

# *Declaration 250*

## *A National Invitation to Sign the Declaration of Independence*

Dear Member of Congress,

On August 2, 1776, the members of the Continental Congress stepped forward and signed the Declaration of Independence, pledging their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor to the birth of the United States of America.

While July 4 marks the adoption of the Declaration, it was August 2 when the founders formally signed the document that created the nation. Two hundred and fifty years later, America has the chance to continue what the founders started.

On August 2, 2026, Americans will gather at Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial in Put-in-Bay, Ohio for the Declaration 250 National Signing Ceremony — expected to be one of the most significant civic ceremonies of the entire America 250 celebration.

This historic site overlooking Lake Erie commemorates the Battle of Lake Erie where Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry secured a decisive victory defending the young Republic.

During the ceremony, participants will sign the Declaration of Independence, symbolically renewing the commitment first made by the founders.

The national celebration weekend will include Tall Ships on Lake Erie, major college marching bands, national speakers, patriotic concerts, military tributes, and a spectacular fireworks celebration attended by Americans from across the country, fellow members of Congress, and national civic leaders.

We respectfully invite you to attend and sign the Declaration on its 250th anniversary.

**August 2, 2026 — Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial — Put-in-Bay, Ohio**

We are coordinating participation and respectfully request a response by June 1, 2026 to [director@lakeerieheritage.org](mailto:director@lakeerieheritage.org).

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