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News from the American Revolution Institute of the Society of the Cincinnati



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Featured Story



Announcing the Inaugural Recipient of the Thomas Jay McCahill III Fellowship

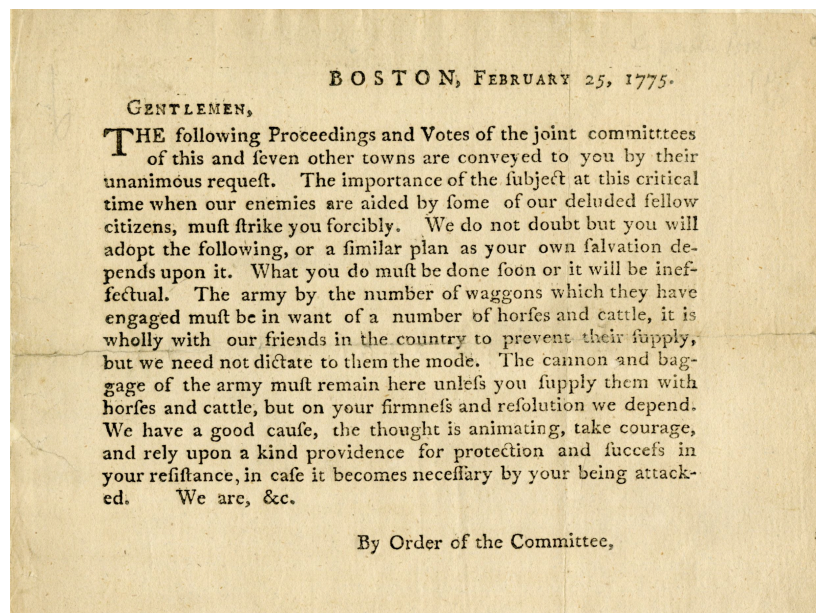
The American Revolution Institute of the Society of the Cincinnati is pleased to announce that the 2025 Thomas Jay McCahill III Fellowship has been awarded to Christine DeLucia, PhD, associate professor of history at Williams College. The fellowship supports DeLucia's research for a project titled, "Land, Diplomacy, and Power in the Revolutionary Northeast." This historical work examines the centrality of land for diverse eighteenth-century communities across the Northeast, including areas claimed and contested by New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York.

“The Society of the Cincinnati is delighted to welcome Dr. DeLucia as the inaugural Thomas Jay McCahill III Fellow,” said Andy Morse, executive director of the Society and its American Revolution Institute. “Our research library collection will render valuable insights to her work which will illuminate a complex and worthy facet of American history.”

The fellowship is made possible by a grant from the Thomas Jay McCahill III SOCNH Foundation and is offered in collaboration with the American Revolution Institute of the Society of the Cincinnati, Inc., and the American Independence Museum in Exeter, New Hampshire.

[Read the full press release about Dr. DeLucia’s project](#)

This Month in Revolutionary History



“We have a good cause, the thought is animating, take courage...”

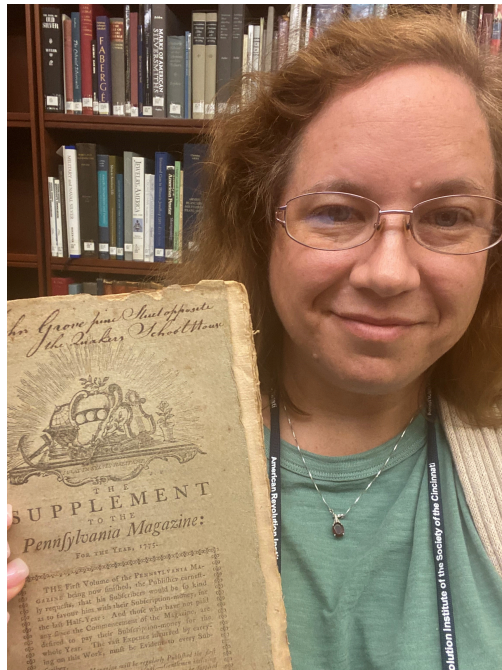
A few months before the Battle of Bunker Hill, the Boston Committee of Correspondence published this February 25, 1775, broadside as tensions escalated between Patriots, Loyalists, and British troops in Massachusetts. The Boston Committee of Correspondence was formed in November 1772 as a response to news from Parliament that proposed for Massachusetts judges’ salaries to be paid by the Crown using American customs revenue, instead of the colony’s General Court.

Broadsides were a significant form of media during the Revolutionary War and were created to disseminate news, announce legislation, recruit and instruct troops, celebrate events, and sway public opinion. The Boston Committee of Correspondence often used broadsides as a means to target their Massachusetts audience with information to help induce public support against the Crown. This tactic is apparent in this broadside. The committee recommends that action from “the several towns of Boston, Charlestown, Cambridge, Medford, Lexington, Watertown, Brookline, and Concord,” is required to prevent Loyalists from supplying British troops quartered in the Boston

area. The order came as a “unanimous request” from the committee that any teams carrying in supplies needed by the British—such as timber, bricks, iron, wagons, and intrenching tools—are required to comply with the order and that a “certificate ought to be delivered to one or more of the committee of Correspondence for Boston before the teamster presumes to unload.”

Read the order on our Digital Library

Education



An Interview with Master Teachers Seminar Alum Anne Walker

Anne Walker teaches at Forest Park High School in Woodbridge, Va., and serves on the Board of Directors for the National Council for the Social Studies and was honored in 2019 as Virginia’s James Madison Fellow. Anne is certified to teach K-5 elementary education as well as K-12 history and social science, and she’s proud to have taught nearly every grade from K-12. Anne is a frequent contributor to the ARI’s professional development programs for educators across the country.

