



## MONROE COUNTY

Dear Community Members,

We sincerely thank you for coming out to the kickoff event for America250PA Monroe's activities, held at Northampton Community College's Tannersville Campus on January 9<sup>th</sup> 2025. We value all members of the Monroe County community and know that we can do so much when we come together to make things happen. We now invite you to please join us in starting the planning of events and activities throughout 2026 in Monroe County, PA.

The initial planning meeting to lay out the groundwork for Cultural & Arts events throughout 2026's Monroe County celebrations will be held on **Thursday, January 30<sup>th</sup> 2025 at 10 am at the Monroe County Courthouse Administration Building Meeting Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.**

Initial planning stages will include ideas from the groups and going over ideas that have come from the core *America250PA Monroe* committee; implementation and creating a calendar of events, along with information about the 20 municipalities in Monroe County and working out getting the info out to these municipalities over the next few sessions; creating a solid working roster of events, locations and who is involved within each municipality.

The **Arts & Culture committee** will be planning and implementing cultural and artistic events (arts, music, acting, etc) leading up to July 4, 2026 and throughout the remainder of the year in various areas of Monroe County, PA.

### **Key highlights of our Arts & Culture portions of the year-long celebrations will include/be involved in:**

**Grand Parade** - A spectacular parade showcasing floats, local talents, and community spirit. We invite sponsors to feature their own floats, providing a unique platform to display your brand and support local traditions.

**County Bell Project** - A stunning bell installation symbolizing unity and independence, to be prominently displayed in Monroe County as part of the 'Bells Across PA' program.

**Keystone Project** – A 4' high wooden Keystone Shape for each of the 20 municipalities in Monroe County, to be painted on by an artist or artistic person from that municipality with historical and local imagery pertaining to their respective municipality and displayed prominently within that local area. A map will be created to interact with and visit each municipality and view these artistically decorated Keystones throughout 2026 (and hopefully beyond).

**Participating Area Galleries Collaboration** - Featuring exclusive America250-themed artwork in a series of gallery tours throughout the year of 2026 and artwork displayed at the County Courthouse, celebrating local artists and patriotic artistry.

**Musical and Theatrical Performances** – Events with music, dance, and theater featured throughout the county in 2026 celebrating this historic milestone of the United States of America's independence, heritage and pride.