

America 250 | CT Commission Local Committee Meeting Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. Virtual via Zoom Meeting Notes

Watch the Recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OOcBXY3vdBc

1. Welcome & Introduction of New Commissions

No new introductions today.

- 2. America 250 | CT Commission Updates
 - a. Education resources Curriculum & Local History Project

Curriculum specifically developed for teaching America 250 | CT in grades 3, 5, 8, and high school has been sent out to educators and school districts. This curriculum was developed in consultation with the Connecticut Council for the Social Studies and will be presented at their fall conference. Denise Merrill (Commission Chair) and Steve Armstrong (Commissioner & state social studies consultant) will also be presenting this to the state's superintendents. Please freely share with educators and school districts in your area.

The curriculum page also includes TeachIt lesson plans, field trips, and programs. Please share with us if you know of any additional resources in your area, and we will include them on this listing.

The Education subcommittee is also encouraging educators to engage with their students on local history projects, and has developed resources to aid educators, local historical societies, and local 250th committees to work together on highlighting local stories for students. This page includes easy-to-digest tips on ways to participate or support educators in your community. Participating students will receive certificates from the commission.

b. America250/National updates

America's Potluck is building a website and toolkit to encourage participation on July 5, 2026.

The National Constitution Center has also released some materials, including an <u>interactive</u> <u>Declaration of Independence</u> and an <u>America at 250 Civic Toolkit</u>.

No new updates on use of the America250 logo or tagline on materials. Please do not use the national commission logo as part of your designs. Local committees may apply to become America 250 | CT Commission affiliates to gain access to the state commission logo.

c. Event Calendars

Event calendars - please share your events to our calendars! Submission link <u>here</u>. Approved affiliates should use the abbreviated form - contact <u>info@ct250.org</u> if you can't find the link.

d. Give 250 Connecticut - Contract & Registration

Give 250 Connecticut is now live - registration is open and contract linked. We have 3 upcoming webinars & one recording available here.

- 3. Questions & Discussion
 - a. How are your planning efforts going?
 - b. What resources do you need to further them?

Melissa Canham-Clyne shared that the Connecticut Library Association is hosting a planning call on October 1 at 2:00 - please encourage libraries to attend and gather ideas on how to participate. The session is being held via Zoom - information here.

Helpful Links:

- Event Calendar
- Local Commission Listing
- Affiliate Program
- Federal Grants
- CT Humanities Grants
- AASLH Field Guide, Programming Guide, and Local Commission Technical Leaflet
- Two Lights for Tomorrow
- Funding Resources
- Private Facebook group
- Recording from Planning Workshop
- 2025 Conference Recordings
- Give 250 Connecticut Resources
- Commission Events (now includes national initiatives)