



AMERICA'S 250TH

COMMEMORATIVE COMMITTEES

Help Us Make America's 250th Community Driven

The 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 2026 is a once-in-a-generation moment to come together with a shared purpose. This commemoration is not only an opportunity to reflect on the past by sharing the many stories that have shaped Washington State, but also an opportunity to look to the future and build stronger, more connected communities.

Join the Effort

We invite all counties and large cities in the state to establish a local commemorative committee to help plan activities for 2026. The makeup of your committee will be specific to your community, but we suggest including a variety of groups such as:

- Local governments
- Historical organizations and museums
- Libraries and Schools
- Community and Service Organizations
- Veterans and Military Groups
- Tribal Nations
- Arts and Cultural Organizations
- Chambers of Commerce and Businesses
- Tourism and Main Street Organizations



Become an official partner:

www.America250WA.org/Partners

How Does America's 250th Benefit My Community?

Connect the Community

Bring diverse groups in your community together with common purpose.

Share & Preserve Local History

Collaborate with local history organizations to highlight your community's story and invest in history as a civic priority.

Promote Civic Engagement

Inspire participation in public life at all levels, from attending downtown events to running for elected office.

Boost Heritage Tourism

Positively impact economic development by encouraging heritage tourism to historical and cultural sites in your community.



ENGAGE YOUR COMMUNITY

How You Can Participate



Invite key leaders, community organizations, and cultural institutions to join your commemorative committee



Look at the events and activities already happening in your community and incorporate our commemorative themes



Partner with local organizations to highlight diverse stories and explore ways to make the public more aware of your community's history



Support your local history organization in engaging the community in the "Out of Many, One" museum object project



Join as an official 250 partner to get all the latest updates, and then help spread awareness about national, state, and local 250 activities



Promote heritage tourism to historical and cultural sites in your community as an opportunity to impact economic and community development



Make plans to participate in our 2026 statewide observances: a Day of Service (June 14), Independence Day (July 4), and a Day of Civic Engagement (September 17)

Commemorative Themes

We the People

- Understanding the founding principles of liberty, equality, and democracy as well as the importance of Tribal sovereignty
- Inspiring more active and meaningful civic engagement
- Examining who has been included, and excluded, in the concept of "we the people" throughout history

Power of Place

- Exploring how geography and place shape Washington communities and stories
- Preserving places to give Washingtonians a shared sense of identity and community
- Reflecting on events in the Pacific Northwest during the Revolutionary era that shaped our nation

Sharing History

- Sharing more inclusive histories to better understand the past and build a stronger future
- Supporting local history organizations and improving history and civics education
- Engaging all generations in learning about and appreciating history



More resources:

www.America250WA.org/Resources