

Maryland250 Commission
2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Presented to:

Governor Larry Hogan

&

The Maryland General Assembly

December 2022

Dear Governor Hogan & Maryland General Assembly,

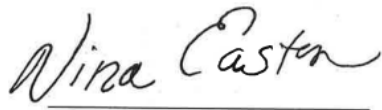
Thank you for the incredible opportunity to serve the State of Maryland and its six million residents as Chair and Vice Chair of the Maryland250 Commission. We take this honor and responsibility seriously and thoughtfully and are proud to report the progress the Commission has made in the last year.

This year has been both educational and inspiring as the Commission has made forward progress in partnerships and collaborations to help achieve the ambitious goals set out in the Executive Order. We are very excited to share details of these activities with you in the report outlined below and to maximize this unique opportunity to tell the American story as it continues to unfold toward a more perfect union, always with an eye toward including untold stories of those Maryland heroes determined to fulfill the promise of liberty.

We submit this Maryland250 Commission 2022 Annual Report to you with great expectation for a 250th anniversary commemoration that honors all Marylanders and enhances our collective understanding of the past, present, and future.

Sincerely,

Nina Easton
Maryland250 Commission Chair



Isiah "Ike" Leggett
Maryland250 Commission Vice Chair

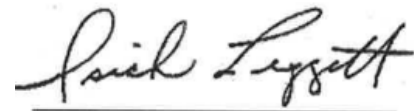


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Maryland250 Commission Activities 2022

- First in-person educational event held at Maryland State House in Annapolis in March 2022
- Maryland State Senate acknowledgement of the Commission on the Senate floor in March 2022
- Creation of draft narrative map document outlining specific actions the Commission will pursue through 2026
- In-person educational event held at Maryland Center for History and Culture (MCHC) in Baltimore in July 2022
- Exhibit at the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) Summer 2022 Conference in Ocean City in August 2022
- Commission representation at the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) fall Conference in Buffalo, NY in September 2022
- Appointment of two new Commission Members as needed, seats were vacated
- Recruitment of three additional Commission Voluntary Advisors with specific expertise in such areas as Maryland history, tourism, and communications
- Commission Committee meetings held as needed throughout the year
- Continual partnership and coordination with America250, national level planning
- Commission attendance at all America250 meetings
- Continual conversations with other state 250 entities, including the Mid-Atlantic Regional States
- Partnership with Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (BSO) discussions started
- Partnership with Sail Baltimore discussions started
- Partnership with Maryland Public Television (MPT) discussions started
- Partnership with Maryland Sons of the American Revolution (MDSSAR) discussions started
- Partnership with What on Earth Publishing discussions started
- Partnership with William G. Pomeroy Foundation discussions started
- Procurement underway for the creation of a new, Commission branded website to engage Maryland citizens and announce Commission activities
- Commission event planning underway for March 2023 with the United States Naval Academy (USNA)
- Commission attendance and participation planned for a second Continental Congress in Virginia in March 2023

Commission Meetings Held in 2022:

Monday, February 14, 2022

[WATCH HERE](#)

Agenda:

- Welcome by Chair, Nina Easton
- Historical Overview, Keith Colston
- Maryland Mosaic, Burt Kummerow, and Dr. Mary Blair
- America250 Update - CEO Joe Daniels and Chief Communications Officer Michael Frazier
- Website Plans
- State House Visit Date: March 2022

Monday, April 11, 2022

[WATCH HERE](#)

Agenda:

- Welcome by Chair, Nina Easton
- Narrative Map, Nina Easton
- New Voluntary Advisors, Terri Freeman, Dr. Adam Goodheart, and Laura Starr
- SAIL250 and Sail Baltimore, Nan Nawrocki
- Event Planning Update, Nina Easton
- Committee Updates:
 - Executive, Nina Easton
 - Private Partnerships, Nicholas Redding
 - Education and Curriculum, Bruce Lesh
 - Inclusion and Engagement, Ike Leggett
 - Resource Stewardship and Visitor Experience, Joni Floyd
 - Communications and Marketing, New Chair
- Motion:
 - Bylaws Amendment - Voluntary Advisors

Monday, June 6, 2022

[WATCH HERE](#)

Agenda:

- Welcome by Chair, Nina Easton
- Special Guest Interview with Governor Hogan, Nina Easton
- New Commission Member - Robert Bailey, Department of Natural Resources
- BSO Update
- America250 Update
- Committee Updates:
 - Inclusion and Engagement, Ike Leggett
 - Executive Committee/Funding, Nina Easton
- Commission Field Trip to MCHC on July 13
- MACo Exhibit August 17-20 in Ocean City

Monday, September 19, 2022

[WATCH HERE](#)

Agenda:

- Welcome by Chair, Nina Easton
- America250 Update
- MACo Report
- USNA Event Update - December 2022
- Ethics Briefing

Monday, December 5, 2022

[WATCH HERE](#)

Agenda:

- Welcome by Chair, Nina Easton
- America250 Update
- Website Update
- MPT Partnership
- USNA Event Update - March 2023
- Commission Annual Report

*Next Maryland250 Commission meeting is planned for February 2023

Maryland Semiquincentennial Commission

- WHEREAS, The 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America will occur on July 4, 2026;
- WHEREAS, The United States Congress established the U.S. Centennial Commission to coordinate the commemoration and observance of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, Revolutionary War, founding of the United States, and related events;
- WHEREAS, Maryland played host to the “Annapolis Tea Party” in October 1774, when the cargo ship Peggy Stewart was burned to the waterline after a tax dispute involving the Tea Act;
- WHEREAS, Marylanders began to call for American independence in 1775 with the issuance of the Bush Declaration - considered the first “declaration of independence” in the colonies - and the Annapolis Convention declaration that the Association of Freemen of Maryland must prepare for the colonies’ defense;
- WHEREAS, Four prominent Marylanders signed the Declaration of Independence: Samuel Chase, William Paca, Thomas Stone, and Charles Carroll, the only Roman Catholic among the 56 members of the Second Continental Congress;
- WHEREAS, Maryland made significant contributions to the Revolutionary War by supplying material, resources, ships, and soldiers;

