



Middlesex County 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution GRANT GUIDELINES

Overview

In 2026, the United States will mark the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution.

The American Revolution is a story of people, places and events. This turmoil came to the doorstep of those that lived in Middlesex County and the narrative that unfolded was one of politics, divided loyalties, battles, destruction and rebuilding. This left a transformed society, the creation of a new Nation, and the history that shapes our communities today.

This 250th Anniversary provides an opportunity for all of us – cities and towns, educational and cultural institutions, libraries and civic organizations – to explore the history of the American Revolution and its impact on New Jersey and Middlesex County.

Guidelines

The Arts Institute of Middlesex County will award, through a competitive process, grants in amounts between \$1,000 - \$7,500 for programs that explore Middlesex County's history during the American Revolution and the legacy of the American Revolution in the county.

Grant funding is available to municipal entities and nonprofit organizations based in Middlesex County, which are recognized by the State of New Jersey, with IRS tax exemption as a 501c3 or 501c4 organization. All programs must take place within Middlesex County and must be open to the public and comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Applications will be due by 11:59PM on Monday, June 30, 2025.

Middlesex County is a Proud Partner of RevolutionNJ and is seeking programs that fulfill RevolutionNJ's goals for the 250th:

- 1) Tell a diverse and inclusive story about America's past that invites participation from all New Jerseyans.
- 2) Encourage the growth of organizational capacity at New Jersey's history organizations so that they are better able to attract, engage and serve visitors, both during and after RevolutionNJ

- 3) Promote heritage tourism in and to New Jersey to increase its positive impact on economic and community development
- 4) Elevate the value placed on history education in our K-12 schools and universities
- 5) Demonstrate how understanding the complexity of our history helps us to respond to the present and prepare for the future
- 6) Increase public and private funding for history in New Jersey

For more information on the mission, goals, themes and sample programs, please refer to the RevolutionNJ handbook, which is available at <https://www.revnj.org/>

Programs can be in a variety of formats, such as:

History Lectures and Discussions
Exhibits
Publications
Digitization of Historic Materials
Walking Tours
Artifact Conservation
Historic Markers
Book Readings

Film Discussions
Concerts/Sound Arts
Visual Art & Public Art
Theatrical Performances
Dance Performances
Readings (Poetry/Spoken Word)
Folk Arts Workshops
Cross-Disciplinary Programs

A program that creates new work or research focusing on New Jersey history must include a qualified historian.

A virtual Grant Workshop will be held through Zoom on Thursday, May 29, 2025 at 1:00PM. Further information and registration details will be made available closer to the day of the workshop.

Grant funds cannot be used to cover salaries, indirect costs, capital purchases, awards and prizes, fireworks, or refreshments.

Programs must take place between July 1, 2025 and December 31, 2026. A Cash Match is not required. A Final Report is required and must be filed within 30 days of project completion.

Appropriate credit language must be used in all promotional materials, which will be specified in the grant contract of all grant recipients.