

NATIONAL
LIBERTY
MEMORIAL

AGENDA

- Introduction & National Mall Liberty Fund DC
- A Story of Forgotten Patriots
- The Path to Memorialization
- A Lasting Legacy



MAURICE BARBOZA

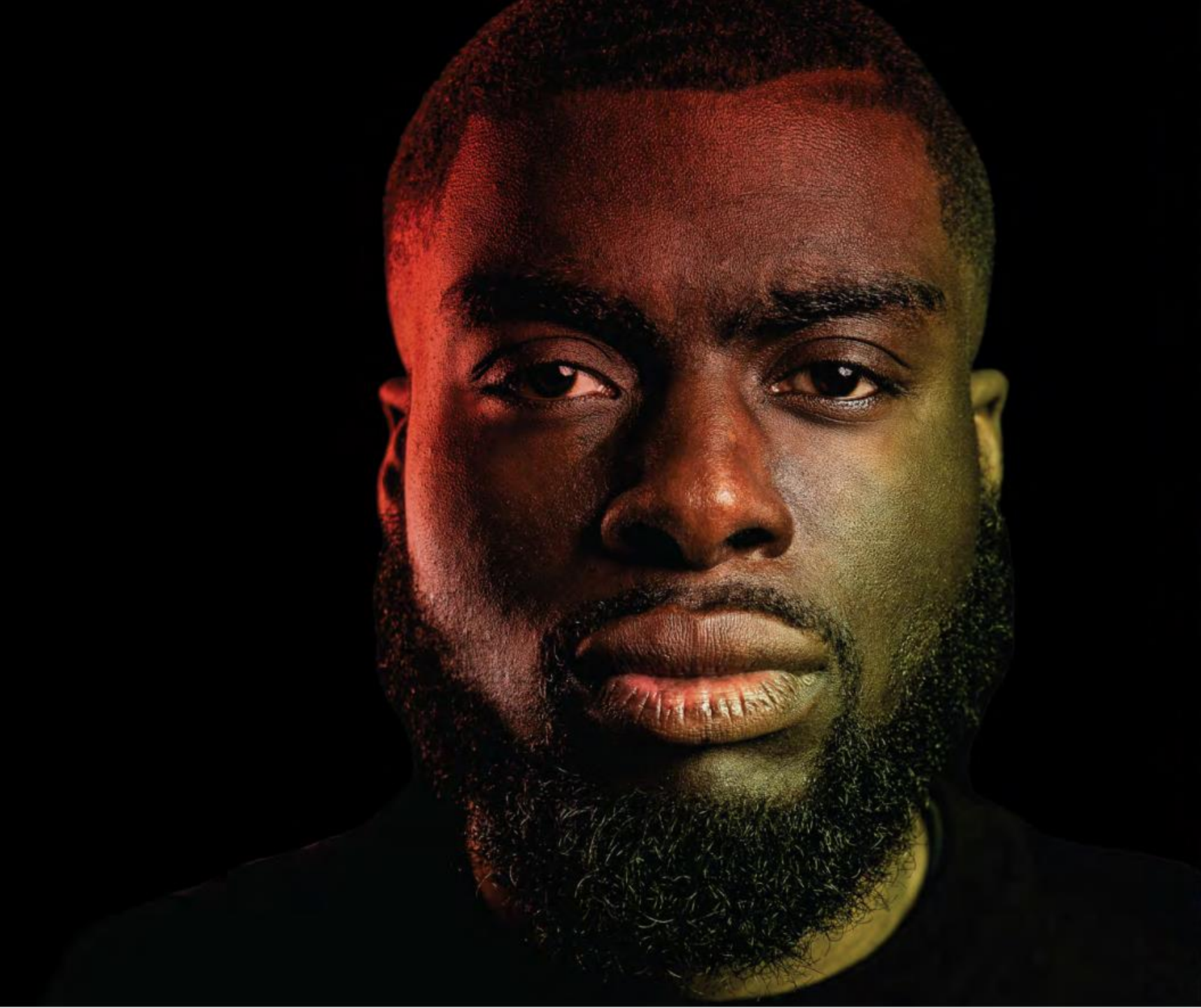
Meet the force behind the
National Liberty Memorial