WHEREAS, The courage and sacrifice of the first Maryland Regiment, known as the Maryland Old Line and Maryland 400, at the battle of Brooklyn in 1776 helped save the Continental Army;

WHEREAS, Baltimore served as a temporary capital for the colonies during the Continental Congress in 1776 and 1777;

WHEREAS, The Maryland State House, the oldest state capitol in continuous legislative use, hosted the Continental Congress in 1783 and 1784, and is where George Washington came before Congress to resign his commission as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army;

WHEREAS, The Maryland State House was the site of the ratification of the Treaty of Paris on January 14, 1784 which formally ended the Revolutionary War;

WHEREAS, In September 1786, Maryland played host to the Annapolis Convention where delegates discussed the amendments to the Articles of Confederation and resolved to organize a Constitutional Convention; and

WHEREAS, It is in the interest of the State to recognize Maryland's unique role in the American Revolution by undertaking commemorative activities that honor all Marylanders, enhance our collective understanding of the past, present, and future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I LAWRENCE J. HOGAN JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS OF MARYLAND, HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

- I. There is a Maryland Semiquincentennial Commission (the "Commission")

II. Membership.

A. The Commission shall consist of the following members:

1. The Secretary of Budget and Management, or the Secretary's designee;
2. The Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary's designee;
3. The Secretary of Natural Resources, or the Secretary's designee;
4. The Secretary of Planning, or the Secretary's designee;
5. The Secretary of State, or the Secretary's designee;
6. The Secretary of General Service, or the Secretary's designee;
7. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or the Secretary's designee;
8. The Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives, or the Director's designee; and
9. Up to six members of the general public with related or relevant background, expertise, or interest, appointed by the Governor.

B. The following are invited to be, and shall be upon acceptance, members of the Commission:

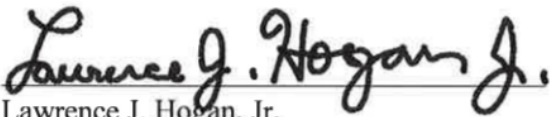
1. Two members appointed by the appointed by the President of the Maryland Senate;
2. Two members appointed by the Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegate;
3. The State Superintendent of Schools, or the Superintendent's designee;
4. The State Archivist, or the Archivist's designee;
5. The State Historic Preservation Officer, or the Officer's designee;
6. The Chair of the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture, or the Chair's designee;
7. The Chair of the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs, or the Chair's designee;
8. The Chair of the Maryland Commission for Women, or the Chair's designee;
9. The Executive Director of the Maryland Association of Counties, or the Director's designee;
10. The Executive Director of the Maryland Municipal League, or the Director's designee;
11. A representative of the Judiciary, appointed by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Maryland; and


12. Up to three members of the non-profit community, selected from the Maryland Center for History and Culture, the Maryland Humanities Council, Preservation Maryland or other similar organizations.
 - C. The Governor shall appoint a chair from the members of the Commission.
 - D. Members serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
 - E. The Commission shall be reflective and representative of the diverse communities, peoples, and regions of the State.
 - F. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.
- III. The Maryland Department of Planning and Governor's Coordinating Office shall provide the Commission with resources and staff as feasible and necessary for administering and facilitating the work of the Commission.
 - IV. Members of the Commission may not receive any compensation for their services, but may be reimbursed for their reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of the duties in accordance with the State Standard Travel Regulations and as provided in the State budget.
 - V. The Commission shall:
 - A. Adopt administrative and financial procedures for the transaction of business including, but not limited to the establishment of advisory groups, committees, or work groups;
 - B. Consider entering into a partnership with a tax-exempt entity to support the purpose and work of the Commission;
 - C. Coordinate, engage, and liaise with the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, and other local, county and state commissions and private and public organizations and partners including, but not limited to the America 250 Foundation and the American Battlefield Trust;
 - D. Develop, encourage, and execute celebration, commemoration, and observance of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, Revolutionary War and founding of the United States of America and all its people, through civic, cultural, and historic education, events and programming.
 - E. Hold at least semi-annual meetings:
 1. At times and places to be determined by the chair; and
 2. That are conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act;
 - F. Promote the documentation, identification, and preservation of cultural and historical resources, including archives, building, landscapes, objects and sites related to the Semiquincentennial;

- G. Create a model curriculum about the Revolutionary War period, its impact on Maryland, and the diverse people who supported and participated in the country's fight for independence;
 - H. Serve as the State of Maryland's official representative for the Semiquincentennial and all related activities, communications, and events; and
 - I. Solicit, accept, use, and dispose of donations, funds, and gifts in conformance with the Public Ethics Law, to support the goals and purposes of the Commission.
- VI. The Commission shall further:
- A. Submit an Action Plan to the Governor and General Assembly by December 31, 2021, that outlines the Commission's goals, mission, and recommendations; and
 - B. Produce by December 31 of each year an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly that includes an update on the Action Plan, implementation benchmarks, related deadlines and schedules, and an accounting and enumeration of all contracts, donations, and gifts.
- VII. The Commission shall terminate on December 31, 2027.

Given Under my Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in the City of Annapolis this 14th Day of January, 2021.




Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor


John C. Wobensmith
Secretary of State

Maryland and the Birth of America

It is more than just a commemoration of one date.

It's a celebration of the beginning of the American story.

In Maryland, it's a collection of stories of unfolding the blessings of liberty through time.

As Maryland's story unfolds, it is marked by events and places, but more importantly, the people who have challenged us to grow into a more perfect union.

The courage and sacrifice of the First Maryland Regiment, known as the Maryland Old Line and Maryland 400, at the Battle of Brooklyn in 1776, helped save the Continental Army and potentially the United States of America.

