



NATIONAL SUMMIT ON CIVIC EDUCATION

WORDS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD: AMERICA AT 250

May 18 – 19, 2026 | Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Monday, May 18, 2026

- 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Philadelphia Civics Stakeholders Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Summit Registration
- 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Naturalization Ceremony
- 11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Opening Lunch with remarks by JMC President Hans Zeiger and other welcome remarks
- 12:45 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Opening Plenary a Conversation with Peggy Noonan on *A Certain Idea of America*
Moderator: Thomas Kelly, Jack Miller Center
- 1:45 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Invite-Only Conversation with Peggy Noonan
- 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Breakout Sessions
How Should We Tell the American Story?
Beverly Gage, Yale University
Allen Guelzo, University of Florida

Who Owns the Declaration?
William Galston, Brookings Institution
Yuval Levin, American Enterprise Institute
- 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions
Small-group discussion of the Declaration
Danielle Allen, Harvard University
Diana Schaub, Loyola University Maryland



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Monday, May 18, 2026 (cont.)

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions

Small-group discussion of the Declaration

Lucas Morel, Washington and Lee University

Colleen Shogan, Former Archivist of the National Archives

Small-group discussion of the Declaration

Roosevelt Montás, Bard College

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Break in Programming

Available programming: Open houses, limited workspace,
networking options, hotel rooms

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Cocktail Reception

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Teach for Freedom Dinner with keynote

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Breakfast with Plenary Panel: The Civics Renaissance in
Higher Education

Justin Dyer, University of Texas – Austin

Sarah Igo, Vanderbilt University

Melinda Zook, Purdue University

Moderator: Tamara Tweel, Teagle Foundation

10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Civics Innovators Competition Breakout session (2-4 per breakout,
competitively selected)

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Closing Lunch, Teaching America250 Award and Breakout Winners
presentation, and remarks by JMC President Hans Zeiger