

Dear Chapter Presidents and Representatives,

The summer is flying by for us here on campus. We are coming up on our last two sessions of the summer season. It has been busy summer with 5 teacher and 2 student programs in the books. The programs included our first Spirit of America since the pandemic. This Spirit of America sponsored by the National Sojourners was a huge success and a real boost to the staff having our signature student program back in action.

The summer has seen another addition to the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge team. Jack Wyman recently came on board as our new Major Gift Officer. Jack Wyman is a very experienced fundraiser and writer based in Dallas, Texas. He will be working remotely in Dallas starting in a part-time position focusing on lapsed donors. We welcome Jack on board and look forward working with him. In other staff news, we recently had final round interviews for the Director of Communications and Marketing position. We hope to announce the new team member very soon.

We were pleased to have our newest board member, Larry Brasher, on campus for the National Sojourners Spirit of America program and American Revolution: Philadelphia Campaign teacher workshop. Larry attended the sessions and met with staff to discuss programming and ways to better serve our chapters and program participants. I met with Larry in regards to chapter support, and we will be working with the chapter relations committee on some initiatives that we believe will help the chapters with both fundraising and member recruitment. Look for details on these projects soon.

On campus projects are continuing during the busy program season. Our Galleria is currently getting a new roof. The Galleria serves as both our ballroom for events such as the gala and weddings and our location for our student program icebreakers. The much needed roof will ensure no more leaks during heavy rain storms.

A reminder our 2021 Gala is just two months away. We would love your chapter's support in our online auction. We will have some amazing items to bid on, but would love to see more. If you have an item or experience you would like to donate please reach out to me or Collin cmccclain@ffvf.org. Many thanks to our Dallas and Los Angeles Chapters who are currently working on securing items for the auction. Details on this year's gala and auction can be found on our website – [click here](#) to learn more.

Summer is a busy time for all of us, and I know many chapters are taking some time off before the school year begins, but we have two major deadlines approaching. First, the updated chapter by-laws and/or standing rules must be submitted to headquarters by September 30th. The updates must reflect the newly adopted Policies Governing Local Chapters. The document is attached for your reference. If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know. Second, the National Awards submission deadline is September 1st. Get your nominations in for recognition in 2021.

Finally, I am pleased to share a video from our recent graduate program, Civil Rights Movement: Heroes & Heroines. We were fortunate enough to have Medal of Honor Recipient, Melvin Morris, on campus to speak with the teachers. This video is a small portion of his talk where he reflects on the importance of education.

[SFC Melvin Morris. US Army](#)

Thank you all for your continued support. Best wishes to everyone preparing programs and events. Remember we are here to support and assist you in your endeavors. Please don't hesitate to reach out.

Be safe and stay healthy!

Carolyn E. Santangelo

Senior Director of Chapter and Partner Relations
Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge
610-933-8825 ext. 234

Educate

Honor

Challenge