



# DISPATCH

Newsletter of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, an educational institution of the Commonwealth of Virginia

## American Revolution Museum at Yorktown Dedicated April 1 With Patriotic Ceremonies, 18th-Century Fair, Tribute to Nick and Mary Mathews

Artillery salutes and flag-raising ceremonies. Fifes and drums and military dragoons. A brass band and color guard. Amid blue skies and a cheerful crowd, the new American Revolution Museum at Yorktown was officially dedicated April 1, the high point of a 13-day Grand Opening Celebration saluting each of the first original 13 states in the order that they ratified the Constitution. The dedication ceremony launched Virginia Day festivities, filled with the



Virginia Governor Terence R. McAuliffe served as the keynote speaker on April 1 during Dedication Day.

experiential films and interpretive living-history experiences, offering a renewed national perspective on the meaning and impact of the Revolution.

### Dedication Day

Virginia Governor Terence R. McAuliffe served as the keynote speaker and dedicated the museum to the late Nick and Mary Mathews, benefactors to the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation who donated the land on which the museum is built and supported museum programs during their life and through their estate. The dedication was followed by “God Bless America,” performed by singer Laura Rice, a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran and Heart Songs for Veterans Ambassador.

The ceremony featured music by the Virginia Army National Guard 29th Infantry Division Band, a processional by the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Honor Guard and Field Musick Virginia, and a presentation of colors by the Virginia Army National Guard 29th Infantry Division Color Guard.

The program included welcoming remarks from The Honorable H. Benson Dendy III, chairman of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Board of Trustees; pledge of allegiance by

pageantry, fun and excitement of an 18th-century fair.

More than 2,000 people attended the milestone event on April 1, which marked the realization of a 10-year, \$50 million transformation from the Yorktown Victory Center. The American Revolution Museum at Yorktown showcased its immersive exhibition galleries with nearly 500 period artifacts,



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## Continental Army Encampment and Revolution-era Farm Offer New Spaces for Learning About the Revolution

For visitors to the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, new outdoor living-history experiences bring history alive in a Continental Army encampment and Revolution-era farm.

The Continental Army encampment, triple its previous size, now features a drill field



As part of the Grand Opening Celebration, state representatives and schoolchildren took part in daily Honor Guard processions.

for tactical demonstrations and an artillery amphitheater with an array of artillery pieces representing the types of guns in use at the 1781 Siege of Yorktown and offers opportunities to learn hands-on how to oper-

ate an artillery piece and to observe its firing. Representing two companies of American soldiers, the encampment includes rows of soldiers’ tents, an office for an adjutant or secretary, two captains’ quarters and an earthen “kitchen.” There are several regimental features – quarters for a colonel, surgeon and quartermaster – as well as makeshift dwellings to represent shelter for female relatives of soldiers who followed the army.

The Revolution-era farm evokes the world of the 18th-century family of Edward Moss (c.1757-1786), whose life is well-documented in York County, Virginia, records. The story of Edward Moss and his family offers historical interpreters and educators a frame of reference for talking about farm and domestic life as well as the lives of enslaved African Americans during the Revolution. A farmhouse, kitchen, tobacco barn, slave quarters, tool shed and fields for growing vegetables and crops and an orchard dot the landscape.

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**A MUSEUM REVOLUTION CELEBRATED OVER 13 DAYS.** From March 23 to April 4, historians, military veterans, dignitaries, authors, re-enactors, heritage organizations, entertainers and enthusiasts came together to present 13 days of festivities with a diverse range of programs, lectures and performances honoring the legacy of the first 13 states. The high point was the April 1 Dedication Ceremony that launched Virginia Day festivities, complete with the pageantry, fun and excitement of an 18th-century fair. Daily programs featured new gallery exhibits, Honor Guard processions to the Continental Army encampment's artillery amphitheater for ceremonial welcoming remarks, a flag-raising ceremony and artillery salute. See event highlights at [www.historyisfun.org/grandopening](http://www.historyisfun.org/grandopening).

## American Revolution Museum at Yorktown Dedicated...

*(continued from page 1)*

Philip G. Emerson, executive director of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation; and an invocation by the Rev. Carleton B. Bakkum, rector of Grace Episcopal Church in Yorktown.

Col. Thierry Casanova, French Army Liaison Officer to Command Group TRADOC at Fort Eustis, Va., delivered greetings from France, representing the Embassy of France to the United States. Clifford B. Fleet, president of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., Board of Directors, presented an overview of the museum's history, and The Honorable Thomas K. Norment, Jr., Senate Majority Leader of the State of Virginia, 3rd District, discussed the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation's role as a leader in education and tourism.

