

AMERICA 250 - COLORADO 150 Colorado's Sesquisemiquincentennial in 2026

THE COMMEMORATION

In 2026, the United States will mark the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence—our nation's semiquincentennial. At the same time, Colorado will mark the 150th anniversary of our entrance into the Union—our state's sesquicentennial. As the Centennial State, Colorado is the only one who will observe twin anniversaries—our *Sesquisemiquincentennial*. As we celebrate this uniquely Colorado commemoration, we invite you to pause, reflect upon, and honor Colorado's shared history as we imagine our future together through community events, educational opportunities, statewide celebrations, and more.

THE AMERICA 250 - COLORADO 150 COMMISSION

The America 250 - Colorado 150 Commission is charged with guiding Colorado's Sesquisemiquincentennial in ways that empower every Coloradan to participate. The Commission consists of 15 members, representing Colorado's diverse communities, several state agencies, and works closely with members of an Advisory Panel representing communities throughout the state. The Commission was created by the Colorado General Assembly with the support of Governor Jared Polis, and is housed within History Colorado.

As we create opportunities to commemorate and celebrate Colorado's stories, the Commission is committed to recognizing that our shared history includes the experiences of all who have called Colorado home. 2026 will be an opportunity for us to come together as we celebrate Colorado by acknowledging our complete shared history, honor what makes Colorado unique, and recognize our shared destiny as we strive toward a more perfect union.

SIGNATURE INITIATIVES

The America 250 - Colorado 150 Commission will create opportunities for everyone in Colorado to participate in the Sesquisemiquincentennial through a variety of signature initiatives.

Engage: Creating Memorable Public Experiences: The Sesquisemiquincentennial commemoration will feature opportunities for communities to come together and celebrate Colorado.

Educate: Commemorating Our Shared History: The Commission will support a variety of educational efforts that engage inclusively with our shared history and create a lasting legacy well beyond 2026.

Unite: Supporting Colorado Communities: The Commission will support local communities in a variety of ways as Coloradans create moments of unity and lasting impacts throughout the Sesquisemiquincentennial.

GET INVOLVED

All Coloradans are encouraged to make the most of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. It will take us all working together to coordinate commemorative events, plan community activities, create new scholarship and new educational opportunities, identify new sites for historic preservation, and show our fellow Americans what makes the Sesquisemiquincentennial uniquely Colorado.

The America 250 - Colorado 150 Commission will foster community efforts by:

- Hosting a statewide events calendar on the 250 150 website
 - Share all of the exciting opportunities to participate in your local community! Open to community groups and organizations planning events and programs, this will be the best way to see what is happening around Colorado as we commemorate the anniversaries.
- Uniting statewide Sesquisemiquincentennial efforts through a shared visual identity
 - Let everyone know that you're part of the Sesquisemiquincentennial! Community groups and nonprofit organizations will have access to the 250-150 logo for their commemorative programming.
 - Entities interested in using the logo in for-profit ventures can contact Commission staff.
- Fostering opportunities to participate in the Sesquisemiquincentennial throughout Colorado
 - Regional Advisory Panel members are forming Local Organizing Committees throughout Colorado and are coordinating regional involvement with the commemoration.
- Supporting statewide community efforts to participate in the Semiquincentennial
 - The Commission will connect local communities to funding opportunities where possible, by informing Advisory Panel members, Local Organizing Committees, and by posting information on our website
 - The Commission is exploring ways to directly assist communities with commemorative programming

CONTACT

• Katie Roach, Program Director, America 250 - Colorado 150: katie.roach@state.co.us