

THE PUBLICATION OF JAMES MADISON'S MONTPELIER

PEOPLE

WE
THE

FALL 2016

 *James Madison's*
MONTPELIER

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DINNER DIPLOMACY

RECREATING DOLLEY'S DINING ROOM

.....

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POWER OF PEOPLE AND PLACE

Moving the nation forward requires not just an understanding of where the world is going, but also a firm grip on where our country has been, and ultimately on who we are as Americans. At Montpelier, we're engaging the public in ways that will help elevate and humanize important

conversations about identity and governance by looking at everything through the lens of the U.S. Constitution.

Visitors of all ages tour Mr. Madison's library each day, discovering their own personal connection to the place where the framework of our Constitution took shape. Scholars, elected officials, law enforcement officers, teachers and international leaders from 90 nations—more than 45,000 people and counting—learn how to apply the highest law of the land to their everyday jobs at the Robert H. Smith Center for the Constitution.

Meanwhile, the broader narrative of African American history at Montpelier continues to take shape. With the opening of the exhibition "The Mere Distinction of Colour" next June, our visitors will experience the history of slavery in a way that balances an understanding of its human realities with both its legal context and its long-term impacts on the African American struggle for equal rights.

All of these efforts require amazing people working across a wide range of disciplines. All of them require a place that inspires us and grounds us. All of them require your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to be 'Kat Imhoff', written over a dark background.

Kat Imhoff
President and Chief Executive Officer
The Montpelier Foundation





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Highlights

It's the moment we've all been waiting for—the shingles have been installed and the roof is complete! We used cypress shingles that match the size and profile of a Madison-era shingle we found while cleaning out the interior of the dome. To support these new shingles, restoration carpenter Peter Post installed longitudinal white oak strips over top of the Madison-era shingle laths. These strips will adequately protect and preserve the Madison-era shingle laths that have been weakened over time by generations of shingle nail holes, and allowed for new lath installation without nailing into the fragile original wood. We used a branding iron of the Montpelier logo to mark all the new material so future historians will be able to date it to this restoration project. We can't wait for you to see the Temple with its new shingles. The next step: painting them red!





Constitution Day 2016

On September 17, Montpelier celebrated Constitution Day with approximately 1,300 visitors in attendance. The day began with a “We the People” trail walk on the new 3.55-mile Montpelier Loop Trail. Free open house tours, hands-on history activities, and archaeological dig sites were available all day. At the David M. Rubenstein Visitor Center, the award-winning Barbeque Exchange provided a delicious buffet. Live music by acoustic groups Southern Styles, Genna Matthew, and Ben Eppard and beverages from Early Mountain Vineyards, Devil’s Backbone Brewing Company, and Albemarle Ciderworks rounded out the wonderful day.



New Montpelier Website

In September, Montpelier launched the new and improved montpelier.org! Much like the property, the new, streamlined platform has something for everyone to enjoy. Visitors to the site can quickly and easily access all tours and book their tickets prior to arrival; dive deeper into history and learn about the Madison family legacy, from the pivotal role James played in shaping modern government to the transformative figure that was his wife, Dolley; and keep up with what each department at Montpelier is doing, connecting with the history and the people that made and continue to make Montpelier special.



Gilmore Cabin Workshops a Success

Over the past few months, Montpelier hosted a series of workshops at the Gilmore Cabin, that explored African American history and culture. The workshops gave participants an intimate experience with experts in the field of historic crafts and trades. Each workshop tied into the history of the Gilmore family and the skills and trades they would have known and used in their daily lives, from slavery to freedom.

Meet the Volunteer

Leslie Bouterie, Charlottesville, Virginia



“I’m addicted to transferware,” Montpelier volunteer Leslie Bouterie says. “It absolutely feeds my soul.” She has been helping our archaeology team once a week since May of 2015, but has been collecting transferware for over 30 years. Leslie believes ceramic sherds found at Montpelier serve as a window into the lives of the Madisons and the enslaved population, and has identified

nearly 40 different patterns! Outside Montpelier, Leslie serves as database researcher and editor for the Transferware Collector’s Club. Leslie has also participated in several Montpelier archaeology expeditions, including a ceramics workshop this past spring where she gave a transferware presentation. Of volunteering at Montpelier, Leslie says the people are what she loves most.



Resetting Dolley's Table

RESEARCHERS WORK TOGETHER TO REVIVE THE CULTURE OF ENTERTAINMENT AT MONTPELIER



Didn't Dolley Madison invent cupcakes? And wasn't she the woman who brought ice cream to the White House? Yeah, yeah, we know, she also happened to create the rules for American political society and co-edited Madison's Notes on the Constitutional Convention, but it's the legend of Dolley as the country's first iconic woman that most piques the popular imagination.