Visitors experienced the new museum, including the introductory film, "Liberty Fever," and expansive exhibition galleries, featuring period artifacts, interactive exhibits and films, including "The Siege of Yorktown" experiential theater with special effects. Museum gallery exhibits debuted a new mobile app to enhance gallery storylines and the "Liberty Tree," a new interactive gallery feature that allows visitors to share their thoughts on liberty in person or online.

Outdoors in newly expanded re-creations of a Continental Army encampment and Revolution-era farm, tradesman and artisans — basket-makers, leather-workers, tinsmiths, milliners, tailors and seamstresses — demonstrated their skills and craftsmanship throughout the day. Strolling musicians, a silhouette artist, puppeteers and jugglers offered period entertainment, and children and adults joined in playing 18th-century games.

Musical performances included Field Musick Virginia, The Itinerant Band, and David and Ginger Hildebrand. Military re-enactors, including the 7th Virginia Regiment and the 1st Virginia Regiment of the Continental Line – Infantry and Mounted Dragoon division, demonstrated techniques used by cavalry units during the American Revolution. ■

### Reveling in the Revolution for 13 Days

Historians, military veterans, authors, re-enactors, entertainers and enthusiasts reveling in the Revolution came together March 23 to April 4 to present 13 days of festivities with a diverse range of programs, lectures and performances honoring the legacy of the first 13 states.

In all, more than 90 historians, authors, curators and tourism professionals representing Revolutionary War battlefields, historic sites, and heritage organizations from New Hampshire to Georgia trekked to Yorktown to join in the festivities. Representatives from the Society of the Cincinnati, Sons of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Revolution, Children of the American Revolution and the American Friends of Lafayette attended the 13-day event to underscore their ongoing efforts to preserve the nation's history and heritage.

"It was important to us to engage local, state and national heritage organizations from the beginning," said Homer Lanier, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation interpretive site manager who coordinated the Grand Opening Celebration events. "Each day of the event allowed each state the opportunity to showcase their state's history and how it tied into the larger picture of the American Revolution as a whole."

Each afternoon and evening of the 13-day event, visitors were served up more than 50 historical panel discussions, lectures and book-signing events on aspects of Revolutionary War battles fought from Delaware to Rhode Island. ■



## New Spaces for Learning About the Revolution... *(continued from page 1)*

As classrooms, the encampment and farm offer exciting new spaces to serve more students on tours and allow for deeper engagement for learning. Museum educators are enthusiastic about the opportunities as they develop a new series of “Dig Deeper” education programs to debut this fall.



Visitors take part in an artillery gun crew in the Continental Army encampment's artillery amphitheater.



At the Revolution-era farmhouse, a historical interpreter shows a young visitor how to spin wool, one of the many hands-on experiences that draw visitors into daily life of the Revolution.

“Students will build gabions and fascines and learn the science of defensive siege works, explore the living conditions of enslaved people in the new slave quarter, and encode and carry secret messages through the camp,” said Anne Price-Hardister, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation on-site education and training manager. “Through activities like these, the people of the Revolution, the decisions they made and the lives they lived become real living, breathing individuals.” ■

## Success of ‘American Revolution Museum at Yorktown Campaign for Support’ a Testament to Museum Donors

The grand opening of the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown this spring marked the museum’s completion as a national center of tourism and education, attracting visitors and educating students from across the globe.

The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation was able to complete this new museum thanks to a longstanding public-private partnership. The Commonwealth of Virginia provided funding for the planning and construction. Private support has been crucial to creating the new gallery exhibits that debuted in October 2016 and outdoor living-history areas that were completed in March 2017 in time for the grand opening.

As of May 1, 2017, the total raised through the *American Revolution Museum at Yorktown Campaign for Support* reached \$14.6 million toward the \$15 million goal. Recent gifts and commitments for Campaign priorities—gallery exhibits, outdoor living-history exhibits, educational resources, and the Annual Fund—include \$113,786 from Mr. and Mrs. James D. Penny, \$50,000 from Mr. and Mrs. Donald S. Baker, \$42,500 from Mr. and Mrs. Terry E. Hall, \$25,260 from Mr. and Mrs. Scott Blankinship, \$25,000 from the National Society Children of the American Revolution, and \$25,477 from an anonymous donor.

Simultaneously, a \$100,000 commitment by James City County will support the special exhibition program at Jamestown Settlement. The county’s grant provided funding for an upcoming 2018-2019 special exhibition that explores the history of the first women of the Virginia Colony at Jamestown, including English settlers, African women, and those within the indigenous Powhatan Indian tribes. A portion of the grant supports public programming at Jamestown Settlement. ■

## Noteworthy

### Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation Welcomes New Deputy Executive Director and Special Assistant for Board Relations

The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation recently welcomed Frank N. Stovall as Deputy Executive Director of Administration and Jarret Hann as Special Assistant for Board Relations.

