

Dear Chapter Presidents and Representatives,

I hope this update finds all of you doing well. I want to thank you for all the updates on events happening in your chapters. It's so exciting to see all the activity coming back. I want to mention several chapters who have recently concluded exceptional youth essay contests this year. Congratulations to Greater Cincinnati, Dallas, and Sacramento on your essay winners for 2021!

On the national level, David Harmer recently returned from a very successful trip to Northern California. David participated in the Sacramento Chapter's Spirit of America program at the Resort at Squaw Valley. He also visited with several key donors and supporters in the area. Among his visits was a productive meeting with potential organizers of a Lodi, CA Chapter.

In news on staffing, we are excited to announce that the Associate Director of Education position has been filled. We will be introducing the newest member of the team shortly once all paperwork has been completed. We are currently conducting interviews for the [Foundations Manager & Grant Writer Position](#) and still accepting applications for the [Director of Communications and Marketing](#).

In campus news, improvements are ongoing. The Chapel will be getting a new roof this upcoming week and we have been receiving quotes on a new roof for the Galleria. The National Board is meeting this Tuesday. The main item on the agenda is the feasibility study prepared by American Philanthropic to help us create a plan to accomplish all of our campus improvements. We will provide a recap of the meeting during the Presidents' Zoom Call on June 1st.

Speaking of the Presidents' Zoom Call. Below are the details and link to Zoom.

Chapter Presidents' Zoom Call

June 1, 2021 | 2 pm ET

Zoom Link

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81452986894?pwd=NWc1KzJ5UmZhWmc0TitlbldxVnVWUT09>

Meeting ID: 814 5298 6894 | Password: FFVF1601

The agenda will include a recap of the board meeting, introduction of best practices, updates on education, awards, and the 2021 gala plus chapter input.

The next online session of the Virtual Spirit of America is coming up this Wednesday, May 26th at 7pm ET. This week the feature presenter is a familiar face to many of you, Dr. Bruce Murphy. Dr. Murphy is a fixture of Spirit of America, leading the Freedom Summit

every Friday. This week he will be discussing the right to privacy. To register for this session or to catch up on any of the previous sessions, please visit the Spirit of America webpage or simply [click here](#).

Finally, this week Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge lost a dear friend and supporter, Medal of Honor Recipient Charles Hagemeister. He was a huge supporter of the Character Development Program and spoke most recently to teachers at our Medal of Honor Legacy Program: Vietnam in Pueblo, Colorado. He will be greatly missed. In his honor, this week's video is a profile on Chuck Hagemeister through the Congressional Medal of Honor Society's Living Histories video series.

Charles Hagemeister – [Living History Video](#)

Thank you again for all you do for Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge. I look forward to seeing you on the Zoom call June 1st!

Be safe and stay healthy!

Carolyn E. Santangelo

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