



Celebrate America's 250th Birthday!
For Good. For All. Forever.



DARE TO DECLARE

CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION "DARE TO DECLARE" MINI-GRANT APPLICATION FORM

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

Please note: Per IRS regulations, grants can be awarded to nonprofit charities and municipalities, but NOT individuals nor businesses.

Contact Information

Contact Person Name: Mary Lou Baily

Organization Name: Kennett Collaborative

Address: 106 W. State Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348

Phone: 610-444-8188

Email: marylou@kennettcollaborative.org

Website: kennettcollaborative.org

Year Incorporated: 1986

FEIN #: 23-2408629

Note: Please attach a copy of your 501c3 letter with this request.

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/Govt		If other, please describe:		

Mini-Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation

<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$500	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1,000	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$2,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$2,500
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Your Dare to Declare Event:

Date June 18, 2026	Time 5pm - 8pm	Location Name State Street, Kennett Square, PA	Location Address State & Union Streets, Kennett Square, PA
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Please BRIEFLY describe: 1-how this funding will help your Dare to Declare Event, 2-who it will impact, 3-the approximate amount you'll be spending on Dare to Declare activities overall, and 4-who you are partnering/coordinating with.

Please e-mail this Mini-Grant request with your 501c3 letter to grants@chescofc.org

Dare to Declare Mini-Grant decisions are made on the 25th of each month.

Questions? Contact Grants Officer Stephenie Stevens (610) 696-8211 grants@chescofc.org

For Good. For All. Forever.



"DARE TO DECLARE" MINI GRANT APPLICATION

Kennett Collaborative seeks Dare to Declare mini-grant support to present a community-driven Dare to Declare celebration during June's Third Thursday event in downtown Kennett Square. As the coordinating organization, Kennett Collaborative will partner with local community organizations and businesses to create an inclusive public program that invites residents and visitors to engage with the Declaration of Independence as a living document. Building on our broader America250 downtown beautification and enhanced marketing efforts, this event will activate a highly visible public space and encourage reflection on liberty, equality, and civic voice in a welcoming, accessible setting.

The Dare to Declare celebration will be integrated into an existing, well-attended community gathering, ensuring broad participation from families, children, longtime residents, and first-time visitors. Our goal is to have costumed actors from Kennett Amateur Theatrical Society present public readings that bring historical language to life, while the Lenape Brass Band, or similar, will provide live patriotic music that animates the downtown and creates a shared, celebratory atmosphere. Interactive children's activities will offer young participants meaningful, age-appropriate ways to explore themes of freedom, expression, and civic participation.

Community collaboration is central to this effort. In addition to local shops and restaurants, Kennett Collaborative will coordinate with organizations including the Kennett Library, YMCA of Greater Brandywine, Kennett Heritage Center, the Kennett Square Juneteenth Committee, Kennett Underground Railroad Center, and others, to participate in the event and share how their America250 programs and perspectives contribute to a broader understanding of American history and freedom. Coordinated promotion through Kennett Collaborative's marketing channels will highlight Dare to Declare alongside other America250 events taking place throughout the town, helping attendees connect with additional opportunities for learning and civic engagement.

Kennett Collaborative anticipates spending approximately \$2,500 overall on Dare to Declare activities at June's Third Thursday, including performance stipends, youth programming supplies, sound equipment, plus additional event marketing and promotions.

Together, these partnerships transform a familiar downtown gathering into a shared community expression of America250—one that elevates multiple voices, encourages participation and dialogue, and strengthens connections between residents, organizations, and the enduring ideals of the nation's founding.