- A son of the American Revolution
- Founder and CEO of National Mall Liberty Fund DC
- Fulfilling a 40-year quest to memorialize black Revolutionary War patriots

CALVIN JOTHOM *I* LONNON *I* ISAAC MARTEN
AN *I* CAMBRIDGE MOORE *I* WILLIAM PHAROAH
O RODGERS *I* RUBY *I* PRINCE SOWARD *I* THOM
ARIAH WILLIAMS *I* BOSSON WRIGHT *I* CAESAR

A MORE COMPLETE STORY

H *I* SAMUEL ADDERTHORN *I* JAMES ANTHONY
ESAU BANKCRAFT *I* LANCASTER BICK *I* PERO
MON BROOK *I* SILAS BURDOO *I* JACK CANADY
MICHAH DREWERY *I* SIMION FREEMAN *I* TITU



THE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

began long before
the Civil War.

Between 5,000–10,000 enslaved and free black persons fought in and/or contributed to the Revolutionary War effort, binding the destiny of future generations to the principles of the Declaration of Independence. Enslaved patriots were promised freedom in exchange for their service, but their sacrifices remain largely unrecognized to this day.

INDEPENDENCE

in *every* sense of the word.

For the founding fathers, the Declaration of Independence was a document of succession. But for marginalized groups like slaves, free black persons, women, and abolitionists, it represented a much deeper personal struggle for individual freedoms.

Enslaved patriots were so determined to gain freedom that they fought for a country that considered them property — all with the hope that this “independence” would one day extend to them.





BUILDING FUTURES

After the Revolutionary War, those who received freedom went on to start families, build communities, and even serve in subsequent U.S. wars in the spirit of democracy, creating futures for generations that would follow. But unlike their white counterparts, black veterans received little to no recognition for the countless sacrifices they made in the name of their country. To this day, they have been left out of a story that may have ended much differently without them.

CALVIN JOTHOM *I* LONNON *I* ISAAC MARTEN
AN *I* CAMBRIDGE MOORE *I* WILLIAM PHAROAH
O RODGERS *I* RUBY *I* PRINCE SOWARD *I* THOM
ARIAH WILLIAMS *I* BOSSON WRIGHT *I* CAESAR

NOW IS THE TIME

H *I* SAMUEL ADDERTHORN *I* JAMES ANTHONY
ESAU BANKCRAFT *I* LANCASTER BICK *I* PERO
MON BROOK *I* SILAS BURDOO *I* JACK CANADY
MICHAH DREWERY *I* SIMION FREEMAN *I* TITU



OUR MISSION

is to construct a memorial in Washington, D.C. to thousands of enslaved and free black persons who fought in the Revolutionary War, binding the destiny of future generations to the principles of the Declaration of Independence.

This includes tens of thousands of largely unnamed men, women and children who provided civilian assistance or acted as if the declaration were marching orders to run away from tyranny and petition courts and legislatures for liberty.

MONUMENTAL CHANGE

How can a memorial
make a difference?

A physical space for commemoration brings history into the present day, challenging us to re-think what we thought we knew. Every citizen could discover inspiration in those un-commemorated souls, whether through common heritage, similar appearance, or the determination not to allow pain, suffering, or injustice to dull their purpose.





WHY NOW?

We're ready for a change
in how we tell our story.

We're learning to see through the incomplete stories in our childhood history textbooks, and are keen to unlock the truth of a fuller story of Revolutionary War history. Our country's 250th anniversary is an incredible opportunity to dive deeper into our past, bring history to life, and work toward a more unified future.



The journey to

MEMORIALIZATION

The actions of two citizens spanning 40 years ended a perception that Revolutionary War heritage equals racial and social superiority and, instead, forged a new standard that the facts and principles of independence bind all Americans together as one nation.



Genealogy research begins

Maurice A. Barboza traces his white ancestors to the Revolutionary War and is admitted to a heritage society. However, his aunt Lena Santos Ferguson, is barred entry from the women's counterpart.

1980

Ferguson is admitted

Under pressure, the group admits Ferguson and signs her historic agreement. The group agrees to bar membership discrimination and identify "all" of the war's black veterans. This consumes 24 years of uncooperativeness and fails to recognize Ferguson for carving a path for historians and descendants.

