



**LET FREEDOM RING**  
**AMERICA250 GRANT APPLICATION FORM**  
**CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

An electronic version of this application is available at <https://cccf250.org/planning/>

**Contact Information**

Contact Person Name: Ernie Holling

Organization Name: The Mill at Anselma

Address: 1730 Conestoga Rd, Chester Springs, PA 19425

Phone: 610-827-1900

Email: [ernie@anselmamill.org](mailto:ernie@anselmamill.org)

Website: <https://anselmamill.org>

Year Incorporated: 1998

FEIN #: 23-2971911

*Note: Please attach a copy of your 501c3 letter with this request. Per IRS regulations, grants can be awarded to nonprofit charities and municipalities, but NOT individuals nor businesses.*

**Organization Field of Interest**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Arts, Culture, Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	Environment, Animals	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education, Library
	Health & Human Services		Social Justice, Civil Rights		Religion
	Municipality/Governmental		If other, please describe:		

A lot	Some	A little	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			This inspires & engages a wide array of people in commemoration of America's founding with our Revolutionary Declaration of Independence.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			This connects Chester County's stories to the nation's past, present & future.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			This commemoration is truly by the people, for all people. We invite wide input & welcome all to actively participate.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		This examines & fosters fundamental rights of Life, Liberty & the Pursuit of Happiness for All.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			We zoom in to CCCF250 planning meetings to share information & ideas.

**Amount Requested from the Community Foundation:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1,250	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$2,250	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$5,250	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$10,250
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**Please BRIEFLY describe how this funding will help your programs, services, activities and/or events to celebrate and commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our nation's Declaration of Independence, and our continuing journey toward liberty and justice for all.**

**What are you doing? When? Who will it impact? What difference do you aim to make?**

**What will it cost overall? Who are you partnering & coordinating with?**

*Please e-mail this Mini-Grant request with your 501c3 letter to [grants@chescofc.org](mailto:grants@chescofc.org)*

*Let Freedom Ring Mini-Grant decisions are made on the 25th of each month.*

*Questions? Contact Grants Officer Stephenie Stevens (610) 696-8211 [grants@chescofc.org](mailto:grants@chescofc.org)*

**For Good. For All. Forever.**

**The Mill at Anselma**  
*Let Freedom Ring Mini-Grant Proposal to  
Chester County Community Foundation*

## **Introduction**

The Mill at Anselma is pleased to submit this request for a \$2,250 Let Freedom Ring Mini-Grant from Chester County Community Foundation to support its special programs and events to celebrate and commemorate the signing of the Declaration of Independence 250 years ago.

The Mill at Anselma is the oldest known grist mill in the United States operating with its original machinery. It was built in 1747 on Pickering Creek in Chester County, Pennsylvania by Samuel Lightfoot, a surveyor, to produce flour and animal feed. It has been exactingly maintained in its original structure and function. In 2005, The Mill was designated a National Historic Landmark, recognizing it as the most intact authentic example of a custom water-powered grist mill operating with its original Colonial-era power train in the United States. The Mill has a dedicated team of both full-time and part-time volunteers, achieves its goals without paid staff, and is supported solely by donations and grants.

## **America250 Programming**

Eighteen months ago, The Mill at Anselma formed a committee (Anselma250) to direct The Mill's contributions to Chester County's America250 celebration. This committee with 11 members has met monthly since then. Our goal has been to celebrate our nation's independence while providing our visitors with a journey into life at a typical Colonial- Era grist mill and trace the history of this mill from its inception to present.

We have developed the following programming to tell our story:

1. A Colonial beehive bread oven staffed by volunteers to demonstrate the art of baking in Revolutionary times.
2. Our chicken coop will be decorated and a mannequin dressed as a Colonial miller who will discuss his responsibilities using a QR code. In addition, we will display a timeline including photographs that describe the history of the Mill.
3. From April to September on our monthly Demonstration Days (second Saturday of each month when we are grinding) we will have exhibits by Colonial-Era craftsmen including a brewmaster, surveyor, and blacksmith. In addition, we will have activities for children demonstrating skills used in colonial area homes including candle, ink, and paper making.
4. From April to September on the first Saturday of each month, we will hold a new History Day, which will include lectures from the Chester County Historical Society and local historians.
5. We will provide each family or individual visitor with a special handheld Declaration of Independence prepared by Dr. Emily Sneff, early American historian and leading expert on the Declaration of Independence.
6. We have prepared an entirely new exhibit of photographs illustrating the phases of restoration of our three main structures, the Mill, Miller's House, and the Wagon Barn, which now serves as the Visitor's Center.

## **Goals and Outcomes**

Through our special America250 programs, activities, and events, we seek to demonstrate to visitors what is would be like to live in the colonial era in a community with a thriving grist mill. We want to emphasize to our visitors the significant fact that The Mill at Anselma was among numerous mills built at

this time in Chester County that played a key role in America's ability to declare independence from Great Britain. By virtue of these mills, we became a nation that could feed itself. America250 is a unique and special opportunity to increase The Mill's visibility, audience engagement, and future sustainability.

### **Community Served**

Through our educational programs, tours, demonstrations, and events, The Mill at Anselma serves approximately 2,000 people a year, including schoolchildren, families, scholars, tourists, and Chester County residents. We anticipate welcoming many new and returning visitors for America's upcoming 250th anniversary celebrations.

### **Budget**

Lecture Stipends (Sept-April, 6 total)	\$700
<b>Colonial-Era Reenactor Fees</b>	
Brewmaster (2-day demonstration) ☰	\$600
Surveyor	\$250
Blacksmith	\$250
Breadmaking Demonstration Materials	\$100
Handheld Declaration of Independence (500)	\$350
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,250</b>

### **Collaboration**

The Mill at Anselma is an active member of the Chester County America250 planning group, and is collaborating with the following partners in our preparation, programs, and events:

- Exton Chamber of Commerce – partner for fundraising events
- 18th Century Restorations – construction partner
- Iron and Steel Foundation – historic site partner
- Society for the Preservation of Old Mills – member organization, grant source
- Brandywine Valley Tourism – Chester County tourism partner

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE  
P. O. BOX 2508  
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: JUL 25 2003

THE MILL AT ANSELMA PRESERVATION  
AND EDUCATIONAL TRUST INC  
PO BOX 42  
CHESTER SPRINGS, PA 19425-0000

Employer Identification Number:  
23-2971911  
DLN:  
17053186748073  
Contact Person:  
GERRY R McLAUGHLIN ID# 31115  
Contact Telephone Number:  
(877) 829-5500  
Public Charity Status:  
17(b) (1) (A) (vi)

Dear Applicant:

Our letter dated July 2, 1999, stated you would be exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and you would be treated as a public charity during an advance ruling period.

Based on our records and on the information you submitted, we are pleased to confirm that you are exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Code, and you are classified as a public charity under the Code section listed in the heading of this letter.

Publication 557, Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization, provides detailed information about your rights and responsibilities as an exempt organization. You may request a copy by calling the toll-free number for forms, (800) 829-3676. Information is also available on our Internet Web Site at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

If you have general questions about exempt organizations, please call our toll-free number shown in the heading between 8:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. Eastern time.

Please keep this letter in your permanent records.

Sincerely yours,



Lois G. Lerner  
Director, Exempt Organizations  
Rulings and Agreements