In Maryland, George Washington entered our State House as the victorious General of the American Army and left as a private citizen – unfolding the concept of civilian control over the military.

In Maryland, Harriet Tubman created a network of stations providing a pathway to freedom – unfolding a taste of the freedoms promised by our Independence. Enslaved Marylanders Frederick Douglass and Josiah Henson likewise went on to become powerful abolitionist voices.

In Maryland, steelworkers produced the ships and materiel that saved a world at war twice, unfolding our never ending stance against defeating the threat of tyranny.

The U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission was established by Congress to inspire all Americans to participate in our greatest milestone ever — the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States that will occur in 2026. Every state in the nation, including Maryland, has begun planning the festivities to celebrate.

On January 14, 2021, Governor Larry Hogan signed an Executive Order creating the Maryland Semiquincentennial Commission to commemorate Maryland's unique role in the American Revolution. Our mission is to honor all Marylanders by remembering our past, celebrating the present, and looking forward to a promising future.

We're charged with orchestrating the largest and most inclusive anniversary observance in our nation's history. The Commission will work with public and private entities across the country to make America 250 a once-in-a-lifetime experience for all Americans.

We have partnered with The America250 Foundation, officially designated by the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission to honor America's 250th and will ensure Maryland's critical role at this time in history is remembered.

Maryland played an integral part in the birth of our nation. On December 23, 1783, General George Washington came before Congress to resign his commission as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army. Just three weeks later, on January 14, 1784, Congress ratified the Treaty of Paris, officially ending the Revolutionary War, thus making Annapolis the new nation's first peacetime capital.

Other prominent events in Maryland:

- Maryland played host to the "Annapolis Tea Party" in October 1774, when the cargo ship *Peggy Stewart* was burned to the waterline after a tax dispute involving the Tea Act.
- Marylanders began to call for American independence in 1775 with the issuance of the Bush Declaration (also known as the Bush River Declaration) –considered the first "declaration of independence" in the colonies – and the Annapolis Convention declaration that the Association of Freemen of Maryland must prepare for the colony's defense.
- Four prominent Marylanders signed the Declaration of Independence: Samuel Chase, William Paca, Thomas Stone, and Charles Carroll, the only Roman Catholic among the 56 members of the Second Continental Congress.
- Baltimore served as a temporary capital for the colonies during the Continental Congress in 1776 and 1777.

- In Maryland, the first common commercial carrier railroad in the United States was chartered in 1827, the B&O Railroad, used to transport steel and other goods.

Maryland250 Commission Focal Points

- Inclusion

- To coordinate, engage, and liaise with diverse communities in order to prepare for, plan and execute commemorative activities that enhance our collective understanding of the past, present and future, and invite participation from all Marylanders.

- Education

- To engage K-12 and university audiences in activities of the Commission and to ensure the development of a model social studies curriculum about the Revolutionary War period, its impact on Maryland, and the diverse people who supported and participated in the country's fight for independence.

- Resource Stewardship

- To identify historical and cultural resources associated with revolutionary acts and ideas in Maryland, support the development of interpretive themes and visitor experiences that tell an inclusive story of the ongoing enterprise of American democracy, and ensure a robust post-semiquincentennial legacy.

- Communications

- To develop and implement the Commission's strategic communications and marketing plan to promote the Commission's mission, vision, and goals and coordinate marketing efforts with other groups, including the America250 Commission.

- Private Partnerships

- Create sufficient support and financial resources for the Commission and its partners to meet the Commission's mission and goals.

Maryland250 Commission Members

Chair: Nina Easton

Vice Chair: Isiah “Ike” Leggett

Commission Members:

Elaine Rice Bachmann, State Archivist

Angelica Bailey, Maryland Municipal League

*Robert Bailey, Department of Natural Resources

Lindsey Baker, Maryland Humanities Council

Gregory Bartles, Maryland Natural Resources Police Volunteer

Luis Borunda, Deputy Secretary of State, Office of the Secretary of State

Jack Broderick, Kent Island Heritage Society

Keith Colston, Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs

Senator Sarah Elfreth, Maryland General Assembly

Judith Emmel, Maryland Commission for Women

Joni Floyd, University of Maryland, Appointed by Speaker of the House

Hon. Joseph M. Getty, Maryland Court of Appeals

Kris A. Hoellen, B&O Railroad Museum

Elizabeth Hughes, Maryland Historical Trust

Patrick J. Lally, The Governor’s Office of Community Initiatives in the Governor’s
Coordinating Offices

Steven X. Lee, Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture

Pete Leshner, Maryland Association of Counties

Katie Caljean, Maryland Center for History and Culture

Luis A Luna, Department of General Services

Denise Nooe, Department of Veterans Affairs

Nicholas Redding, Preservation Maryland

*Leah Renzi, Maryland State Department of Education

Tom Riford, Department of Commerce

Reggie Turner, Commission on African American History and Culture

Mark Wasserman, Appointed by Speaker of the House

Paul Webb, Department of Budget and Management

Awaiting an appointment from the Maryland Senate President.

Vacant space for Secretary, Maryland Department of Planning

*New appointments in 2022 due to seat vacancy by previous appointee.

Maryland250 Commission Bylaws

These Bylaws of the Maryland Semiquincentennial Commission, hereinafter referred to as the “Commission”, are subject to the provisions of Executive Order 01.01.2021.03 by which the Commission was created (the “Executive Order”), as may be amended.

ARTICLE I – Purpose

The purpose of the Commission is to recognize Maryland’s unique role in the American Revolution by undertaking commemorative activities that honor all Marylanders and enhance our collective understanding of the past, present, and future. The Commission shall terminate on December 31, 2027.

ARTICLE II – Membership

Section 1. Appointment; Term. The Commission’s membership of up to 30 Members is established by the Executive Order. A Member shall continue to serve until the termination of the Commission, or until such time as the Governor appoints a successor for the Member.

