by 15%.

15) The Montpelier Foundation

- **Program Name:** Virginia’s Founding Footprint: People, Places, and the Promise of 1776
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Rappahannock-Rapidan
- **Amount of award:** \$8000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$8,000
- **Number of partners:** 1

Description: James Madison's Montpelier is producing a five-episode podcast series called "Virginia's Founding Footprint," led by Dr. Katie Crawford-Lackey, Patrick Campbell, and Adam Belmar. The project aims to explore Virginia's role in shaping American democracy by

highlighting untold stories from the Founding Era and increasing civic literacy. Recorded at Montpelier's multimedia studio, the free podcast will focus on regions such as Williamsburg, Richmond, and Charlottesville. Targeting a diverse audience from young adults to seniors, the series uniquely connects historical principles to current civic life, elevates marginalized voices, and promotes heritage tourism.

16) The Valentine

- **Program Name:** Dissent! Liberty & Loyalty in Early Richmond
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Richmond
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$62,200
- **Number of partners:** 3

Description: The Valentine Museum's project "Dissent! Liberty & Loyalty in Early Richmond" aims to explore alternative perspectives during America's founding era (1770s-1830s), focusing on Tories, free Black residents, and enslaved workers in the Richmond region. Opening in February 2026, the exhibition includes displays at the Valentine Museum and Wickham House, along with monthly tours, teacher workshops, and walking tours of Court End neighborhood. The project seeks to challenge traditional revolutionary narratives, showcase lesser-known historical perspectives, and demonstrate the evolving concept of liberty. With a total budget of \$72,200 and a VA250 grant request of \$10,000, the project aims to engage approximately 15,000 students, create educational resources, and provide research accessible to scholars and educators.

17) The Virginia Quilt Museum

- **Program Name:** Stitching Together History: Year 3
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Rockingham County
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$23,319
- **Number of partners:** 0

Description: The "Stitching Together History: Year 3" project is an extensive quilting exhibition located in Dayton, VA, featuring over 250 quilts from 135 quilters across 14 states. Running from July 4 to December 22, 2026, the exhibition explores four themes: Power of Place, We the People, Unfinished Revolutions, and Virginia Experiments. The project aims to cultivate and preserve quilting arts in Virginia, with key

deliverables including the main exhibition, an accompanying book by Donna DeSoto and Mary Kerr, and a potential traveling exhibition in 2027-2028.

18) Town of Abingdon, VA

- **Program Name:** Liberty Fest – Abingdon’s History is America’s History
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Washington County
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$10,000
- **Number of partners:** 5

Description: Liberty Fest is a planned historical event in Abingdon, VA, scheduled for May 1-3, 2026, commemorating the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution at the Abingdon Muster Grounds. Organized by the Town of Abingdon VA250 Commission the festival aims to provide educational programming, historical reenactments, and community engagement. The event is expected to become an annual heritage festival that boosts local tourism and deepens historical understanding of the American Revolution.

19) Town of Wytheville Department of Museums

- **Program Name:** War & Style: Life in the Virginia Back Country During America's Revolution
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Wythe County
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$10,000
- **Number of partners:** 5

Description: The "War & Style: Life in the Virginia Back Country During America's Revolution" project is a comprehensive historical initiative focusing on Southwest Virginia's role in the American Revolution. The project includes a PBS documentary titled "Resolved to Live and Die," a living history encampment, a Revolutionary War reenactment, and an educational symposium. Key locations include the Willowbrook Jackson/Umberger Homestead, Millwald Theatre, Haller-Gibboney Rock House Museum, and Wytheville Meeting Center. With additional support from PBS Appalachia and Blue Ridge PBS, the project aims to educate K-12 students, the general public, and history enthusiasts about the region's historical heritage through engaging and informative resources.

