



# Arizona America250

*Celebrating and  
Commemorating the 250<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary of the signing  
of the Declaration of  
Independence:*

***Our Nation's  
Semiquincentennial***

# Mission

**The Arizona America250 commission is established to plan, develop, encourage and coordinate the commemoration of the two hundred fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the United States and the impact of the citizens of this state on the nation's past, present and future.**

[State of Arizona Senate; Fifty-fifth Legislature; Second Regular Session; 2022; Senate Bill 1497; An Act Establishing the Arizona America250 Commission]

# Guiding Values: RISE

- **Respect:** Honoring the diverse cultures and complex historical perspectives that have shaped Arizona.
- **Inclusive Collaboration:** Ensuring all Arizonans feel represented and valued in the commemoration, and that challenges and resiliency are recognized.
- **Stewardship and Service:** Protecting and preserving Arizona's natural, architectural, historic, and cultural landscape.
- **Education:** Empowering current and future generations through historical understanding, preservation, civic engagement, and a vision for the future.

***“We are inclusive, collaborative, educational, and respectful stewards of Arizona’s history and heritage.”***



# Vision

To illuminate Arizona's untamed spirit of independence, the 250<sup>th</sup> celebration will serve as the cornerstone for a statewide commemoration that uplifts the voices of all Arizonans, drives innovation, preserves history, and forges lasting connections. Together, we will tell our state's story.



# Subcommittees

**Arts, Museums &  
Cultural Institutions**

**Civic Engagement,  
Education &  
Community Service**

**Commemorations,  
Celebrations &  
Events**

**Fundraising &  
Partnerships**

**History, Historic  
Preservation &  
Heritage**

**Military & Veterans  
Affairs**

**Municipal Outreach  
& Tribal Affairs**

**Public Awareness:  
Marketing, Social  
Media & Website**

**Travel & Tourism**

# Tentpole Projects



**Two Lights for Tomorrow** – *April 18, 2025*



**Traveling Museum Exhibition** – *Spring/Summer 2026*



**Arizona America250 Passport** – *2025 & 2026*

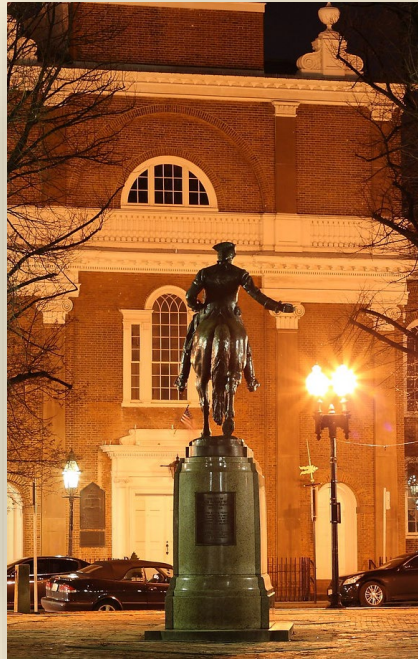


**Service250** – *2025 & 2026*



**Saguaros250** – *2025 & 2026*

# Two Lights for Tomorrow



On the 18<sup>th</sup> of April in 2025, we're calling for two lights to be displayed in every statehouse across the country as a reminder that that message of light shining out in the darkness is not just something that mattered back then. It's something that matters today and for tomorrow.

Some commissions are planning a public program for the lighting of the two lights to be displayed. This is an opportunity to not only raise public awareness of the upcoming 250<sup>th</sup> but also to set the message we want the public to understand about how we'll mark the commemorations: it's not about history just for history's sake; it's about reminding people what it was all for in the first place and how we're called to continue creating that "more perfect union" each and every day, together.



# Traveling Museum Exhibition



# Traveling Museum Exhibition

- **“Mobile Museum” statewide tour highlighting Arizona’s history within the greater national story**
- **Opportunity for corporate partnerships**
- **Tour the Liberty Bell replica currently housed at the State Capitol**
- **Install a new ceremonial base for the bell**
  - Include a 50 and 100-year time capsule
  - Collect items from each community as the museum travels

# Arizona America250 Passport

- **Hike250:** 250 miles of trails
- **Treasures250:** List of 250 places to visit in Arizona
  - Parks, natural wonders, historical sites & museums, and more
- **Dine250:** Unique Arizona eateries
- **Cheers250:** Statewide Arizona Beer, Wine & Spirits Tour with special editions
  - Opportunity to partner with the Department of Transportation and ride sharing companies to highlight a safe driving message



# Arizona America250 Passport



- **Check-In App and/or a physical passport with prizes upon different levels of completion**
  - 5, 25, 50, 75...
  - Visits from any category count
  - Overall winner or winners to receive “Arizona’s Field Trip”
- *To consider: Read250, Register250, Kids250, Commemorate250, ADA-accessible sites*

# Service250

- **Individual hours of Civic Engagement and Community Service**
  - Similar to the passport app concept, hours would be logged for recognition (name or organization on our website, prizes, drawings, etc)
- **Commission could become authorized to bestow the President's Volunteer Service Award**
- **Grants available from national organizations to support service projects, civics education, training, and youth leadership**
- **Opportunities for collaboration with Youth Service America**



# Saguaros250

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Inspired by the 1999 “Cow Parade,” touted as the world’s largest public art event

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Local artists decorate fiberglass sculptures, distributed throughout public places such as city buildings, major avenues, and parks

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A way to feature local culture and a community’s unique flair

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Artists could participate individually and/or companies/entities could sponsor

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Artists, community groups, or schools would apply to be selected – logo contest would serve as a template

# Examples



# Examples





# Other Ideas Being Considered



**July 4<sup>th</sup> Concert at Gammage with AZ artists, broadcast on PBS**



**“Scrollathon”** (nationwide art project for A250)



**Educational, Military & Veterans outreach**



**Projects focused on commemoration**



**Grant program for community distribution**



**Western States Panel Exhibition**



**Department of History and Heritage**



# National Programming

# America250 Tentpole Moments





# America250 Tentpole Moments



# America250 Tentpole Moments



**2026**

**January**

America Gives Push for MLK Day

**June**

America's Field Trip Awardees Announced

**July**

Time Capsule Buried

**July**

America Waves Event

**July**

July 4 Celebrations/Parades

**December**

America Gives Records Most Volunteer Hours in the U.S. for One Calendar Year

# Questions?

Please contact  
Laura Terech, Executive Director  
Arizona America250 Commission  
[Lterech@azsos.gov](mailto:Lterech@azsos.gov)

