



TOWN OF POMFRET, VERMONT

VERMONT 250TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA
February 25, 2024, 7:30 PM
via Zoom (instructions below)

1. Call to Order
2. Agenda Review
3. Public Comment
4. Vermont 250th Community Planning Grant Application
5. Other Business
6. Adjournment

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS

- Computer or Smartphone
<https://zoom.us/j/81211989915?pwd=kiKCfazrJHVrmS9d2OwL8a16cOVZyq.1>
- Mobile Phone +16469313860,,81211989915#,,#,459453#
- Landline or Mobile Phone (646) 931-3860, followed by Meeting ID 812 1198 9915 and Passcode 459453

VERMONT 250TH COMMUNITY PLANNING GRANTS

Generously supported by Vermont Covered and administered by the Vermont Historical Society as part of their work with the Vermont 250th Anniversary Commission.

In Vermont, the years 2025-2027 will focus on the semiquincentennial (250th) of the founding of the United States. Planning for this commemoration is already underway. The **Vermont 250th Anniversary Commission** (VT250th), tasked by Governor Phil Scott, is working to create opportunities for Vermonters to mark this anniversary. The 250th offers an occasion to not only learn more about these historic events but also to reflect on what independence, freedom, and self-determination mean today and in the future. Vermont’s motto “Freedom and Unity” reflects not only the spirit of the Green Mountain State, but the founding ethos of the United States itself.

The VT250th is working diligently to be economically, culturally, and racially inclusive in the planning and implementation of the anniversary. Inclusion requires access. In 2023 broadband and wireless connectivity is essential for public safety, rural equity, education, job opportunities, economic development, health care, and agriculture. All Vermonters should have the connection to participate fully and have the opportunities offered in our increasingly digital world. **Vermont Covered** works with communities throughout Vermont to advocate for and create access to this revolutionary technology.

Grants

This grant program is intended to help communities plan and prepare for the 250th at the local level. **Grants are \$1,000** and will be given to support a range of activities that help to define and move forward programs, events, and resources for 2026-2027. This can include but is not limited to activities such as community dialogues, exhibit research/design, collections digitization/access projects, preliminary work on publications, creation of educational resources, or other general planning activities.

Eligible organizations must be doing work within the following communities selected by Vermont Covered:

<p>Town: Andover Town: Athens Town: Bakersfield Town: Barnard Town: Belvidere</p>	<p>Town: Calais Town: Cavendish Town: Chester Town: Chittenden Town: Corinth</p>
<p>Town: Craftsbury Town: Eden Town: Elmore Town: Fairfield Town: Fletcher</p>	<p>Town: Glover Town: Goshen Town: Grafton Town: Greensboro Town: Guilford</p>
<p>Town: Halifax</p>	<p>Town: Middlesex</p>



Town: Pawlet
Town: Peacham
Town: Plymouth
Town: Pomfret
Town: Reading

Town: Ripton
Town: Roxbury
Town: Sandgate
Town: Shrewsbury
Town: Strafford

Town: Stratton
Town: Sudbury
Town: Topsham
Town: Tunbridge
Town: Vershire

Town: Victory
Town: West Fairlee
Town: West Haven
Town: Westford
Town: Westmore

Town: Wolcott
Town: Woodbury
Town: Woodstock
Town: Worcester
Town:

Applicants can include local historical societies, museums, libraries, & other community-based organizations. More informal community or friends groups may apply, but there must be a sponsoring non-profit, municipal, or community-based organization that can receive the funds. Up to one grant recipient from each town will be selected.

Activities must align with one or more of the themes outlined by the VT250th. These themes can be **found here**. Activities covered under the grant must take place between February-December 2024. Higher ratings may be given to applications that showcase partnerships between communities and/or include a wide range of community partners.

Grant applications are accepted electronically with two deadlines: **1st Round: December 23, 2023 & 2nd Round: February 1, 2024*****

UPDATE: We are extending the final grant deadline to March 1, 2024. Applications received by the original February 1 deadline will be given priority review before the end of the month.

Communities selected for grants will be required to complete a set of secondary application materials with Vermont Covered before funds are released.

Recipients will be required to acknowledge the VT250th and Vermont Covered and this funding in promotional materials about supported activities. Public events/programs supported by these grants will be eligible for inclusion on the Vermont 250th events calendar.

Recipients will be required to file a final report on their supported activities no later than January 15, 2025.



If you have any difficulty in completing an application online, please contact us as noted below.

Review Criteria/Ranking

Each application will be reviewed against the following criteria ranked on a numerical scale with 1 being lowest. Applications with highest accumulated score will be recommended for funding.

- Adherence to 250th themes [1-5]
- Feasibility of activities to lead to 250th programs/events/resources [1-3]
- Potential community reach & partnership [1-5]
- Ways in which activities promote inclusion, access, & diversity [1-3]

Secondary Application with Vermont Covered

If an application is recommended for funding, it will be forwarded to Vermont Covered for the completion of secondary application materials. This consists of a questionnaire related to Vermont Covered's goal to help Vermonters achieve cost-effective mobile wireless broadband in order to bridge the gap between rural availability and internet affordability. A supported project must submit questionnaires completed by 1% of the town's population (or at least ten community members, whichever is greater) to Vermont Covered before funds will be released. For more information, please visit: vtcovered.org.

Questions?

Please contact Eileen Corcoran, VHS Director of Service & Outreach at eileen.corcoran@vermonthistory.org, (802) 479-8522.

RELATED PAGES

[Back to 250th LHS Resources](#)

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Vermont 250th Community Grants Application

First round application deadline is December 23, 2023. Second round application deadline is February 1, 2024*** UPDATE: .We are extending the final grant deadline to March 1, 2024. Applications received by the original February 1 deadline will be given priority review before the end of the month. For details on the grant, please visit <https://vermonthistory.org/250th-grants>

Organization Name (Primary Applicant) *

Address *

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

City

State / Province

Postal / Zip Code

Contact Name *

First Name

Last Name

Email *

example@example.com

Phone Number *

Please enter a valid phone number.

Organization Website

Town represented *

This should be one of the 54 eligible towns on the list provided by Vermont Covered

Description of intended activities to be covered under the grant. [limit of 500 words] *

0/501

250th Themes Addressed *

- Increase relevance of 250th
- Utilize resources from other states & commemorations
- Connect national history to regional and local levels
- Develop programming that relates to pressing public issues.
- Promote arts and cultural heritage
- Increase school participation
- Increase public awareness of 250th
- Relate to the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence
- Highlight the role of Vermont during the Revolutionary War.
- Highlight the role Vermonters played in the American Revolution
- Encourage Americans to remember our past, celebrate the present, and look forward to a promising future.

Additional Partners (Org. Name, contact name, contact email, brief description of role in project for each)

This is the first part of the two-part application process. If your application moves forward, you will be required to complete the second part of the application process.

Submit

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