20) Virginia Museum of History & Culture

- **Program Name:** VMHC Living History Weekend – Virginia at War 1781
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Richmond
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$30,000
- **Number of partners:** 5

Description: The Virginia Museum of History & Culture (VMHC) will host a Living History Weekend – Virginia at War 1781 on November 15-16, 2025, in Richmond, VA. The event aims to commemorate the 250th anniversary of American independence by featuring 50-75 living historians representing diverse perspectives during the 1781 Virginia campaign. With partner organizations like the Museum of the American Revolution and Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, the event will include static displays, demonstrations, workshops, a keynote panel, Washington's replica headquarters tent, and a Revolutionary-era manuscript exhibit. The museum hopes to attract 500-1,000 visitors to this educational historical experience.

21) William & Mary Foundation

- **Program Name:** Revolution Untold: Stories of Virginia in the Revolution
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Williamsburg
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$10,000
- **Number of partners:** 3

Description: William & Mary Foundation seeks support for "Revolution Untold." This project will research, develop, and produce a suite of five to six short-form historical video packages specifically for distribution online and via social media channels, that bring to life stories from the American Revolution that expand our understanding of the people who made the greater Williamsburg area – and Virginia – what it is today.

22) York County Economic & Tourism Development

- **Program Name:** Sail Yorktown Festival

- **VA250 Local Committee** – York County
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$52,587.50
- **Number of partners:** 2

Description: The Sail Yorktown Festival, scheduled for June 12-14, 2026, will take place at the Colonial National Historical Park in Yorktown, VA. The event aims to commemorate America's 250th anniversary by highlighting Yorktown's maritime heritage and showcasing diverse perspectives of the nation's founding. Festival highlights include tall ships, military vessels, a Parade of Sail, free deck tours, living history demonstrations, and a unique 30-minute "American Mosaic" performance by the Williamsburg Symphony Orchestra. The project team is working together to create a comprehensive and engaging historical celebration.

Not recommended for funding

23) Albemarle County Public Schools

- **Program Name:** Educators for Democracy Fellowship
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Charlottesville Albemarle
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$15,000
- **Number of partners:** 2

Description: The Educators for Democracy Fellowship, led by the Karsh Institute of Democracy, is an innovative program designed to support K-12 teachers in developing comprehensive civic and historical education. The program aims to create inquiry-driven curriculum about the American founding, develop teacher toolkits for civic conversations, and highlight historical complexity while preparing for the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. By emphasizing diverse perspectives and promoting civic engagement, the fellowship seeks to enhance democratic understanding among educators and students.

24) Bermuda Hundred Chapter NSDAR, Inc.

- **Program Name:** Virginian Hispanic Daughters of the American Revolution Oral History Project
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Chesterfield
- **Amount of award:** \$6,500
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$6,500
- **Number of partners:** 4

Description: The Virginian Hispanic Daughters of the American Revolution Oral History Project, directed by Mishaela Duran from Arizona State University's Latinx Oral History Lab, aims to capture and preserve oral histories of Hispanic DAR members while highlighting their contributions to the American Revolution. The project will produce 7 archival video interviews and accompanying social media content, to be disseminated through the Virginia Museum of History and Culture and the National Hispanic Cultural Center. Supported by a \$10,000 grant from a foundation associated with the National Hispanic Cultural Center, the project involves partnerships with the Bermuda 100 Chapter NSDAR and other cultural institutions, with a focus on promoting historic preservation and patriotism.

25) Better Said Than Done

- **Program Name:** Abigail: Founding Mother
- **VA250 Local Committee** – City of Fairfax
- **Amount of award:** \$1,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$1,300
- **Number of partners:** 1

Description: Better Said Than Done seeks support for "Abigail: Founding Mother." In this humorous and historically accurate portrayal, Megan Wells vivifies the full measure of Abigail's contribution to our democracy. Behind the scenes but very firm, Abigail rode the risky edge of feminine power. Relevant, moving and wry with wit, Megan's Abigail awakens new perspectives of how we must "remember the ladies" during the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution.