A. Members of the Commission shall consist of the following:

The Secretary of Budget and Management, or the Secretary’s designee;
The Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary’s designee;
The Secretary of Natural Resources, or the Secretary’s designee;
The Secretary of Planning, or the Secretary’s designee;
The Maryland Secretary of State, or the Secretary’s designee;
The Secretary of General Services, or the Secretary’s designee;
The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or the Secretary’s designee;
The Executive Director of the Governor’s Office of Community Initiatives, or the Director’s designee; and
Up to six (6) members of the general public with related or relevant background, expertise, or interest, appointed by the Governor.

B. The following are invited to be, and shall be upon acceptance, members of the Commission:

Two (2) members appointed by the President of the Maryland Senate;
Two (2) members appointed by the Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates;
The State Superintendent of Schools, or the Superintendent's designee;
The State Archivist, or the Archivist's designee;
The State Historic Preservation Officer, or the Officer's designee;
The Chair of the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture, or the Chair's designee;
The Chair of the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs, or the Chair's designee;
The Chair of the Maryland Commission for Women, or the Chair's designee;
The Executive Director of the Maryland Association of Counties, or the Director's designee;
The Executive Director of the Maryland Municipal League, or the Director's designee;
A representative of the Judiciary, appointed by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Maryland; and
Up to three (3) members from the nonprofit community, selected from the Maryland Center for History and Culture, the Maryland Humanities Council, Preservation Maryland, or other similar

Section. 2 Non-Voting Members. If the Members appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates concurrently serve in the Senate or the House, and on the Commission, those Members shall then serve as non-voting members on the Commission (the "Non-Voting Members").

Section 3. Vacancies. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

Section 4. Chair. The Governor shall appoint a Chair from among the Members of the Commission.

Section 5. Vice Chair. At the Commission's first meeting during each fiscal year, the Members shall elect one of the Members to serve as Vice Chair of the Commission, to serve concurrently with the term of the Chair.

Section 6. Attendance; Removal. If a Member fails to attend at least 50 percent of the meetings of the Commission during any twelve (12) consecutive months, the Member shall be considered to have resigned and the Chair shall so notify the Member, the Commission and the organization the Member represents at or before the next succeeding

regular meeting following such nonattendance. If the Member has been unable to attend the required number of meetings, the Member may request that the Chair waive the Member's resignation for reasons made public and deemed satisfactory by the Chair. The Governor may remove a Member, other than an ex officio Member, for incompetence, misconduct, or failure to perform the Member's duties. The Commission may recommend to the Governor the removal of a Member for any of these reasons.

Section 7. Duties of Commission; Staff. The duties of the Commission are established in Sections V and VI of the Executive Order. The Maryland Department of Planning and Governor's Coordinating Offices shall provide the Commission with resources and staff as feasible and necessary for administering and facilitating the work of the Commission.

Section 8. Conflict of Interest. Members of the Commission shall comply with the Maryland Public Ethics Law contained in Title 5, General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

ARTICLE III – Meetings

Section 1. Time and Place. The Commission shall meet at least semi-annually at a time and place determined by the Chair. Meetings may be conducted through telephone conference calls or online video conference meetings provided that each participant can communicate in real time with all other participants.

Section 2. Open Meetings. All meetings of the Commission shall be conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

Section 3. Notice; Waiver. Notice of all meetings of the Commission, stating the time, date, and place, shall be provided to each Member by email not less than seven (7) days prior to the holding thereof, except that meetings may be held on shorter notice if a simple majority of the Members shall agree and that reasonable notice of a committee meeting shall be given prior to the meeting. Any Member may waive notice for any meeting by attending the meeting or by filing with the Chair a written waiver of the meeting notice either before or after the meeting.

Section 4. Public Notice. Notice of all meetings of the Commission, stating the time, date, and place, shall be provided to the public by posting on the Commission website.

Meeting agendas will be posted in this same location when the meeting notice is posted or not less than 24 hours before the meeting.

Section 5. Quorum. The majority of the Members then serving on the Commission, not including the Non-Voting Members, constitutes a quorum at any meeting for the conduct of the business of the Commission. A Member who attends a meeting by conference call, online video conference meeting or other means by which the Member can communicate in real time with all other participants shall be counted towards a quorum.

Section 6. Voting at a Meeting. A proposed action of the Commission shall be made by resolution. The Non-Voting Members shall have no right to vote on any matter brought before the Commission, and shall serve in an advisory capacity only. All other Members present and counted towards a quorum at a meeting of the Commission shall be entitled to one vote on a resolution. There shall be no voting by proxy. Voting may be conducted via telephone conference calls or online video conference meetings as provided in Section 1 above. The minutes of Commission meetings shall record the vote of each Member on each action.

Section 7. Voting by Electronic Mail Without a Meeting. Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting may be taken without a meeting. The Commission will appoint from staff a liaison to administer votes taken by email without a meeting (the "Staff Administrator"). The Staff Administrator shall deliver a resolution setting forth the action to be taken by the Commission by an email addressed to the full Commission. The Members shall each vote on the resolution by email response addressed to the Staff Administrator. The Staff Administrator shall tally the email votes, and forward the tally, along with all the email votes, to the Vice Chair. The Vice Chair shall confirm the tally, and report the result of the vote to the Chair. The Chair shall report the tally to the Commission no later than one day following the email voting deadline stated in the Staff Administrator's email. A resolution made by email vote will pass only upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the Members then serving on the Commission, not including the Non-Voting Members. The resolution, the result of the email vote, and the deadline for the email vote shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the Commission that follows an email vote.

Section 8. Duties of the Chair. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Commission; may sign and execute, in the name of the Commission, all authorized contracts, agreements or other instruments; and shall have other duties as may from time

to time be assigned by the Commission or as otherwise prescribed by law or these Bylaws

Section 9. Duties of the Vice Chair. The Vice Chair shall have such duties as delegated by the Chair. At the request, absence, or disability of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall perform all the duties, and when so acting shall have all the powers of the Chair.

