



# LET FREEDOM RING & DARE TO DECLARE FUNDING REQUEST

## AMERICA250 GRANT APPLICATION FORM (AS OF 4/9/26-FINAL FUNDING REQUESTS) CHESTER COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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

### Contact Information

Contact Person Name: Theresa Thornton  
Organization Name: Phoenixville Juneteenth Planning Committee  
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Website: <https://www.blpphoenixville.org/>

Year Incorporated: 2020

FEIN #:85-2122373

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
<input type="checkbox"/>	Health & Human Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social Justice, Civil Rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion
<input type="checkbox"/>	Municipality/Governmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	If other, please describe:		

A lot	Some	A little	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	This inspires & engages a <b>wide array of people</b> in commemoration of America's founding with <b>our Revolutionary Declaration of Independence.</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	This <b>connects Chester County's stories</b> to the nation's past, present & future.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	This commemoration is <b>truly by the people, for all people.</b> We invite wide input & welcome all to actively participate.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	This examines & fosters <b>fundamental rights of Life, Liberty &amp; the Pursuit of Happiness for All.</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	We zoom in to <b>CCCF250</b> planning meetings to share information & ideas.
<b>Date: June 14&amp;19</b>			We plan to include a Dare to Declare reading of the Declaration of Independence.

### Amount Requested from the Community Foundation:

<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$500	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1,250	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$2,250	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$5,250
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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. Include any details about Dare to Declare readings of the Declaration of Independence – especially date/time/place.

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 grant request with your 501c3 letter to [grants@chescof.org](mailto:grants@chescof.org)

Let Freedom Ring & Dare to Declare grant decisions are made weekly.

Questions? Contact Grants Officer Paige Mardsen (610) 696-8211 [grants@chescof.org](mailto:grants@chescof.org)

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

The \$5,250 requested will be used to emphasize that **Black History is American History** for Phoenixville’s annual Juneteenth Celebration and the **America250** Let Freedom Ring & Dare to Declare.

Juneteenth National Freedom Day is a celebration of the day the last enslaved Americans of African descent were declared free. For more than 140 years Juneteenth National Freedom Day has been observed – it is the oldest African American holiday in the United States.

The commemoration of Juneteenth in Phoenixville began twenty-six years ago, after a pause, it resumed in 2021. Our community family event is educational, entertaining, and inspirational! Beginning Sunday, June 14th between 2-6 pm, a special collection of activities to engage Chester County residents and shed light on the importance of African American history in the United States and in our community will be commemorated with historical re-enactors, musicians, dance, magic, art, food, and storytelling. Additional events include a mini music fest on June 19<sup>th</sup> celebrating Juneteenth at 4 local venues.

This year, we plan to make **Black History is American History** more visible by connecting **America250** and a timeline of African enslavement in north America from 400 years ago to today. These will be identified throughout the 200 Block of Bridge Street both with interactive posters and chalk art on the street itself.

In addition to our annual reading of the Emancipation Proclamation at the June 14<sup>th</sup> event, we will have readings or excerpts of the Declaration of Independence and Frederick Douglass’ “What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?” Oration (1852), Abraham’s Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address (1863), Martin Luther King Jr.’s “I Have a Dream” Speech (1963) at the main event and the mini music fest. The events during the week of Juneteenth and readings will be recorded to be shared on partner websites and other community events. Additionally, the 400+ year timeline will be printed and distributed during the week of Juneteenth commemoration, at community events and area schools. Participants will have a better understanding of US history and why **Black History is American History**.

The cost of the performers, printing, video recording and other events is approximately \$12,300:

Performers	\$5500	Mini Music Fest June 19	\$1800
Movie rental	\$1000	Print materials	\$1500
T-shirts	\$250	Children’s Corner	\$500
Video	\$2000	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,300</b>

The Phoenixville Juneteenth Committee is composed of Black Light Projects, Orion Communities, Diversity in Action, Colonial Theatre, Phoenixville Community Health Foundation, Phoenixville YMCA, Forever Changes in collaboration with the Mayor and the Borough of Phoenixville. We partner with additional organizations and community members to engage all voices in learning about social justice and the full depth of American history.

We will happily add America250 logo to our materials and look forward to expanding our reach and impact with the support of additional funding for **America250** and **Black History is American History**.

Attached:  
510c3  
Juneteenth flyer