**Frank Stovall** succeeds Jeff Lunsford, who will retire June 30 after 18 years with the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation. Stovall, who served as the City Manager of Clinton, South Carolina, since 2011, also has served as Clinton, South Carolina, assistant city manager and Musgrove Mill State Historic Site park manager. He holds a master of public administration degree from Clemson University and undergraduate and graduate degrees from Virginia Tech.

**Jarret Hann** has been hired as Special Assistant for Board Relations, succeeding Laura Bailey, who will retire June 30 after 33 years with the Foundation. Hann has spent the past five years at the National Center for State Courts, where as part of his duties, he served as a staff liaison to a commission of State Supreme Court Justices. He holds degrees in business and in law, and he practiced law in Canada prior to moving to Virginia in 2012.

### New Interactive Exhibits Enliven Jamestown Settlement Galleries

Visitors to Jamestown Settlement’s exhibition galleries have been engaging with the exhibits in a new way, thanks to interactive technology that debuted in April as part of a phased gallery enhancement.

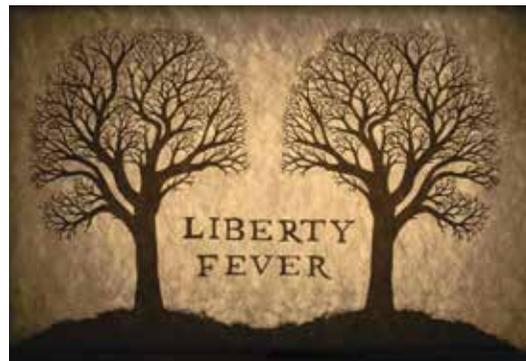
The innovative technology includes an interactive wall featuring a game that compares and contrasts Powhatan, African and English cultures, a transparent monitor that displays layered

information about each culture, and films with short vignettes from the lives of representatives of the three cultures. The second phase is to be completed in 2019.



### American Revolution Museum at Yorktown’s ‘Liberty Fever’ Wins AAM MUSE Award

The American Revolution Museum at Yorktown recently received a 2017 Gold MUSE Award from the American Alliance of Museums for its introductory film, “Liberty Fever.” The introductory film, shown every 30 minutes in the museum’s theater, depicts a 19th-century storyteller sharing stories about the American Revolution using



a moving panorama or “crankie” presentation. “Liberty Fever,” produced by Cortina Productions of McLean, Va., working with media production and curatorial staff of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, features stationary silhouettes and moving shadow puppets scrolling

by on a large “crankie” interwoven with live-action film segments featuring the stories of five people who lived during the American Revolution. The film evokes emotional connections with the story and characters so that modern-day viewers reflect on what the American Revolution means to their lives today.

### Fifty New Citizens Take Oath of Allegiance at Jamestown Settlement Ceremony

Fifty young people from 29 countries took the Oath of Allegiance to the United States as part of a Citizenship Ceremony on April 29 at Jamestown Settlement. The ceremony is for children of naturalized United States citizens and those adopted by American citizens.

The sixth-annual event was hosted by the Williamsburg Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution and the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation in partnership with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services of the Department of Homeland Security

Abigail Schumann, an award-winning script writer, presented welcoming remarks to the new citizens in the character of Abigail Adams, wife of second president John Adams.

# Toward 2019

*An update on planning to commemorate the 400th anniversary of landmark events in Virginia history*

## AMERICAN EVOLUTION™: *Virginia to America, 1619-2019*

The Commonwealth will soon commemorate events in history that significantly contributed to the permanency of the Virginia colony and to key ideals of the United States: Democracy, Diversity and Opportunity. Under the auspices of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, serving as the official executive branch agency for the 2019 Commemoration, AMERICAN EVOLUTION™, plans are underway to establish the framework for leveraging partnerships and launching a series of programs and events that strive to build awareness of Virginia's role in the creation of the United States and position Virginia as a global leader in education, economic development and tourism.

### LINDA HEYWOOD RETURNS TO JAMESTOWN SETTLEMENT

AMERICAN EVOLUTION™ presented a Black History Month book-signing event on February 23 featuring Linda Heywood, author and professor of African history at Boston University. She



Linda Heywood and Peter Armstrong, Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation senior director of Museum Operations & Education, near statue of Queen Njinga at Jamestown Settlement.

discussed her book, "Njinga of Angola: Africa's Warrior Queen," and how Queen Njinga, one of the most powerful and brave figures in African history, skillfully navigated – and ultimately transcended – the ruthless, male-dominated power struggles of her time. "Her story is important as she provides a powerful role model for African Americans and women today," Heywood noted. "There

are myriad correlations between the issues Queen Njinga overcame and today's race and gender challenges in leadership and politics." Heywood also worked as a consultant for Jamestown Settlement's permanent exhibition galleries in 2006.

