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## America250 and the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution announce Historic Partnership to Commemorate the Nation's Birthday

Washington, D.C. – <u>America250, the nationwide commemoration of America's 250th</u> <u>anniversary in 2026 led by the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission</u>, has signed a National Partnership agreement with the <u>National Society Daughters of the American Revolution</u> (DAR). The agreement outlines a number of initiatives developed by the DAR to honor Revolutionary War patriots, engage youth through contests and educational programming, and support efforts to better tell the story of underrepresented and diverse patriots who helped to win the American War of Independence.

The largest patriotic women's service organization in the nation, the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution has now become the first heritage society to formally partner with America250 and has been a leader in the national effort to coordinate the 250<sup>th</sup> commemoration. DAR Honorary President General Lynn Forney Young serves on the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission.

"The Daughters of the American Revolution have committed their incredible talent and resources to this effort since planning began for our 250th anniversary of independence," said Daniel M. DiLella, Chairman, U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission. "This partnership is particularly meaningful given the longstanding commitment and dedication of Lynn Forney Young, a fellow Commissioner and Honorary President General of DAR who has championed both organizations' missions to honor our history while inspiring the American spirit for generations to come."

"We are proud to partner with the Daughters of the American Revolution, its chapters and members in support of the largest 1776 commemoration in U.S. history," America250 Foundation CEO & President Joe Daniels said. "DAR's leadership and its members have been at the forefront of promoting historic preservation and education to honor the legacy of all patriots who fought for America's independence. They have been crucial partners since the earliest stages of planning for the 250th commemoration and this agreement now formally recognizes that long-standing relationship." "DAR members around the world are actively engaged in their local communities honoring the men and women who achieved American Independence and inspiring the American spirit in others through meaningful activities and outreach to the public," said Denise Doring VanBuren, DAR President General. "We are delighted to amplify those efforts through our official partnership with America250 and to support its initiatives to commemorate our Nation's historic upcoming anniversary."

The DAR's America 250! Committee has been planning, promoting and sharing ideas related to the commemoration since 2017. Examples to date include: erection of America 250 Patriot Markers across the country to honor those who supported the Revolutionary War; creation of the E Pluribus Unum Educational Initiative, focused on educational programming and research to better tell the story of underrepresented and diverse patriots who helped to win American Independence; and launch of a new Patriots of the American Revolution High School Essay Contest for 9-12<sup>th</sup> grade students focusing on individuals who figured in the events of the American Revolution. More information about the DAR's many activities and promotions to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the nation may be found at <u>www.dar.org/America250</u>.

## About America250

America250 is a multiyear effort to commemorate the semiquincentennial, or 250th anniversary, of the United States. The purpose of the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, created by Congress, and the corresponding America250 Foundation, is to catalyze a more perfect union by designing and leading the most comprehensive and inclusive celebration in our country's history. America250 represents a coalition of public and private partners all working to create initiatives and programs that honor our first 250 years and inspire Americans to imagine our next 250. The commemoration period began in 2020, culminates on July 4, 2026, and officially concludes in 2027. For more information, visit www.america250.org and follow us on Facebook, Twitter , Instagram and TikTok.

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## About the Daughters of the American Revolution

The largest patriotic women's service organization in the nation, DAR has nearly 190,000 members in approximately 3,000 chapters across the United States and in several foreign countries. DAR members promote historic preservation, education and patriotism via commemorative events, scholarships, educational initiatives, citizenship programs, service to both veterans and active duty military, all achieved through meaningful community service that totals more than 5 million hours annually. For additional information about DAR and its relevant mission, visit www.dar.org.

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