26) Charlottesville Ballet

- **Program Name:** Charlottesville Ballet's "America250: Voices of a Nation" - Multidisciplinary Work with 8 Partners
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Charlottesville Albemarle
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$23,400
- **Number of partners:** 5

Description: The Charlottesville Ballet's "America250: Voices of a Nation" is a multidisciplinary performance project exploring American history, scheduled for performances in Charlottesville (March 14, 2026) and Lynchburg (March 21, 2026). Featuring collaboration with Keith Lee, Opera on the James, Paramount Theater, Pierce Street Gateway, and the Karsh Institute of Democracy, the project combines dance, music, and poetry to examine four critical chapters of American history. The initiative aims to elevate underrepresented stories, connect communities, and provide historical reflection through performances at venues like the Charlottesville Ballet, Academy Center of the Arts, and The Paramount Theater, including a "Democracy & Dance" panel discussion and historical lectures.

27) Culpeper Minute Men

- **Program Name:** Culpeper Minute Men 250th Anniversary - History Week Festivals & Historical Interpreters
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Culpeper
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$10,000
- **Number of partners:** 5

Description: The Culpeper Minute Men 250th Anniversary History Week Festivals, scheduled for October 18-26, 2025, aims to commemorate local Revolutionary War history through historical interpretation. Organized by Historic Germanna and partnering organizations like the Culpeper Baptist Church and Museum of Culpeper History, the project will deploy over 30 costumed interpreters across six Virginia counties. The initiative seeks to create immersive historical experiences, targeting 3,000-4,000 direct engagement interactions. The project will evaluate success through attendance, digital engagement, participant surveys, and community impact metrics.

28) Foundation for Historic Christ Church

- **Program Name:** 2026 Northern Neck 250 Speaker Series
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Lancaster
- **Amount of award:** \$5,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$5,000
- **Number of partners:** 1

Description: The 2026 Northern Neck 250 Speaker Series, organized by the NNK250 Steering Committee, aims to explore the region's role in the nation's founding through a series of free monthly lectures from January to May 2026. The project will span five Northern Neck counties (King George, Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond, and Westmoreland) and focus on the "American Experiment" theme, examining democracy, identity, and regional history. Led by Project Director Lisa Hull and Fiscal Officer Robert Teagle, the series will feature diverse scholarly speakers and offer both in-person and online recordings. Supported by a Tourism Marketing Grant, the initiative represents a collaborative effort among regional organizations to engage the public in historical discourse.

29) Fredericksburg Area Museum and Cultural Center

- **Program Name:** Witness to a Revolution: Fredericksburg Remembers 1776
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Fredericksburg

- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$12,000
- **Number of partners:** 2

Description: Fredericksburg Area Museum seeks support for a new exhibition commemorating the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. The exhibit aligns with the VA250 Commission's mission to honor Virginia's integral role in the Revolution and to inspire civic engagement through the exploration of shared history. This exhibition focuses on Fredericksburg's multifaceted contributions to the Revolutionary War effort and its long-standing tradition of public commemoration.

30) Germanna Community College

- **Program Name:** Legacies of the American Revolution: Dialogue and Discovery Civic Engagement
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Fredericksburg
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$10,000
- **Number of partners:** 3

Description: Germanna Community College seeks support for "Legacies of the American Revolution: Dialogue and Discovery Civic Engagement Initiative," a year-long series of educational, cultural, and civic engagement programs that examine how the founding ideals and contradictions of the American Revolution continue to influence American identity, civic participation, and historical memory. By grounding the project in both well-known and lesser-told Revolutionary narratives—including the impact of Dunmore's Proclamation, the roles of African Americans, women, and Indigenous people, and the evolution of democratic ideals—Germanna's programming emphasizes the enduring significance of freedom, dissent, public service, and inclusive historical interpretation.

31) Germanna Foundation

- **Program Name:** Salubria Oktoberfest & 250th History Faire
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Culpeper
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$14,500
- **Number of partners:** 1

Description: Germanna Foundation seeks support for Salubria's Oktoberfest and History Faire, a free public event on Saturday, October 18, 2025, at Historic Salubria in Culpeper County. This inaugural celebration will launch Culpeper's 250th History Week and honor the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution with inclusive, participatory programming grounded in Virginia's rich cultural and historical landscape. Designed to reflect the goals of the VA250 Commission, the event centers underrepresented stories, expands access to public history, and connects local and regional audiences to the Revolution's legacy.

