

Walking Through History: An America 250 Festival

Saturday | 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Smyrna Public Library

Step back in time and celebrate **America's 250th Anniversary** at the **Walking Through History: An America 250 Festival**, a free, family-friendly community event presented by Smyrna Public Library. Experience America's rich history through interactive exhibits, live performances, historical reenactments, educational presentations, children's activities, local museums, cultural organizations, and hands-on demonstrations.

Meet historians, reenactors, community organizations, and heritage groups while exploring Tennessee's role in shaping our nation's history. Enjoy live music, colonial military demonstrations, traditional dance, storytelling, crafts, Puppet Theater, historical exhibits, and delicious food from local vendors throughout the day.

Whether you're a history enthusiast, educator, family, or lifelong learner, this festival offers an engaging way to discover the people, places, and stories that helped shape America.

Admission is free and open to all ages.

Event Program

Walking Through History: An America 250 Festival

Smyrna Public Library

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Opening Ceremony

Outdoor Stage

10:00 AM

- Welcome to Walking Through History Festival

- Opening Remarks
- Recognition of Community Partners
- Special Guest Introductions

Featuring:

- Rolling Thunder Color Guard
- MTSU Drum & Fife Corps
- Local Elected Officials
- Tennessee State Librarian Jamie Ritter
- Town of Smyrna Mayor's Office
- Smyrna Public Library
- Abraham Lincoln Living History Appearance

Outdoor Stage Schedule

Time	Performance
10:30 AM	MTSU Drum & Fife Corps
11:00–11:30 AM	Thomas Williamson
12:00–1:15 PM	Casey Malu
1:15–2:15 PM	Cripple Creek Cloggers
2:30–3:15 PM	Civil War Historical Reenactment presented by Stones River National Battlefield

Conference Room Programs

Time	Program
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10:30–11:15 AM	History of Smyrna Airport Presentation
11:45 AM–12:15 PM	The Cemetery School: Tennessee's One-Room Schoolhouse History
12:30–1:00 PM	Runaway Puppet Theater Presents American History
1:15–2:15 PM	Traditional Quilting Demonstration & Make-and-Take Craft

Children's & Family Activities

Outdoor Activity Area

1:00 PM – 1:30 PM

ABC's of America Storytime

Celebrate America's history with patriotic stories, songs, and interactive activities designed especially for young learners.

Throughout the Festival

- Balloons by Globos
 - Meet Abraham Lincoln
 - Historical Photo Opportunities
 - Children's Activity Stations
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Living History & Historical Demonstrations

Throughout the Festival

- Civil War Encampment
- Historical Reenactment
- Military Vehicle Display

- Colonial Music
 - Living Historians
 - Interactive Museum Exhibits
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Community Heritage Village

Visit with historians, museums, veterans organizations, and local agencies throughout the festival.

Featured Community Partners include:

- Stones River National Battlefield
 - League of Women Voters
 - Old Stone Fort State Archaeological Park
 - Smyrna Airport
 - Tennessee Central Railway Museum
 - Rutherford County Historical Research Center
 - Sons of the American Revolution
 - Daughters of the American Revolution
 - MTSU Special Collections
 - Cannonsburgh Village
 - Native American Indian Association of Tennessee
 - Tennessee Military Vehicle Preservation Association
 - Native History Association
 - The Hermitage
 - Rolling Thunder Color Guard
 - VFW Post 8422
 - Country Music Hall of Fame
 - Stars & Strikes
 - East Tennessee Historical Society
 - Tennessee Agricultural Museum
 - Sam Davis Home
 - Smyrna Rotary Club
 - United Way
 - The Parthenon
 - Cemetery School
 - Tennessee Folklife Center
 - Friends of Smyrna Public Library
 - Smyrna Historical Preservation Association
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Food Vendors

Enjoy food and refreshments throughout the day from:

- Kona Ice
 - Cedar Glade's Brewery
 - El Matador
 - The Real Hot Dog Guy
 - Donut NV
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Festival Highlights

- Opening Ceremony
 - Rolling Thunder Color Guard
 - MTSU Drum & Fife Corps
 - Abraham Lincoln Living History
 - Live Music
 - Traditional Appalachian Dance
 - Historical Reenactments
 - Living History Exhibits
 - Museum Booths
 - Children's Storytime
 - Puppet Theater
 - Quilting Demonstration
 - Hands-on Crafts
 - Military Vehicle Displays
 - Local History Exhibits
 - Food Vendors
 - Family Activities
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Thank You to Our Community Partners

Walking Through History: An America 250 Festival is made possible through the generous support of the **Tennessee Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial (America 250 Tennessee)**, the **Friends of Smyrna Public Library**, our community partners, volunteers, historical organizations, museums, civic groups, and the many performers and presenters who help bring Tennessee's history to life.

Join us as we celebrate **250 years of American history, heritage, and community** through education, culture, and hands-on experiences for all ages.