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Revolution 250 Announces Liberty Tree Celebration

The Greater Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau is excited to partner with Revolution250 to promote important anniversaries and special events related to the American Revolution. This summer Boston embarks on a decade-long series of 250th anniversary events celebrating the city's seminal role in the fight for American Independence. A collaborative forum called Revolution 250 – comprised of historians, historic sites, non-profit organizations and cultural tour groups – has come together to conceptualize, develop and promote programming and special events associated with key anniversaries.

To celebrate the 250th anniversary of American Independence, Revolution 250 activities will include a wide array of programs designed to engage and educate people of all ages, Massachusetts residents and visitors alike. Thus far, several Bureau members such as the Boston National Historical Park/National Park Service, Boston Public Library, Massachusetts Historical Society, Old North Church, Old South Meeting House, and the Old State House/Bostonian Society have all hosted seminars or unveiled exhibitions as part of Revolution 250 programming.

In addition to ongoing programming, Revolution 250 will build momentum around key anniversaries. The inaugural commemoration arrives this summer, on August 14, which marks the 250th anniversary of the day when a group of Bostonians – some ardent patriots, most non-partisan colonists caught up in a tide of civic expression – came together at the site of the “Liberty Tree” to protest Parliament’s enactment of the Stamp Act.

The original site of the Liberty Tree is at the corner of Washington and Essex Streets, and during these tumultuous times, 250 years ago, this location bristled as ordinary people called for political change and

debated what form the change should take. The upcoming anniversary is an opportunity to revisit the energy, ideas and community involvement that lit up the plaza in 1765. Seizing that opportunity, Medicine Wheel Productions, a Revolution 250 member, has identified five community groups to assist in creating 108 copper lanterns modeled on the historic ones that were hung on the Liberty Tree in 1765.

These lanterns will be displayed on the evening of August 14, near the original location of the Liberty Tree, as Boston remembers the political demonstrations that occurred 250 years ago. Citizens from Boston and beyond are invited to come experience the Liberty Tree and commemorate an event which many historians consider the beginning of the Revolutionary Era in Boston. Follow Revolution250 on Facebook @Revolution250 and on Twitter @REV250BOS.

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