



TAKE THE COMMUNITY PARTNER PLEDGE

Submit the pledge at <https://america250chesco.org/>
CC250, 28 W. Market St., West Chester PA 19382
610.696.8211 fax 610.696.8213

Having read and understood the **BACKGROUND** and **PURPOSE** of CC250,
I/we pledge to:

__ Endorse CC250's mission to inspire & engage all our communities in commemoration of America's founding, connecting Chester County's stories to the nation's past, present & future.

__ Help create a commemoration that is **truly by the people, for all people**, inviting all input & offering inclusive programs.

__ Involve **everyone** as part of our **continuing journey to build a more perfect union**. We pledge to include people old & new to our community, welcoming all to participate & engage.

__ Create opportunities for **personal input**, inviting people to tell their stories & share their hopes for a more equitable nation.

__ Present programs that commemorate, celebrate, examine &/or foster **fundamental rights**.

__ Enter our program promo details on the CC250 website, so CC250 can help **regionally co-promote** our programs under the CC250 banner.

__ Participate in periodic virtual or in-person **meetings with CC250** & other community partners to share information and ideas.

__ Affirm that my I/we should be **listed as a Community Partner on CC250's website**, subject to CC250 **verification & approval**.

__ I/We realize that CC250 retains the **right to reject** listings that are extremely politically divisive in focus &/or in conflict with the ethical standards of inclusion & respect for all.

Contact: _____ Org/Group: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ St: PA Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____ Website: _____

BACKGROUND

Each and every one of us in Chester County and our nation have an exciting anniversary ahead, a chance to commemorate our historic achievements as we renew our commitment to our **democratic ideals**.

In 2026, the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence is a precious opportunity to inspire the American spirit. It's time to better understand **our nation's founding principles of Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness**, which are enshrined in the United States Constitution.

Chester County's rich history embodies our pursuit of these **Revolutionary ideals**. Here, William Penn established a colony based on **religious freedom** and **tolerance**. **Agricultural bounty** and **industrial innovation** fueled our and the nation's growth. Chester County was the site of **decisive military actions** that led to **ultimate victory**. A deep-rooted commitment to equality led to strong **anti-slavery** and **women's rights** movements.

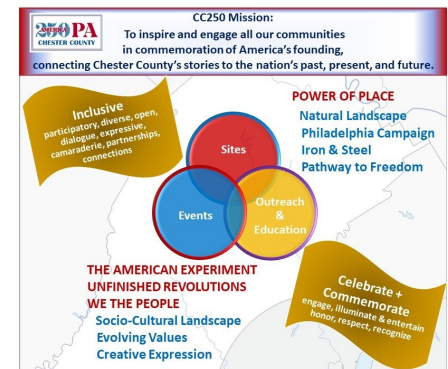
PURPOSE

CC250 aims to promote interactive, inclusive, compelling experiences to commemorate and celebrate America's 250th anniversary throughout 2026 and beyond. We seek Community Partners to help all people:

- **encounter the many ways in which Chester County participated in and influenced our nation's founding**, and
- **elevate everyone's understanding of our continuing journey to build a more perfect union**

CC250 urges all to draw upon Chester County's unique array of Heritage **Sites**, combined with Community **Events** and compelling History and Civics **Outreach & Education** initiatives, drawing from:

- **our Natural Landscapes, Philadelphia Campaign Trail, Iron & Steel Trail and Pathway to Freedom**, to highlight the **Power of Our Place**;
- **our Socio-Cultural Landscapes, Evolving Values & Creative Expressions**, to examine our continuing journey of **This American Experiment**, and **Unfinished Revolutions by and for We the People**.



LEGACY IMPACT

Long after 2026, CC250 aims for a future in which:

- **everyone will see their story included as an important part of American history and civic engagement**, understanding the value of inclusive narratives about the past, present and future
- history, heritage, preservation, cultural expression, and civic dialogue of all types and sizes will emerge **stronger, better supported, and inclusively engaged with increasingly diverse communities**, and
- **distinctive cultural heritage projects** which were accelerated by 250 commemorations will **endure as lasting legacies**.

The work **starts now** by planning and activating residents, businesses, and community groups throughout Chester County.

Please join us as we journey - together - to 2026.

JOIN THE JOURNEY! TIPS TO GET STARTED

- Recruit a diverse, inclusive, creative **planning group**.
- Discuss **themes**:
 - How can America's 250th anniversary be a catalyst for celebrating our past accomplishments while engaging with our most pressing issues?
 - What stories would we like to tell that link to our society's pursuit of liberty and justice for all?
 - What questions will help guide our continuing journey to build a more perfect union?
- This is a time to be imaginative. Entertain many **program ideas**: tours, freedom walks & runs, community picnics, book groups, scrap booking, movie nights, music performances, marching bands, lecture series, community conversations, food for thought, brews & clues.
- Focus on events, sites and stories that are **unique to your community**.
- Discuss how to **engage a variety of people**.
- Forge **partnerships**: consider schools, libraries, social organizations, places of worship, parks, historic sites, arts & culture groups, etc.
- Define a **timeline** for planning and implementing your Top Ideas.
- Outline **resources needed**, costs, and likely funding sources.
- Onward! Get It Rolling! **Do It!**
- Remember to **tell CC250** about your events so we can co-promote and spread the word!

Want more ideas?

Join our zoom calls on the 25th day of each month at noon

Visit <https://america250chesco.org/>



A STAR-SPANGLED INVITATION

FROM AMERICA 250 PA CHESTER COUNTY COMMISSION

**IN 2026, AMERICA CELEBRATES THE
250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF OUR NATION**

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE JOURNEY - TOGETHER - TO 2026

**LET'S INSPIRE AND ENGAGE ALL OUR COMMUNITIES
IN COMMEMORATION OF AMERICA'S FOUNDING,
CONNECTING CHESTER COUNTY'S STORIES TO THE
NATION'S PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE**

**MAKE HISTORY ★ INSPIRE & ENGAGE
START NOW**



<https://america250chesco.org/>

With a national goal of being the largest and most inclusive celebration in U.S. history, 250 Commissions have been formed at the national, state and county levels. The America 250 PA Chester County Commission (CC250) invites all of Chester County's municipalities, boroughs, cities, towns, institutions, organizations, businesses, nonprofits, neighborhoods and residents to join in the multi-year commemoration of America's 250th anniversary on July 4, 2026.