32) Great Bridge Battlefield and Waterways History Foundation

- **Program Name:** Competing Freedoms
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Chesapeake
- **Amount of award:** \$5,381.8
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$5,865.5
- **Number of partners:** 0

Description: The "Competing Freedoms" traveling exhibit, developed by the Great Bridge Battlefield and Waterways History Foundation, aims to illuminate multicultural perspectives during the Revolutionary and post-Revolutionary War era. Led by Dr. Cassandra Newby-Alexander from Norfolk State University and designed by Riggs Ward Design, the exhibit focuses on highlighting diverse experiences of freedom for marginalized groups, including the Royal Ethiopian Regiment, religious minorities, Great Dismal Swamp Maroon communities, black soldiers, Native Americans, and women. The exhibit will be displayed at the Great Bridge Battlefield Museum, Chesapeake Public Libraries, regional museums, and schools, with the mission of protecting, preserving, and promoting the history of the Battle of Great Bridge and regional Revolutionary War history.

33) Historical Society of Washington County, Virginia

- **Program Name:** Hassinger Oak
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Washington County
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$10,000
- **Number of partners:** 5

Description: The Hassinger Oak project is a comprehensive historical exhibit centered around a 350-year-old tree trunk located at 341 W. Main St. in Abingdon, VA. The project aims to commemorate VA250 in 2026 by creating a permanent tourist attraction that educates visitors about local history, the American Revolution, and the timber industry. The exhibit will highlight the tree's unique historical significance, having witnessed Native American, colonial, and revolutionary periods along the Great Warrior Path, and will be promoted through various channels including site signage, visitor center displays, social media, and Google Maps. The expected outcomes include increased historical awareness, enhanced tourism, and a valuable educational resource about local heritage.

34) Melungeon Heritage Association

- **Program Name:** Melungeon Voices Podcast Season 6: The American Revolution's 250th Anniversary
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Tazewell County
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$10,000
- **Number of partners:** 4

Description: The Melungeon Voices Podcast Season 6, led by Heather Andolina, Brooke Gibbons, and Jacob Gillen, aims to commemorate the American Revolution's 250th Anniversary by producing 9 podcast episodes exploring Melungeon and mixed-ancestry histories. The project focuses on Revolutionary War experiences, Free People of Color, Native American narratives, and mixed-ancestry stories, with goals of creating educational resources, expanding digital archives, and promoting public engagement. Utilizing innovative production methods including live recordings, full video production, and YouTube streaming, the podcast will be evaluated through metrics such as downloads, audience engagement, resource utilization, community feedback, and partnership development.

35) Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University

- **Program Name:** Revolutionary Ideas: 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Fairfax County
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$23,500
- **Number of partners:** 2

Description: The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at George Mason University is leading a project titled "Revolutionary Ideas: 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution" to enhance historical understanding and civic engagement. The initiative will offer 10 free lectures on revolutionary history, delivered both online and in-person for Fairfax County residents over 50. Partnering with George Mason University, Fairfax County Public Library, and ArtsFairfax, the project aims to attract 250 live stream and 250 in-person participants, with a goal of 500 recorded content views.

36) Preservation Virginia

- **Program Name:** New Exhibition: Minuteman to the Virginia State Bar, John Marshall and the Revolutionary War
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Richmond
- **Amount of award:** \$5,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$8,000
- **Number of partners:** 3

Description: The John Marshall House in Richmond, VA is hosting a new exhibition focused on John Marshall's Revolutionary War experiences and his pivotal role in forming the U.S. government. Organized by Preservation Virginia, the exhibition aims to increase visitor awareness of Marshall's legacy and provide educational opportunities. The project highlights Marshall's military service with the Culpeper Minutemen, his participation in the Great Bridge Battle, and his journey from Revolutionary soldier to Supreme Court Chief Justice. The exhibition seeks to educate visitors about Marshall's significant contributions to early American history.

