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## Out of the Attic

## Introducing Alexandria's America250

This year marks the semi-quincentennial of the Declaration of Independence. With a history older than the American Revolution, Alexandria celebrates its contributions to the birth of our new nation and its legacies today.

The creation of the Fairfax Resolves and the role of prominent citizens such as George Washington stand out in Alexandria's American Revolution history. Museums and organizations throughout the city will tell the story of Alexandria during the American Revolution with tours, exhibitions, public art, programs, wayfinding signs and more.

The signature event of Alexandria's America 250th celebration is the Sails on the Potomac from June 12 to 14 as a Virginia 2026 Affiliate Harbor. Alexandria is one of seven localities across Virginia hosting tall ships as part of this event, but it is the only harbor



PHOTO/ARWEN CLEMANS

Alexandria is joining in on the 250th anniversary festivities with scheduled events.

in the DMV. The event offers visitors and residents three days along the waterfront with four tall ships, music and historical interpretation through tours and educational activities. A special fireworks display is planned for 9:30 p.m. on June 13.

The tall ships Kalmar Nyckel, of Wilmington, Delaware; Gazela of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and Sultana of Chestertown, Maryland, will join Providence, based at Al-

exandria's waterfront, for the event. The ships will be open for free tours, with both timed-tickets and walk-up opportunities from noon to 6 p.m. from June 12 to 14. Each tall ship will also provide dockside activities.

The event also features a music festival, brought in part by Alexandria's Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Activities Department. The music festival will showcase folk, jazz and global music performances

from noon to 6 p.m. each day. A special jazz festival features on June 13 from 6 to 9 p.m.

If that wasn't enough, two areas of the festival will serve as the 250th History Village and Outpost. The Village and Outpost highlight this region's remarkable history, heritage, and culture with engaging displays, interactive activities and stories that connect our past to our present. A special festival passport will connect event activities to businesses, restaurants, and attractions throughout Old Town.

We hope you'll join us in our celebration of America's 250th!

*For updates on the Alexandria Sails on the Potomac event and other America 250 events in Alexandria, please visit alexandriava.gov/america250.*

*Out of the Attic is provided by the Office of Historic Alexandria.*