1984

National Mall Liberty Fund DC is formed

A 501(c)(3) is formed to complete the unfinished work and construct the National Liberty Memorial.

2005

1980-84

Barboza & Ferguson's story gains attention

In an effort to end Lena Santos Ferguson's discrimination struggle, Mr. Barboza contacts congressional leaders. The Washington Post brings attention to Ms. Ferguson's story, leading President Reagan to sign Public Law 98-245 to commemorate African Americans in the fight for independence.

1985-90

Memorial site is selected

Events, outreach, and lobbying bring together nearly two dozen major organizations and hundreds of members of Congress to win coveted land at Constitution Gardens near the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool and launch the "One Nation Campaign."

Forgotten Patriots research published

"Forgotten Patriots, African American and American Indian Patriots in the Revolutionary War" is published, proving beyond any doubt that at least 5,000 African Americans served in the Revolutionary War and that they were crucial to the victory.

2008

Congress affirms historical significance

Congress affirms the historical significance and approves Public Law 113-176. This paves the way for an anticipated environmental assessment of the preferred site on the west side of the historic Jamie L. Whitten Building across 14th Street from the Washington Monument.

2014

Bipartisan bill is introduced

The bipartisan National Liberty Memorial Preservation Act, H.R. 6201 and S. 3334, provides an opportunity to construct the memorial in advance of the US's Semiquincentennial. A House hearing is held and the legislation is reported to the floor for consideration.

2022

2013

President Obama gives authorization

President Obama signs Public Law 112-239 to authorize the National Liberty Memorial. A federal panel recommends that Congress declare the deeds "of preeminent historical and lasting significance to the nation" and qualify the memorial for land in the monumental core of Washington, including the last available Mall site at a gateway entrance to downtown.

2015

National Parks Service takes leadership

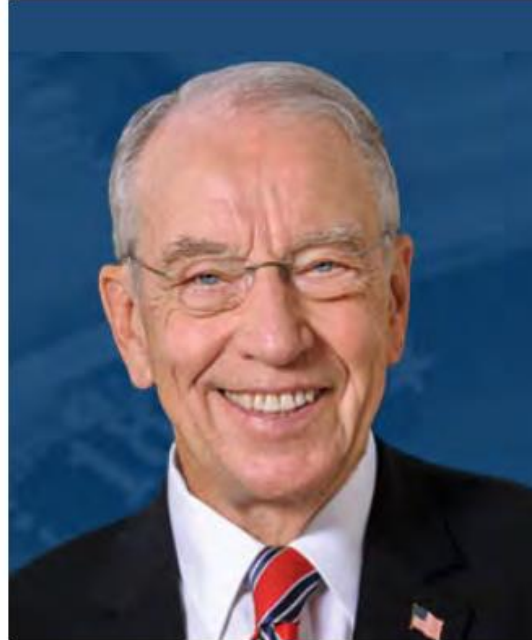
An omnibus bill passes the House and Senate that contains an amendment approved by both bodies clarifying which of three agencies will manage the memorial. The entire measure dies in conference. However, a mutual agreement designates the National Park Service.