37) Shenandoah River Chapter NSDAR

- **Program Name:** Early Patriots of Eastern Rockingham and South Eastern Page County, Virginia
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Page County
- **Amount of award:** \$2000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$2,000
- **Number of partners:** 2

Description: The project aims to honor Revolutionary War patriots associated with St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Shenandoah, Page County, Virginia. With additional support from the Fort Harrison Sons of the American Revolution, the team will create a historical plaque and Revolutionary Trail marker to commemorate local patriots who served, supplied resources, or were prisoners of war. The project will be promoted

through social media, local online news, and events on Memorial Day and Veterans Day in 2026, with the goal of creating permanent markers and increasing community recognition of these historical figures.

38) The National Center for Community Strategies

- **Program Name:** Walking in the Footsteps of America's Forgotten Patriots
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Alexandria
- **Amount of award:** \$8,500
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$12,000
- **Number of partners:** 2

Description: The National Center for Community Strategies is leading a project titled "Walking in the Footsteps of Virginia's Forgotten Patriots" to document and honor 420 African and Indigenous Revolutionary War soldiers from Virginia. The project aims to preserve their stories through research, oral histories, and educational resources, highlighting their overlooked contributions to American history. The initiative will produce military service maps, artwork, interviews, historical research, and interactive media in preparation for America's 250th anniversary.

39) The Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia

- **Program Name:** Cville Puzzle Hunt 2026
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Charlottesville Albemarle
- **Amount of award:** \$7,500
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$10,000
- **Number of partners:** 5

Description: The Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia seeks support for Cville Puzzle Hunt 2025, a free citywide puzzle event for teens and adults of all ages, held annually in downtown Charlottesville. A large-scale, participatory cultural experience, the Puzzle Hunt integrates music, humanities, and media arts into a series of complex puzzles integrated into the urban landscape. The 4th annual Puzzle Hunt will be hosted on March 15, 2025 and will celebrate America's Semiquincentennial by featuring images, stories, and/or character reenactments of actual historical figures from the American Revolution on each of the puzzle pieces.

40) UNLOCKED DIGITAL LLC

- **Program Name:** Revolution & Reimagining: From Battalions to Bytes
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Alexandria
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$10,000
- **Number of partners:** 0

Description: The project "Revolution & Reimagining: From Battalions to Bytes," aims to commemorate Virginia's role in the American Revolution by creating a comprehensive educational resource. The project will produce a 30+ page publication, an interactive curriculum kit, and digital resources highlighting underrepresented Revolutionary War heroes. With a goal of engaging youth in historical storytelling and promoting media literacy, the project targets reaching 300 printed publications, 2,000 digital views, and 100 community forum participants across 15+ classrooms.

41) Virginia Israel Advisory Board

- **Program Name:** Israel's affect on the mindset & actions of Jefferson, Washington & Virginians in 1776 & thereafter
- **VA250 Local Committee** – Richmond
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$76,250
- **Number of partners:** 4

Description: The project aims to explore the influence of biblical principles and Israeli concepts on Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, and Virginians in 1776. The comprehensive project includes a book, website, 100,000 Virginian testimonials, video interviews, an interactive historical timeline, and 25 lectures/events. Key personnel like Prof. AJ Nolte, Steven Morales, Samuel Richardson, and Rabbi Dovid Asher will contribute to the research, which will be conducted at locations such as Regent University and the Richmond Jewish Federation. The project's primary goals are to educate 100,000-500,000 Virginians, measure historical Israel-Virginia connections, and collect testimonials about Israel's influence.

42) Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library

- **Program Name:** Remember the Ladies: Fashion, Freedom, and the Fabric of a Nation

- **VA250 Local Committee** – Staunton
- **Amount of award:** \$10,000
- **Amount of match from recipient:** \$11,574
- **Number of partners:** 3

Description: The "Remember the Ladies: Fashion, Freedom, and the Fabric of a Nation" is a collaborative exhibit by the Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library, Heirloom Care, LLC, and Frontier Culture Museum. The project features approximately 10 garments spanning 250 years of women's civic identity. Commemorating VA250, the exhibit aims to explore women's experiences through clothing, foster civic dialogue, and increase museum engagement. With additional support by the Virginia Tourism Corporation, City of Staunton Tourism Department, and local educational institutions, the project will be evaluated based on visitor attendance, community engagement, program participation, and institutional impact.