Section 10. Conduct of Meetings. Meetings of the Commission shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws, or any rules which the Members may adopt.

Section 11. Books and Records. The Commission shall keep at its principal office correct and complete books and records of account, activities, and transactions of the Commission, minutes of the proceedings of the Members and any committee of the Commission, and a current list of the Members and their business addresses. Any of the books, records, and minutes of the Commission may be in written form or in any other form capable of being converted into written form within a reasonable time.

ARTICLE IV – Committees

Section 1. General. The Commission may create committees as needed to support its work. Committees shall meet at times as is deemed necessary by the Chair or the majority of the Commission. The Commission shall have an Executive Committee.

Section 2. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have at least three (3) members consisting of the Chair, the Vice Chair, and one or more members to be selected by the Chair. The terms of the Executive Committee members shall be concurrent with the term of the Chair. The Chair shall act as chair of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have such duties and perform such functions as may be authorized by the Commission in the administration of the affairs of the Commission. It shall have the express authority to act on behalf of the Commission when such action is required prior to the scheduled meeting of the Commission, or when a quorum of the Commission cannot be formed. The Executive Committee shall maintain a record, or minutes, of its proceedings and shall report regularly to the Commission.

Section 3. Appointment. All other committee members shall be appointed by the Chair.

Section 4. Quorum; Voting. A majority of the members of a committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of committee business. The act of a majority of those present at a committee meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the committee. The members of a committee may conduct any meeting and vote via telephone conference call or an online video conference meeting in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws.

Section 5. Committee Minutes. Each committee shall keep minutes of its meetings, may establish rules of procedure for its business, and shall present a report at the next scheduled meeting of the Commission. Copies of all committee correspondence and records shall be filed with the Chair for inclusion in the Commission's records.

Section 6. Voluntary Advisors. The Commission may invite outside advisors having specific expertise or interest useful to the Commission (a "Voluntary Advisor") to serve on committees or attend meetings of the Commission in a volunteer, non-compensated, advisory and non-voting capacity. Candidates for Voluntary Advisors may be recommended to the Chair by any current sitting Commission member. Recommendations for Voluntary Advisors shall be reviewed by the Executive Committee, and appointed by the Chair. Voluntary Advisors serve in an advisory capacity only, are not entitled to vote on matters before the Commission, may not count towards a quorum of the Commission, and are not entitled to any compensation. Voluntary Advisors shall at all times comply with the Maryland Public Ethics Law contained in Title 5, General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

ARTICLE V – Finances

Section 1. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Commission shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30 of the year following.

Section 2. Gifts. The Commission may solicit, accept, use, and dispose of donations, funds, and gifts in conformance with the Public Ethics Law, to support the goals and purposes of the Commission.

Section 3. Members Compensation. Members of the Commission may not receive any compensation for their services, but may be reimbursed for their reasonable expenses

incurred in the performance of duties in accordance with the State Standard Travel Regulations and as provided in the State budget.

ARTICLE VI – Amendments of Bylaws

Section 1. Amendments. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the Commission. Proposed amendments must be submitted in advance and sent out with the regular Commission meeting announcement.

Section 2. Limitation. These Bylaws shall not be amended in a way that would make the Bylaws in any way inconsistent with the Executive Order. Any such amendment so adopted shall have no force or affect.

Maryland250 Commission Committees

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall have such duties and perform such functions as may be authorized by the Commission in the administration of the affairs of the Commission. It shall have the express authority to act on behalf of the Commission when such action is required prior to the next scheduled meeting of the Commission, or when a quorum of the Commission cannot be formed.

Chair: Nina Easton

Isiah Leggett

Elizabeth Hughes

Patrick Lally

Nicholas Redding

Katie Caljean

Mark Wasserman

Elaine Rice Bachmann

Keith Colston

Voluntary Advisor: Terri Freeman

Private Partnerships

Purpose is to ensure there is sufficient support and financial resources for the Commission and its partners to accomplish its vision, mission, and goals.

Chair: Nicholas Redding

Tom Riford

Patrick Lally

Mark Letzer

Kris Hoellen

Reggie Turner

Judith Emmel

Senator Sarah Elfreth

Mark Wasserman

Education and Curriculum

Purpose is to engage K-12 and university audiences in activities of the Commission and to ensure the development of a model social studies curriculum about the Revolutionary War period, its impact on Maryland, and the diverse people who supported and participated in the country's fight for independence.

Chair: VACANT

Gregory Bartles

Angelica Bailey

Steven X. Lee

Inclusion and Engagement

Purpose is to coordinate, engage and liaise with diverse communities in order to prepare for, plan and execute commemorative activities that enhance our collective understanding of the past, present and future, and invite participation from all Marylanders.

Chair: Ike Leggett

Luis Borunda

Denise Nooe

Lindsey Baker

Jack Broderick

Keith Colston

Pete Leshner

Steven X. Lee

Resource Stewardship and Visitor Experience

Purpose is to identify historical and cultural resources associated with revolutionary acts and ideas in Maryland, support the development of interpretive themes and visitor experiences that tell an inclusive story of the ongoing enterprise of American democracy, and ensure a robust post-semiquincentennial legacy.

Chairs: Elizabeth Hughes and Joni Floyd

Elaine Rice Bachmann

Paul Webb

Robert McCord

Luis Luna

Hon. Joseph Getty

Nicholas Redding

Lindsey Baker

Communications + Marketing

Purpose is to develop and implement the Commission's strategic communications and marketing plan to promote the Commission's mission, vision, and goals and coordinate marketing efforts with other groups, including the America250 Commission.

Chair: VACANT

Nina Easton

Patrick Lally

Voluntary Advisor: Dana Cohen

Government Affairs

Purpose is to work closely with the Maryland General Assembly and other local and state elevated leaders to ensure they are engaged, aware, and in support of the Commission's mission and goals for commemoration in 2026.