“Reflecting on my time at the American Revolution Institute’s Master Teachers Seminar, I can confidently say it was transformative...During my time at the Institute’s library, I focused on researching the Oneida Indians and their evolving stance during the American Revolution. Initially, the Oneida declared neutrality in 1775, aiming to stay out of the conflict between the British and the American colonists. However, their position shifted dramatically as the war progressed. Influenced by their relationships with American missionaries and the strategic importance of their alliance, the Oneida eventually chose to support the colonial cause. This change was significant, as the Oneida provided crucial assistance, including acting as scouts

and participating in key battles like the Battle of Oriskany. My research delved into the reasons behind this shift and the impact of the Oneida's support on the outcome of the war.

Understanding and appreciating the achievements of the American Revolution is crucial for students because it lays the foundation for their knowledge of democracy and civic responsibility. By studying this pivotal period, students gain insight into the origin of the values of the institutions that shape their lives today, such as liberty, equality, and the rule of law. It also provides essential historical context, helping them understand subsequent events in American and world history. Moreover, this knowledge fosters a sense of national pride and cultural identity, connecting students with their heritage. Analyzing the complexities of the Revolution enhances critical thinking skills, encouraging students to evaluate historical sources and understand diverse perspectives. Ultimately, this understanding inspires informed and active citizenship, bridging the past with contemporary issues.”

Explore Anne's master teacher lesson on the Oneida

Collections



Love Painted in Miniature

In the eighteenth century, portrait miniatures were intimate keepsakes given by the sitter to a loved one to convey their affection and to represent their bond. Miniatures were often commissioned to mark important milestones in life, including marriage, long absences, and death. During wartime, officers sat for these small portraits before leaving home or while serving in the military. They typically presented the miniature to their wife, mother, or other close female relative, who wore it as a pendant or bracelet.

In 1790, a French veteran of the American Revolutionary War had his portrait miniature painted while stationed in Cork, Ireland. Louis-François-Bertrand du Pont d'Aubevoye, comte de Lauberdière, had made his name in America as an aide-de-camp to his kinsman the comte de Rochambeau, lieutenant general of the French army in America. After the American war,

Lauberdière joined the Society of the Cincinnati and continued serving in the French army. While in Ireland, he met a local woman, Caroline Macnamara-Hussey, and they were married in June 1790. Lauberdière hired a noted artist from Cork, Adam Buck, to paint his portrait miniature as a present for his bride, with their first initials intertwined in gold over a plat of woven hair on the back. The watercolor-on-ivory portrait shows the thirty-year-old Frenchman wearing his uniform and the Eagle insignia of the Society, celebrating his participation in America's war for independence.

See the portrait in more detail

Historical Programs This Month

All programs are held in-person at Anderson House unless otherwise specified. Virtual options are available. Admission is free unless otherwise specified and registration is requested. Click the images below to learn more and register for each upcoming program, or [click here to view our full calendar of upcoming programs.](#)

Lecture

Benjamin Franklin, Francisco Saavedra de Sangronis, and Spain's Grand Strategy in the American Revolutionary War

Thomas Chávez, Ph.D.

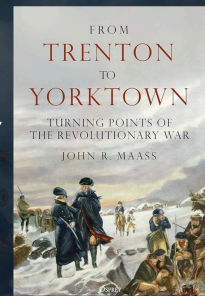
Wednesday, February 5, 2025
6:30 P.M.
Anderson House

Author's Talk

*From Trenton to Yorktown:
Turning Points of the Revolutionary War*

John Maass, Ph.D.

Tuesday, February 11, 2025
6:30 P.M.
Anderson House



Special Program

From the Vault—Celebrating George Washington's Birthday

Tuesday, February 18, 2025
6:00-7:30 P.M.
Anderson House

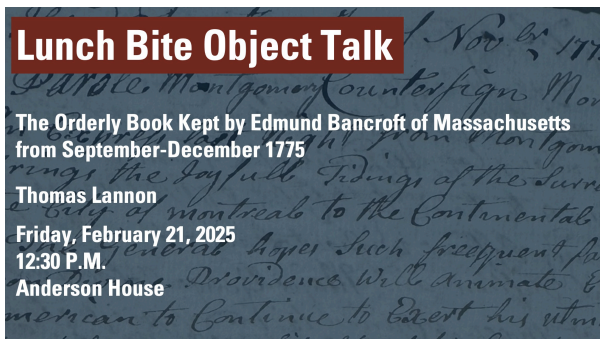
\$25 per person

Lunch Bite Object Talk

The Orderly Book Kept by Edmund Bancroft of Massachusetts from September-December 1775

Thomas Lannon

Friday, February 21, 2025
12:30 P.M.
Anderson House





Read Past Issues

Calendar of Events

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The American Revolution secured our independence, created our republic, established our national identity, and expressed ideals of liberty, equality, natural and civil rights, and responsible citizenship that have defined our history and will define our future. The American Revolution Institute of the Society of the Cincinnati promotes knowledge and appreciation of those achievements, fulfilling the aim of the Continental Army officers who founded the Society of the Cincinnati in 1783 to perpetuate the memory of that vast event. The Institute supports advanced study, presents exhibitions and other public programs, advocates effective classroom instruction, and provides resources to teachers and students to enrich understanding of the American Revolution and the principles of the men and women who secured the liberty of the American people.

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