### RECENT EVENTS SPONSORED BY AMERICAN EVOLUTION™

#### Pocahontas Reframed: Native American Storytellers Film Festival

On February 5, AMERICAN EVOLUTION™ sponsored a sneak preview of *Pocahontas Reframed: Native American Storytellers Film Festival*, formerly the American Indian Film Festival of Virginia. Held in Richmond at the Byrd Theatre, the preview featured luminary figures in American Indian filmmaking including George Aguilar, Georgina Lightning and Chris Eyre. The inaugural festival is scheduled for November 17-19, 2017, at the Byrd Theatre.

#### Virginia Arts Festival

AMERICAN EVOLUTION™ sponsored several performances of the Virginia Arts Festival (VAF), which has featured internationally acclaimed artists for three decades. They included Kathleen Battle on March 23 at Norfolk State University's Wilder Center; the world premiere performance of Urban Bush Women on April 22; the Richard Alston Dance Company on May 6 at the Virginia Beach Sandler Center for the Performing Arts; and the Lula Washington Dance Theatre on May 19 at the Ferguson

Center for the Arts in Newport News. In 2019, AMERICAN EVOLUTION™ will partner with VAF to present a world premiere dance performance drawn from American Indian, African and English cultures.

#### Tom Tom Founders Festival

AMERICAN EVOLUTION™ was a Founding Sponsor of this year's Tom Tom Festival in Charlottesville, April 10-16. There were talks, workshops, panels, installations, concerts and social gatherings. The converging disciplines of music, art, design, business, science and technology connected people and new ideas with resources necessary to impact the future.

#### Virginia Women's Monument

In partnership with the Virginia Capitol Foundation and the Women's Monument Commission, AMERICAN EVOLUTION™ sponsored "March to Mother's Day," March 1-May 14. The campaign featured a tribute opportunity for individuals to honor an important woman by making a donation to the Virginia Women's Monument, "Voices from the Garden." This monument, located in Richmond's Capitol Square, will explore 400 years of women's history in Virginia and bring to life the powerful narratives of 12 of the Commonwealth's most historically influential female figures. ■



#### Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation *Dispatch*

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The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, an educational institution of the Commonwealth of Virginia accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, fosters through its living-history museums – Jamestown Settlement and American Revolution Museum at Yorktown – an awareness and understanding of the early history, settlement, and development of the United States through the convergence of American Indian, European, and African cultures and the enduring legacies bequeathed to the nation.

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# Dispatch

Spring 2017

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## Calendar

Ongoing Through November 27

**AfterWARD: The Revolutionary Veterans Who Built America Special Exhibition**

*American Revolution Museum at Yorktown*  
Follow the incredible stories of the veterans of the Siege of Yorktown and how they went on after the war to help shape the America we know today. The special exhibition celebrates and connects America's veterans through an interactive Legacy Wall.

**AfterWARD Programs Celebrating and Connecting America's Veterans**

*American Revolution Museum at Yorktown*

June 23 & 24

**"Profiles of Honor" Traveling Exhibition 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

Discover and share accounts of Virginians who served in World War I & II. Sponsored by the Virginia World War I & II Commemoration Commission.

July 25

**"Studebaker Goes to War!" Lecture 7 p.m.**

The Studebaker National Museum shares the story behind the carriage used by the Marquis de Lafayette during his 1824 America tour and Studebaker's long history of supplying vehicles to the military. Free admission. RSVP at (757) 253-4572.



Courtesy of the Studebaker National Museum.

August 17

**"Rewarding the Soldier: Veterans Benefits Then & Now" Panel Discussion 6 p.m.**

From land warrants and pensions to medical service and the G.I. Bill, explore the history of benefits afforded America's military through the ages. Free admission. RSVP at (757) 253-4572.

July 4

**Liberty Celebration**

*American Revolution Museum at Yorktown*  
Salute the 241st anniversary of the Declaration of Independence with artillery frings, military drills and patriotic fun.

Opening July 15 through January 28, 2018

**Pocahontas Imagined Special Exhibition**

*Jamestown Settlement*

Four hundred years after the 1617 death of Pocahontas in England, her image and legend live on. Using depictions of Pocahontas from across the centuries, explore the reasons behind her enduring legacy.



Jamestown Settlement and the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown are open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily (until 6 p.m. June 15-August 15). Admission to special programs during operating hours is included with museum admission. Visit [www.historyisfun.org/events](http://www.historyisfun.org/events) for a calendar of upcoming events.