Chair: Patrick Lally

Senator Sarah Elfreth

Mark Wasserman

Tom Riford

Pete Lesher

Angelica Bailey

Event Planning Workgroup

The purpose is to plan the Commission's first public kick-off event in spring 2023.

Chairs: Elizabeth Hughes and Elaine Rice Bachmann

Isiah Leggett

Joni Floyd

Tom Riford

Maryland250 Commission Public Commenting Policy

Meetings of the MD250 (Maryland Semiquincentennial) Commission are open to the public. As part of its general operating procedure, the Commission offers an opportunity for the public to express their views at each meeting as part of a public comment period. Speakers are permitted to comment on any agenda item relevant to the business of the Maryland 250 Commission. Public comment will take place at the beginning of the regular meeting.

Comments are to be directed to the Commission as a whole. The public comment period is intended to provide an opportunity for the Commission to hear from members of the public. Commission Members may refer matters that arise to the Chair for investigation and/or follow-up. However, the Commission will not provide immediate responses to the public comments presented.

The maximum speaking time afforded to any individual speaking on any item of business relevant to the Maryland 250 Commission will be 3 minutes, unless otherwise indicated by the Chair. The Chair will moderate the comment period. Any person wishing to make comments during the public comment period shall sign a speakers list prior to the commencement of the meeting. The speakers list will be available at least 15 minutes before the scheduled start of the meeting, and it will be closed once the meeting begins. Persons who have not signed up prior to the start of the meeting will not be permitted to provide public comment.

Speakers shall identify themselves in writing on the speakers list by providing their name, contact information, organizational affiliation (if any), and the subject matter and/or agenda item to which their comments pertain. Public comments will be made in the order in which individuals signed up.

Maryland250 Commission Narrative Map

Proposed foundational framework to guide strategic planning as the Commission fulfills the executive order to “develop, encourage and execute an inclusive celebration, commemoration, and observance of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, Revolutionary War, and founding of the United States of America and all its people.” The primary focus is to make an enduring impact on the American narrative and Maryland’s critical role in bringing the promise of democracy to all — from the Revolution’s break from an oppressive monarch onward.

Below the collaborative **guidepost** is a “**narrative map**” that the Commission builds out together. It is a shared document, for internal commission use, that provides cohesion and direction to the work.

Below is a starter list that shows how the pieces fit together in a coherent narrative providing frameworks for each of the Commission Committees, and for state agency and private partnerships that pursue:

- An interactive **website** that tells the full Maryland story, including untold and under-told stories of the fight for full democracy, and provides channels for localities, historical neighborhoods, sites, and societies to showcase the people, places and events significant to their community;
- An ongoing and robust **social media** campaign, as well as traditional media outreach, that amplifies the story;
- A **documentary** on Maryland’s role in the advancement of American democracy that can be shown in Maryland schools, on PBS, and on high-profile streaming services;
- A **film** that tells the story of Maryland’s African-American Revolutionary War soldiers; shown in conjunction with the unveiling of a **monument** to commemorate these unsung heroes and;
- Programs to engage young people including **school competitions** with poetry, performances, and essays with an emphasis on discovering under-told/untold stories.

MD250-hosted Events:

- Scholarly gatherings that engage historical societies and academics who contribute to the narrative map
- Public events that combine national-level speakers with cultural entertainment
- A Baltimore Symphony Orchestra-hosted signature concert event and the creation of a musical piece to celebrate the 250th
- Projects to identify, preserve, and interpret sites, structures, landscapes and collections significant to the founding of the nation or to communities underrepresented or marginalized in existing histories

Partnered MD250 Projects and Events:

- **America250** events. The climax of America250 will be **July 4, 2026**, likely with a **modern-day Continental Congress** that engages the states. We will be prepared to deliver a powerful Maryland story to a national audience around those events.
- **SAIL250 and SAIL Baltimore** events to emphasize the critical importance of Maryland waterways and geography in the founding of and fighting for independence.
- **Historical Markers Campaign** to tell the Maryland250 story, and stories, across the state.
- **Public Art Campaign:** Street art to adorn each town, forming a trail of inspiration and storytelling across the state.
- **Visitors' Guide:** Working with appropriate partners, we will develop a visitors guide that showcases MD250 assets – new and old – across the state, creating a trail of narrative history. A tourist campaign can include a MD250 Freedom Train (like the American Freedom Train from 1976) that includes exhibition cars and connects historic towns.

This storytelling approach that aligns with America250, and the American Association for State and Local History field guide: “For much of our history, the US has excluded people – women, free and enslaved African Americans, indigenous people, immigrants – from full participation...” by fits and starts, however, our nation has also embraced the expansion of citizenship and belonging, and we can tell that story with a Maryland lens.

In these polarized times, the Commission hopes to take a positive, uplifting, and inspiring approach to this anniversary with a focus on celebrating revolutionary ideas and actions that Marylanders of every race, gender, class, and ethnicity have fought to realize over the past 250 years in fulfillment of the promise of equality and liberty for all.

Maryland250 Commission Partnerships

Maryland250 Commission Partnership with America250

The Commission has entered a partnership with the national organization America250 to facilitate coordination and collaboration, and to ensure the broadest possible participation and visibility during this historic commemoration. The partnership with America250 will allow Maryland's unique role in the American Revolution to receive national recognition and give the state commission access to federal level resources. Immediately, America250 has provided the Maryland250 Commission with a \$10,000 grant to be used in establishing the Commission. The Commission's fiscal partner is holding the grant monies until the Commission determines best use in accordance with America250 guidelines.

Maryland250 Commission Partnership with Maryland Public Television

The Maryland250 Commission is finalizing the discussions of an interagency agreement with Maryland Public Television (MPT) to utilize the wide range of state resources, expertise, and communication reach that the agency is uniquely equipped with as the public broadcasting entity within the state. Discussions include a collaboration on communications and branding, documentary production, and event production and promotion.

