



# GET STARTED GUIDE

America 250-Ohio is a multi-year commemoration where Ohioans from all 88 counties will be in the spotlight as we highlight Ohio's impact and unique role in our nation's story.

## **Become an America 250-Ohio Community**

This step-by-step guide allows Ohio's counties and municipalities to become an America 250-Ohio Community. As a community you will receive special recognition, a designation as an official AM 250-OH Community including signage, event promotion, resources, and connections to other AM 250-OH Communities.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

We will have volunteer opportunities of all types – from events to committees; behind-the-scenes and interacting with the public. We can align your interests with our needs to make it a win-win!

## **Donate**

America 250-Ohio is a partnership that depends on both private and public funds to accomplish our work. Please consider giving a gift of any size to help us reach more people and have a greater community impact. Every dollar makes a difference.



Ohio will soon celebrate the 250th anniversary of the U.S. “OHIO-STYLE’ and YOU’RE INVITED!

In 2026, the United States will celebrate its semi-quincentennial, which is the 250th anniversary of the United States and the Declaration of Independence. Each state has been encouraged to create a celebration and commemoration of this anniversary to reflect the unique character and contributions of each state to the nation over the past 250 years.

Ohio is fully embracing this opportunity. The Ohio Commission for the semi-quincentennial (aka America 250-Ohio Commission or AM 250-OH) was created by the Ohio legislature and launched on March 1, 2022. The charge of the AM 250-OH Commission is to “...to plan, encourage, develop, and coordinate the commemoration of the two hundred fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the United States and the impact of Ohioans on the nation’s past, present, and future.” — Ohio Revised Code (149.309).

WELCOME



Ohio was the 17th state added to the Union in 1803. The original inhabitants of Ohio included various Native American tribes, including the Shawnee, Miami, Wyandot, and Delaware. Today, Ohio remains home to a diverse population.

Its 88 counties feature 76 National Historic Landmarks. It was a crucial Union state during the Civil War, the birthplace of aviation, a key site for the Underground Railroad, and the birthplace of seven U.S. Presidents.

Ohio is renowned for its contributions to innovation, art & literature, and sports. Ohio has produced notable figures such as innovators Thomas Edison and the Wright Brothers, sports legends like Jesse Owens and Woody Hayes, and literary figures such as James Thurber and Toni Morrison, to name a few.

Ohio will soon celebrate and commemorate its contributions to America on the 250th anniversary of the U.S.!

# BRIEF HISTORY

# HOW IT WORKS

## -STEP BY STEP-

01

### **Application**

Fill out our application by selecting the word “apply today”. Designate (1-2) individuals as the primary contacts for the application.

02

### **Approve resolution**

Upon completion of the application, use the AM 250-OH Communities resolution template and present the resolution to the appropriate approving authority for passage.

03

Within  
10-12 days

### **Send digital copy**

Pass, sign, and send a digital copy of the AM 250-OH Communities resolution to [am250ohcommunities@ohiohistory.org](mailto:am250ohcommunities@ohiohistory.org). Allow 30 days for your community to be reflected in our online community listing.

04

Approx.  
2-3 days

### **Receive digital toolkit**

Included in this kit you will find your:

- Branded Logo
- Brand Guidelines
- Press Release Template
- Digital Sample of Flag to be delivered

Fill out our flag form.

05

Within 30 days  
of resolution

### **Form committee / Designate liaisons**

Within 30 days of the passed resolution, begin to form your committee. Involve all types of organizations in the planning process. Designate and inform AM 250-OH of (1-2) individuals from the appropriate governmental office and (1) local cultural, civic, or corporate partner who will serve as liaisons.

06

### **Attend monthly meetings**

Receive invitation to the monthly Zoom community meeting.

Internally organize and decide what celebrations to have. You will receive a digital toolkit to aid this process.



**America 250-Ohio communities will receive a digital toolkit as well as an AM 250-Ohio flag.**

**Our toolkit includes:**

- Branded Logo
- Brand Guidelines
- Press Release Template
- Digital Sample of Flag to be delivered
- 12 Month Theme Synopsis
- Memory Fox link and QR code - Memory Fox is a trusted storytelling platform that allows communities and their members to share their stories, experiences, and events with AM 250-OH via link or QR code.

**America 250-Ohio Resource list**

**America 250-Ohio Annual Report**

**Connect your communities to each other**

TOOLKIT



# CELEBRATION THEMES

**In 2026, we will celebrate and commemorate the 250th anniversary of the United States** by exploring all the ways that Ohio has contributed to U.S. history for 250+ years. Each month we will focus on a different theme that reflects Ohio's unique impact.

**January 2026** - Ohio's Firsts & Originals

**February 2026** - Ohio Works: Innovation, Business & Work

**March 2026** - Ohio Entertains: Music, Entertainment & Movies

**April 2026**- Ohio Moves: Transportation

**May 2026**- Ohio Creates: Arts, Culture, & Literature

**June 2026** - Ohio Outdoors: Parks & Natural Resources

**July 2026** - Ohio Gathers: Statewide Homecoming & Picnics

**August 2026**

Ohio Goes to the Fair: The Ohio State Fair & County Fairs

**September 2026**

Ohio Plays: Sports & Recreation

**October 2026**

Ohio Food & Farms: October is the month of harvest!

**November 2026**

Ohio Serves: Remembering Veterans, First Responders & Front-Line Heroes  
Veteran's Day 2026 will be a focal point.

**December 2026**

Future Ohio: Projecting Ohio in 2076

<https://america250-ohio.org/2026-celebration-themes/>



# AMERICA 250-OHIO'S



Generating *Excitement* for 2026



ANNUAL REPORT | 2024

## ANNUAL REPORT



# CONTACT US

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*Thank you!*