

# Rediscovering History



# Meeting Agenda

- Introductions and AHS Team Update
- Review of VA250 goals and objectives
- Event Planning
- Grants and other resources
- Next Steps

# AHS Team

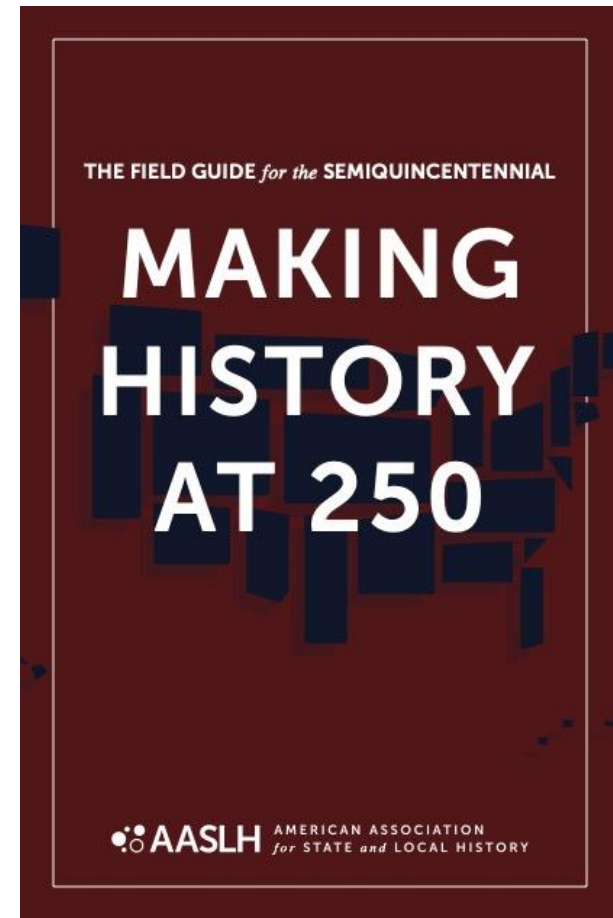
- Annette Benbow
- Sean Denniston
- Andy McLeod
- Peter Vaselopulos

# ARL 250<sup>th</sup> Commemoration Goals & Objectives

- Generate local media and public awareness of VA 250.
- Encourage local neighborhood participation in planning 250th-anniversary events.
- Identify historical themes that inspire and challenge local communities.
- Develop long-term history education programs.

# 250<sup>th</sup> Themes

- Unfinished Revolutions
- Power of Place
- We the People
- American Experiment
- Doing History



# Event Planning Ideas

- Arlington County Fair – VA250 booth (2025)
- Mobile Museum & History Festival (2026)
- History Toolkit for neighborhood July 4<sup>th</sup> celebrations (2026)
- History Quilt Project (2026)
- Arlington VA250 Speaker's Bureau (2025-26)
- Help local Girl & Boy Scouts earn history-related badges.
- Sponsor an essay writing or public speaking competition for local students.
- Military Timeline: Historical reenactors demonstrate d life in camp.
- Music Events
- Food Events (International Food Festival Columbia Pike)
- Community heritage walking tours of nearby neighborhoods

# Event Planning Ideas

- Photo contest - ask community members to take pictures of what democracy, freedom, or another 250th theme means to them.
- Create a small, temporary history exhibit that connects to one of the 250th themes using easily transportable panels, banners, or a limited number of artifacts.
- History trivia night at a local bar or a similar venue.
- Book talks and signings with local or national authors who have written about local history.
- Commemorate the 1781 Rochambeau crossing near Key Bridge to join Washington in Yorktown.
- Arlington Historical app and APS

# Grant Resources



- Our Work
  - Grants
  - Fellowships
  - News
  - Events
  - About
  - Give
  - 50 Years
  - Q
- 
- Regular
  - Rapid
  - WHRO
  - Wise
  - VA 250 Grants
  - Sponsorships
  - For Grantees
  - FAQ
  - Past Grantees



Funding for VA250 Grants is provided by the [VA250 Commission](#)

- The next round of grants from Virginia Humanities opens on **Saturday, March 1, 2025**.
- Applications are due **Friday, May 16, 2025 at 11:59 PM**.
- Decisions will be made by **mid July, 2025** (date to be announced).
- Project/Budget period dates: **August 1, 2025 to September 1, 2026**

Applicants may apply for up to \$10,000, and a 1:1 match is required. Grants will be managed as subawards through the University of Virginia.

Funding decisions will be made by the VA250 Commission. The Commission prefers that the local committees choose one project per grant cycle to support.



# Grant Resources

## Regular Grants

- Awarded two times per year; Summer and Winter
- Awards between \$5,000-\$20,000
- Period of performance is **twelve months**.
- Next Application for the Regular Grant will open **June 1, 2025**.
  - Approval of a Letter of Intent (LOI) is required.
  - LOI will open on **June 1, 2025**
  - Applications are assigned upon approval of LOI
  - LOI deadline **June 30, 2025**
- Application deadline for the next Regular Grant: **Thursday, July 31, 2025**

# Grant Resources

## Rapid Grants

- Awarded four times per year
- Awards up to \$5,000
- Provides funding for projects with a smaller scope and duration than Regular Grants
- Period of performance is **nine months** starting from decision date
- Next Application Open: **Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at 9:00 AM**
- Upcoming Application Deadline: **Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at 11:59PM**
- Decisions announced: **Monday, June 16, 2025**

# Grant Resources

**Funding for VA250 Grants is provided by the [VA250 Commission](#)**

- The next round of grants from Virginia Humanities opens on **Saturday, March 1, 2025**.
- Applications are due **Friday, May 16, 2025 at 11:59 PM**.
- Decisions will be made by **mid July, 2025** (date to be announced).
- Project/Budget period dates: **August 1, 2025 to September 1, 2026**
- Applicants may apply for up to \$10,000, and a 1:1 match is required. Grants will be managed as subawards through the University of Virginia.

# Next Steps

- Review the list of potential events and determine which are viable and require resources.
- Review relevant grants and deadlines.
- Identify venue for Mobile Museum and History Festival – date, location.
- Identify venue for Food Festival – date, location.
- Identify Historic sites that need to be added to VA 250 map
- Branding, Media Kit

Finally, the frequency of meetings and the date of the next meeting should be determined.

# Thanks