Maryland250 Commission Partnership with Baltimore Symphony Orchestra

Leadership of the Maryland250 Commission has been in direct discussion with leadership of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (BSO) to collaborate on a MD250 musical event or possible series of events to be held starting in the fall of 2025. The specifics are still being decided upon, but there are hopes for elements such as an original music score, youth involvement, state-wide inclusion events, local composers, HBCU involvement, poetry pieces, and gospel choir collaboration. The Maryland250 Commission looks forward to continuing these discussions and creating a memorable and original musical element to the 250th anniversary activities.

Maryland250 Commission Partnership with Sail Baltimore

The Maryland250 Commission has been in discussion with Sail Baltimore regarding a tall ships visiting event at the Inner Harbor as well as a potential fleet week type of event in June 2026. Sail Baltimore's efforts to bring ships to Baltimore and publicize the 250th anniversary would allow visitors to board and tour unique vessels, learn about different cultures, interact with people from around the world, and learn about navigation, geography, technology and maritime history.

Maryland250 Commission Partnership with Sons of the American Revolution

The Maryland250 Commission has started discussions with the Maryland chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution (MDSSAR) to collaborate on commemorating several key moments in Maryland history that led to the independence of the nation. Discussions have touched on an event commemorating what is known as Annapolis' own "tea party" with the burning of the Peggy Stewart ship in 1774. The Commission looks forward to further discussion with MDSSAR on collaboration opportunities.

Maryland250 Commission Partnership on 250th Book Publication + Curriculum

The Maryland250 Commission has started discussions with *What on Earth* Publishing, a children's non-fiction publishing house that is partnering with Bridgewater State University (BSU), the BSU Foundation, and the Bill of Rights Institute to develop a new suite of State History teaching resources for the first 13 states of the U.S. in time for America250 in 2026. These resources will be donated free of charge to the states as a digital learning platform in the run-up to America250 – the national celebration of the Declaration of Independence – that will take place in 2026.

Maryland250 Partnership with the Pomeroy Foundation

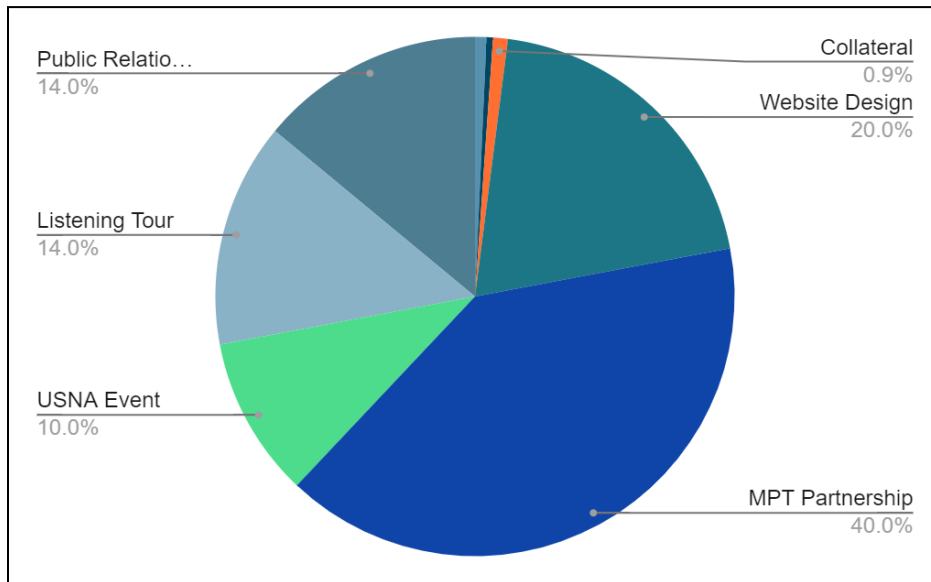
The Maryland250 Commission is in discussions with the William G. Pomeroy Foundation to create historical markers for the State of Maryland tied to events surrounding the revolutionary war period and beyond. Since 2005, the Pomeroy Foundation has funded nearly 2,000 signs across the United States, all the way to Alaska. The Commission looks forward to continued discussions around historical markers for the 250th anniversary.

Maryland250 Funding

Maryland Semiquincentennial Commission Funding Report: The FY23 allowance includes \$250,000 for the Maryland Semiquincentennial Commission created by Executive Order 01.01.2021.03 on January 14, 2021.

FY23

FY23	Catering		\$1,775.00
FY23	Exhibit		\$1,000.00
FY23	Collateral		\$2,305.00
FY23	Website Design		\$50,000.00
FY23	MPT Partnership		\$100,000.00
FY23	USNA Event		\$25,000.00
FY23	Listening Tour		\$34,920.00
FY23	Public Relations Services		\$35,000.00
Total			\$250,000.00



Expenditures FY23 July - December 2022:

Maryland Center for History and Culture Event Catering: \$1,775

MACo Summer Conference Exhibit: \$1,000

Collateral for MACo Conference: \$2,305

Procurement of Website Design Services: \$50,000

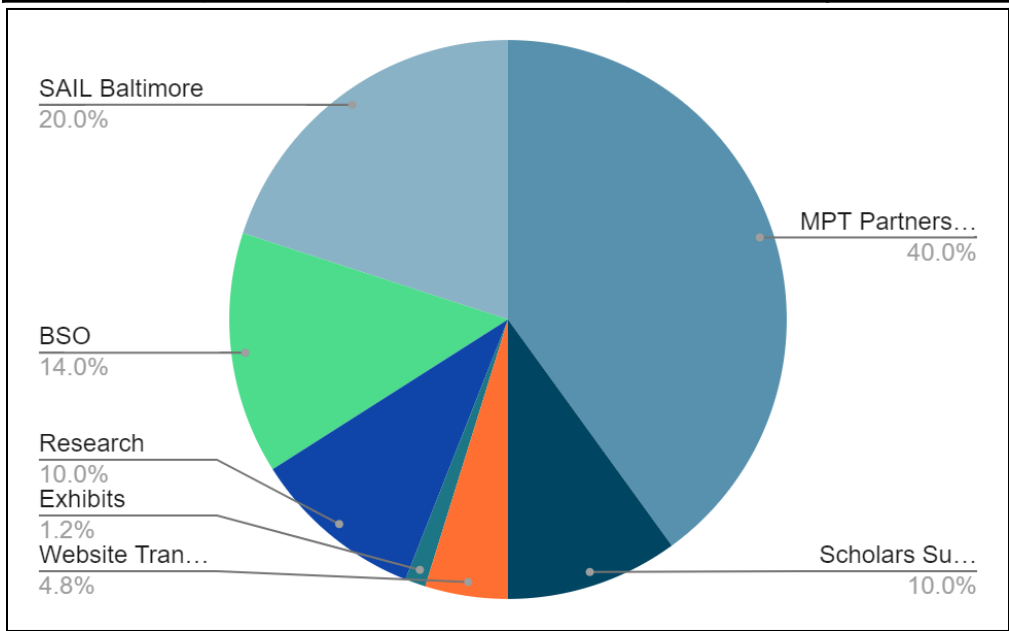
Planned Procurement FY23 January - June 2023:

Partnership with MPT: \$100,000
 USNA Event: \$25,000
 State-wide Listening Tour: \$34,920
 Public Relations Services: \$35,000

FY24-27 Funding Estimations

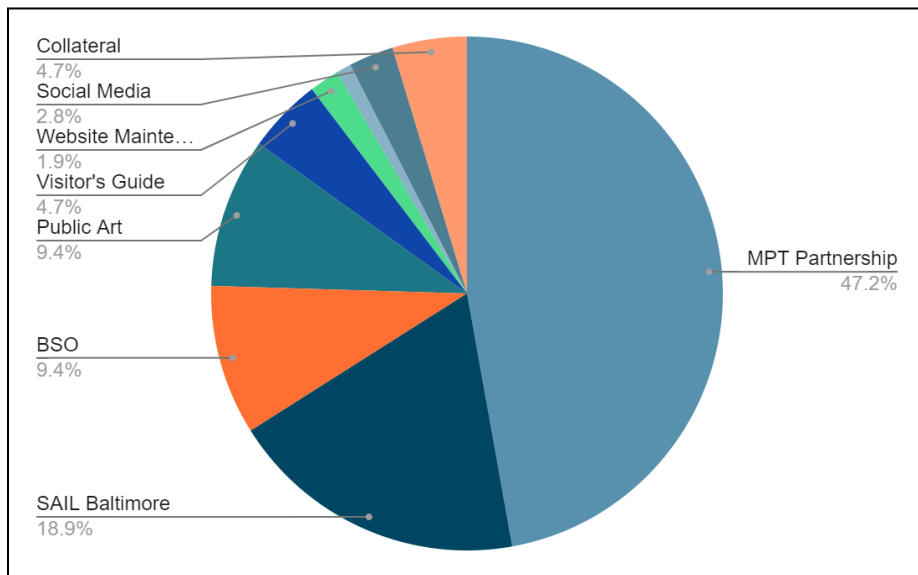
FY24

FY24	MPT Partnership		\$100,000.00
FY24	Scholars Summits		\$25,000.00
FY24	Website Translation + Maintenance		\$12,000.00
FY24	Exhibits		\$3,000.00
FY24	Research		\$25,000.00
FY24	BSO		\$35,000.00
FY24	SAIL Baltimore		\$50,000.00
Total			\$250,000.00



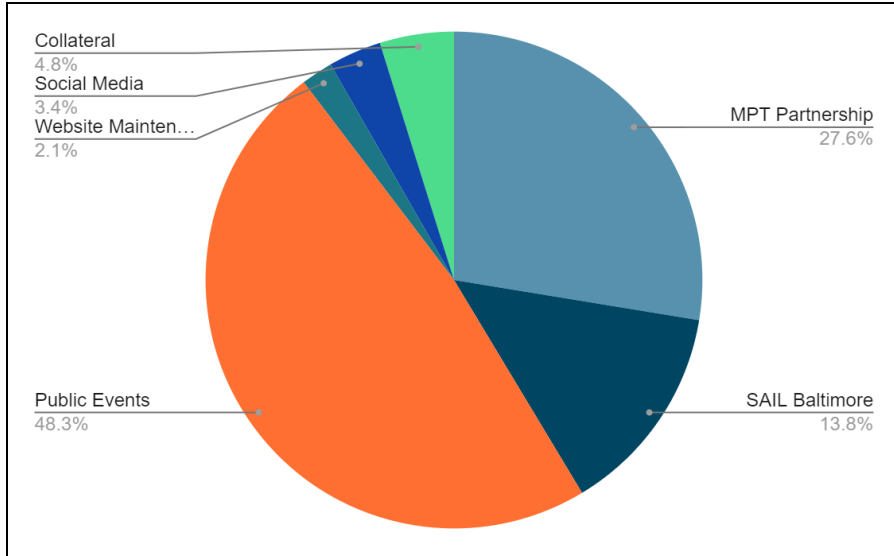
FY25

FY25	MPT Partnership		\$250,000.00
FY25	SAIL Baltimore		\$100,000.00
FY25	BSO		\$50,000.00
FY25	Public Art		\$50,000.00
FY25	Visitor's Guide		\$25,000.00
FY25	Website Maintenance		\$10,000.00
FY25	Exhibits		\$5,000.00
FY25	Social Media		\$15,000.00
FY25	Collateral		\$25,000.00
Total			\$530,000.00



FY26

FY26	MPT Partnership		\$200,000.00
FY26	SAIL Baltimore		\$100,000.00
FY26	Public Events		\$350,000.00
FY26	Website Maintenance		\$15,000.00
FY26	Social Media		\$25,000.00
FY26	Collateral		\$35,000.00
Total			\$725,000.00



FY27

FY27	Website Archiving		\$10,000.00
Total			\$10,000.00