CONGRESSIONAL SPONSORS



Primary Sponsor: Rep.
Bonnie Watson Coleman

REPRESENTATIVE FOR NEW JERSEY'S
12TH DISTRICT



Primary Sponsor: Sen.
Charles "Chuck" Grassley

SENATOR FOR IOWA



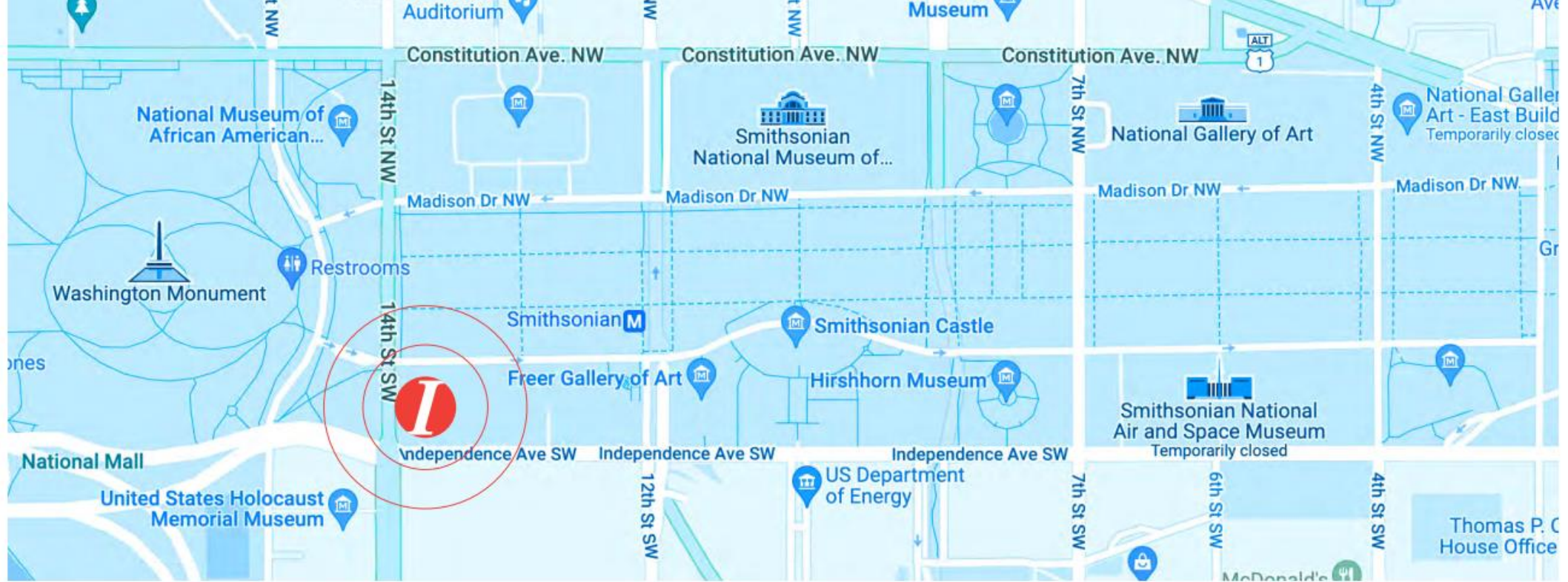
Rep. Ashley Hinson

REPRESENTATIVE FOR IOWA'S
1ST DISTRICT



Sen. Christopher Murphy

SENATOR FOR CONNECTICUT



FAVORED LOCATION

The Mall at 14th St.
& Independence Ave.

- Creates a gateway entrance to downtown Washington, Alexandria, and the Pentagon
- Ensures that the memorial will become integral to the Mall experience
- References the historic Rochambeau Trail that commemorates thousands of soldiers who marched between Boston and Concord



FAVORED LOCATION

The site connects to the rich visual and cultural experience of the area.

