

REVOLUTIONARY MARYLAND

Freedom of the Press Then and Now



MARYLAND HUMANITIES

is committed to bringing outstanding programs to every corner of our state. A new initiative, developed in partnership with Maryland Historical Trust, Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum, Afro Charities, Tiny News Collective and Historic Annapolis, helps fulfill that promise. Over the course of 2026, an exhibition will travel to locations across the state and feature complementary educational programs about this essential American freedom.

Protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, freedom of the press is crucial for the functioning of a healthy American democracy. The press provides diverse perspectives on important issues, empowering the public to make informed decisions. Yet, the current rise in hate speech, disinformation, and deadly attacks against journalists threatens freedom of the press on a global level. Examination of the history and role of a free press today is more important than ever before as our nation commemorates 250 years of American democracy in 2026.

THE REVOLUTIONARY MARYLAND: FREEDOM OF THE PRESS THEN AND NOW TRAVELING EXHIBITION

explores the evolution of one of our most important American freedoms from its earliest incarnation in the Maryland Colony to its role in contemporary society. Made up of multiple panels, it highlights archaeological investigations undertaken at the 18th century Jonas and Anne Catherine Green printshop, the importance of inclusive journalism and the persistence of local news sources.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit our [website](#).

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INTERESTED IN HOSTING?

Maryland Humanities is coordinating the exhibit's tour throughout the State and is seeking six additional partner organizations to serve as hosts. Selected sites will display the exhibit for three months and work with local community partners to create additional programming in support of the exhibit. We invite museums, libraries, colleges, humanities organizations, and other nonprofit cultural organizations to apply.

There are three opportunities to host:

- April – June
- July – September
- October – December

Application deadlines:

- April cohort: March 15th
- July/October cohort: April 15th

What is included:

- 6 retractable banners
- Available for 3 months
- Can be hosted at more than one site
- Capacity support from Maryland Humanities

Host sites must:

- Work in partnership with local groups to develop programs
- Identify a program manager
- Track attendance
- Have convenient hours open to the public