



## The Jack Miller Center sponsors 33 new campus programs for America's 250<sup>th</sup>

*These campus programs will help reintroduce key themes of the Declaration of Independence into discussions on campuses across the country.*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PHILADELPHIA, PA — The Jack Miller Center is pleased to announce 33 new partnerships with university and college campuses in celebration of [America's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday](#). These campus programs will help reintroduce key themes of the Declaration of Independence into public discourse on campuses across the country.

This initiative will empower scholars and students as they explore key themes in the Declaration, such as individual rights, government's role, and ethical self-government. The campus partnerships will play a key role in rekindling appreciation for the ideas that shaped the United States, especially among younger generations.

“As we celebrate America's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary, our nation's college students deserve the opportunity to read, discuss, and debate the Declaration of Independence,” JMC President [Hans Zeiger](#) said. “The Declaration is as relevant to us as citizens today as it was a quarter millennium ago. Amid all that divides us, the Declaration can bring us together for shared conversations about enduring principles.”

Led by Jack Miller Center scholars, [campus partner programs](#) serve as hubs for undergraduate courses, student and faculty events, student fellowships and activities, K-12 teacher education programs, community outreach efforts, and more. Campus programs will engage students both in and out of the classroom. Each partner program holds unique events tailored to their campus, such as debates, reading groups, mock trials, lectures, conferences, and more.

“Our network of scholars is uniquely poised to rekindle study of the Declaration on campuses and inspire the next generation of thoughtful citizens ahead of America's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday,” said Tom Cleveland, Executive Director of the [American Political Tradition Project](#) at the Jack Miller Center.

The Jack Miller Center partners with colleges and universities each year to advance the teaching of America's founding principles and documents on campus. This year's events include academic panels, lectures, and reading groups featuring a range of perspectives from respected historians, political scientists, and legal scholars.



Each partner program has developed events and activities designed to meet their campus needs. Michigan State University created a reading group for undergraduate students that focuses on primary sources of colonial America, to be accompanied by four workshops with invited scholars who study early America. The University of Georgia will host an interactive panel of scholars who will respond to student questions regarding the Declaration while the students role-play historical characters from the time of the Declaration. Christopher Newport University will host a conference on the Declaration, including sessions on Lincoln's interpretation and contemporary First Amendment concerns.

“With help from the Jack Miller Center, we have designed this year's Open Academy programs around the main themes of the Declaration of Independence,” said JMC Scholar Ioannis Evrigenis, the Alice Tweed Tuohy Professor of Government and Ethics and director of The Open Academy at Claremont McKenna College. “As we celebrate its 250th anniversary, we are reflecting on the multitude of ways in which its principles have shaped the United States and the world and thinking about how they can help us become better, more thoughtful citizens.”

Jack Miller Fellow and history roundtable participant Jonathan Den Hartog said these campus events will point to key themes in the Declaration to demonstrate to students why the document has proven of enduring value for America and the world.

“This deepening of appreciation for the Declaration is valuable at this moment for at least two reasons,” said Den Hartog, Professor and Chair of the Department of History at Samford University. “First, it will prepare students to celebrate the Declaration’s 250th with greater understanding and appreciation. Second, this greater understanding is more vital now than ever, as many in the country lack a comprehension of the Declaration’s principles which underlay the American endeavor.”

View the full list of this year’s campus programs below:

## **America250 Campus Partner Programs**

**Arizona State University**  
[Lincoln Center for Applied Ethics](#)

**Belmont Abbey College**  
[The Honors College](#)

**Benedictine College**  
[Center for Constitutional Liberty](#)

**Boston College**  
[John Marshall Project](#)

**Carthage College**  
History and Political Science

**Catholic University of America**  
Carroll Forum on Citizenship and Public Life

**City College of New York**  
[Moynihan Center](#)



**Christopher Newport University**

[Center for American Studies](#)

**Claremont McKenna College**

[Open Academy](#)

**Coastal Carolina University**

[Cincinnatus Center](#)

**Duquesne University**

[Department of Political Science](#)

**Hudson Institute**

[Hudson Institute Political Studies](#)

**Institute of World Politics**

[Civic Thought and Statecraft Fellowship](#)

**Lee University**

[Center for Responsible Citizenship](#)

**Michigan State University (James  
Madison College)**

[Fife Fellows](#)

**Michigan State University**

[LeFrak Forum](#)

**Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

[Concourse](#)

**Oglethorpe University**

History, Politics, and International Studies

**Princeton University**

[James Madison Program in American Ideals  
and Institutions](#)

**Purdue University**

[Program on American Institutional Renewal  
\(PAIR\)](#)

**Purdue University (Fort Wayne)**

Abraham Lincoln Program in Law &  
Leadership

**Saint Vincent College**

[Political Science Department](#)

**Samford University**

[Colloquium on American Citizenship](#)

**Seton Hill University**

[Political Science Department](#)

**SUNY Geneseo**

[Forum on Constitutionalism and  
Democracy](#)

**University of Florida**

[Hamilton School for Classical and Civic  
Education](#)

**University of Georgia**

[American Founding Group](#)

**University of Houston**

[Phronēsis Program](#)

**University of Nebraska-Omaha**

'The Cause of All Mankind': A Celebration  
of the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration  
of Independence

**University of Nevada-Las Vegas**

[Great Works Program](#)

**University of Toledo**

[Institute of American Constitutional  
Thought and Leadership](#)

**U.S. Military Academy at West Point**

[American Foundations](#)



**Villanova University**  
[Matthew J. Ryan Center](#)

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## **About the Jack Miller Center**

The Jack Miller Center is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization advancing the work of scholars who teach and study the ideas, documents, and history we hold in common as Americans. We seek to grow the talent pipeline of university educators who teach the American political tradition, to forge new models for university-based training of K-12 civics and history teachers, and to build a diverse coalition of Americans to ignite a civic education renaissance.

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