CHESTER COUNTY community FOUNDATION
Celebrate America's 250th Birthday!
For Good. For All. Forever.

# 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: Leslie Sleesman
Organization Name: Oxford Mainstreet (in collaboration with many others!)
Address: 39 South Third Street, Studio 2, Oxford, PA 19363
Phone: 614.406.5892
Email: lsleesman@oxfordmainstreet.com

Website: www.oxfordmainstreet.com
Year Incorporated: 1999
FEIN #: 23-3008808

*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

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Arts, Culture, Heritage | | Environment, Animals | | Education, Library |
| | Health & Human Services | | Social Justice, Civil Rights | | Religion |
| | Municipality/Governmental | X | If other, please describe: | | |

| A lot | Some | A little | |
|---|---|---|---|
| X | | | This inspires & engages a **wide array of people in commemoration of America's founding with our Revolutionary Declaration of Independence.** |
| | X | | This **connects Chester County's stories to the nation's past, present & future**. |
| X | | | This commemoration is **truly by the people, for all people.** We invite wide input & welcome all to actively participate. |
| X | | | This examines & fosters **fundamental rights of Life, Liberty & the Pursuit of Happiness for All.** |
| | | | We zoom in to **CCCF250** planning meetings to share information & ideas. |
| **Date:** | **10/3/25** | | We plan to include a Dare to Declare reading of the Declaration of Independence. |

## Amount Requested from the Community Foundation:

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | $250 | | $500 | | $1,250 | | $2,250 | X | $5,250 |

**Please BRIEFLY describe how this funding will help your programs, services, activities and/or events to celebrate and commemorate the 250th 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.**

Oxford Mainstreet (OMI) in collaboration with many other local organizations and non-profits is planning an Oxford Celebrates 250 Community Day on Saturday, October 3rd from Noon – 3:00pm. OMI is the main point of contact for this event because we have experience with running local community events (like First Fridays); however, we cannot do this alone and are working closely with the Oxford Area Chamber of Commerce, Oxford Police Department, The Hook Experiment, the Oxford Area Historical Association, the Oxford Library,

the Oxford Arts Alliance, The Pearl Theatre, and several others who will all be participating. Beginning at Noon on Saturday, October 3rd, we will have the community gather in Memorial Park to take part in a variety of free activities for families all geared towards celebrating our nation's 250th birthday. Each organization will host something fun and FREE at their booth whether it's a reading, an art project, a craft, time capsule, etc. Several community members are also working on creating something at this event that will go on to be a part of a larger art project that will then be on display in Oxford. We will also have food trucks and entertainment. There is a beautiful gazebo in the park, and the Historic Association will make sure that there is someone locally to read the Declaration of Independence. This grant would help us fund the entertainment as well as offset the costs for renting the park and hiring security (a Borough requirement for events like this). We will also provide funds to the organizations participating to help them offset the costs associated with providing their activities to the public. We will be working closely with the Borough, Fire Police, and Ares Security to make this event safe and fun for everyone!

Thank you for your consideration! All of us in Oxford are so appreciative of the opportunity to celebrate this huge milestone for our country.

***Please e-mail this grant request with your 501c3 letter to grants@chescocf.org***
***Let Freedom Ring & Dare to Declare grant decisions are made weekly.***
***Questions? Contact Grants Officer Paige Mardsen (610) 696-8211 grants@chescocf.org***

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