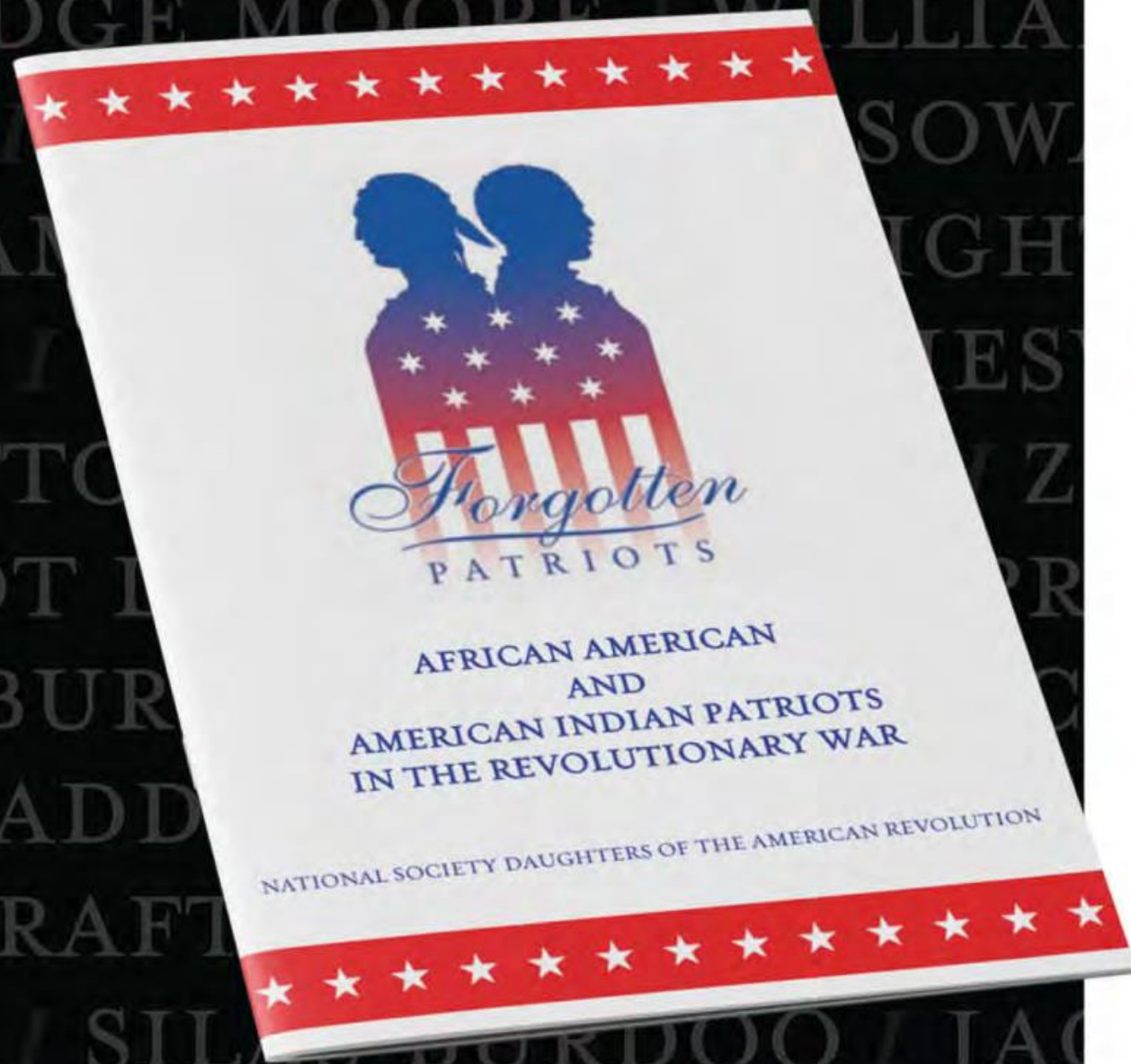
- It includes powerful sight lines to the Washington Monument, the African American History and Culture Museum, Holocaust Museum, and U.S. History Museum
- The physical context creates a more complete National Mall landscape that reveals how America achieved the “blessings of Liberty”

THE NATIONAL LIBERTY MEMORIAL WILL STRIVE TO:

- Commemorate the known and nameless soldiers from every state that made conscious choices to serve
- Recognize the contribution of women and their active guidance and participation
- Demonstrate the strength of the family unit and their presence and sacrifice in the building of this country
- Help people to see themselves in a history that is representative of all, whether through common heritage, similar appearance, or perseverance

Original concept model designed by sculptor David Newton





MORE THAN A PHYSICAL MONUMENT

Published research provides a treasure trove of rich, personal stories that:

- Travel far beyond the traditional New England borders and inspire the entire nation to discover connections to our revolutionary history.
- Captivate a new audience of young Americans through story as education.
- Inspire continued content creation that will be a living, digital memorial to black patriots accessible to all Americans.




NEXT STEPS TO COMPLETION:

Designing the monument:

- Environmental assessment and scoping
- Public forums (engage young people, America250, etc.)
- Preliminary designs necessary to win site and design approval

Funding the monument:

- Recruit and empanel a National Capital Campaign Committee
- Obtain first major donation of \$1 million or more
- Engage a consultant to conduct a market assessment and a capital campaign development plan to include strategies, donor research and calendar of activities
- Develop targeted materials to explain the memorial to diverse markets
- Cultivate stakeholders



NATIONAL LIBERTY MEMORIAL

I have fought. I have fallen. I have sacrificed in silence.



THE LASTING LEGACY: What will America look like 50 years from now?

The National Liberty Memorial will forever change the landscape of Washington, DC, allowing children on school trips, visitors from overseas, and Americans everywhere to understand a more complete story of how this country came to be.

When we reach our tricentennial celebration, more than two generations of Americans will have this history embedded in their hearts.



THANK YOU