While some of the tales associated with Dolley's legend are easy to dismiss—the cupcake connection is undoubtedly tied to the “Dolly” Madison-brand cupcakes of the mid-20th century—others are more difficult to pin down. Was she recognized as a great hostess during her lifetime or was it a role assigned to her by colonial revivalists? What were her favorite foods? And, most importantly for Montpelier, what was it like to attend a dinner party at her home?

Montpelier's curators are currently engaged in a project associated with The Rubenstein Initiative to display a full dinner service in the Montpelier dining room. Their research has led them in a relentless pursuit to reset Dolley's table and understand more about her as an entertainer on a Virginia plantation of the Founding era.

The Cooks

Considering the importance of meal preparation for the Madisons and their many guests, there are surprisingly few documentary references to the enslaved cooks. No Montpelier cook is directly mentioned by name in James or Dolley Madison's correspondence. James Madison wrote that he “sustained a heavy loss” in 1820 when typhus caused the death of “a young fellow who was educated in Washington a Cook, and was becoming moreover a competent Gardener.”

Dolley described an 1842 sore throat epidemic during which her physician lost “a woman Cook of great value to me.” After Dolley's death in 1849, her niece Annie Payne wrote to the enslaved Sarah Stewart at the Lafayette Square house, requesting that Katy (presumably another enslaved domestic servant, Catherine Taylor) “bake me a Loaf of nice Bread or some French Rolls, and I will pay for the articles.” This suggests that Taylor may have served as Dolley's cook in Washington, if not at Montpelier. In the early 20th century, two women identified themselves as having been cooks at Montpelier. Ailsey Payne stated that she was “for thirty years cook in the Madison family,” and a woman cited only as “an old colored cook who was brought up in James Madison's family” was the source for Madison soup recipes published in a 1904 cookbook.

Montpelier's curators are currently engaged ... in a pursuit to reset Dolley's table and understand more about her as an entertainer on a Virginia plantation of the Founding era.

The Dining Room

The dining room in Virginia evolved from its inception in the 17th century as a multi-purpose living/dining/sleeping room known as the hall to its prominence as the main space for gracious entertainment in plantation houses in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

In 1809, as the newly-elected President and First Lady, James and Dolley started extensive renovations to their Virginia home. Two indoor kitchens were constructed, and the Madisons' new dining room, built during the previous campaign to enlarge the House in 1797, was fitted with wallpaper and carpet, evidence of which was uncovered in the 2003-2008 restoration of the House.

The newly enhanced dining room would have been the height of fashion and a main public gathering space in the House. It stood in marked contrast to Montpelier's original dining room, which by 1809 was Nelly Conway Madison's (Madison's mother's) sitting room. While simple and even severe when compared with Dolley Madison's dining room, it had been one of best rooms in the House when it was completed in the 1760s. The extensive paneled wainscot and overmantel signaled the expense and grandeur of the room, while a small, locked closet could both store and show off expensive silver and ceramic table wares.

THE M-TEAM {A PARTIAL CROSS-SECTION}

Lauren Kraut Squier,
Collections Associate

Terry Brock, Senior
Research Archaeologist

Setting the Table

To understand what a typical dinner in James and Dolley's dining room would have been like, archaeologists examined materials recovered from across the property in deposits dating to the years of Madison's retirement, particularly a trash pit nicknamed "Dolley's Midden" because it contained thousands of artifacts that came directly from the Madisons' dining room between 1817 and 1836.

From these artifacts we know that Dolley's table was most frequently set with fashionable blue and white stoneware manufactured by the Davenport Pottery in Staffordshire, England, and decorated with a transfer-printed design called "Bamboo and Peony."

Pieces of nearly 50 different "Bamboo and Peony" vessels, of the nearly 300 hundred the Madisons would have owned, including dinner, soup, and side plates, serving platters, lidded tureens, a footed serving vessel, and a pitcher have been excavated and mended back together in the Archaeology Lab.

Where Madison originals are unavailable or broken, as are the archaeological finds, the curatorial department finds replacement pieces from the same period. To determine their placement on the table, they turn to period images of table services and guides such as Robert Roberts' *House Servant's Directory*, which gives specific instructions on laying a dinner service for 10.

Jennifer Glass, Director
of Architecture & Historic
Preservation

Hilarie Hicks,
Research Associate

Mary Furlong Minkoff,
Curator of Archaeological
Collections



This piece of a plate, that Mary and Terry from archaeology helped discover, reinforced document notes Hilarie had uncovered and could be translated into reproduction pieces, like the blue-and-white transferware plates shown here, that can be used by Lauren and Jennifer in their work.

It Takes a Village

As with nearly all of Montpelier’s museum projects, this historic recreation is the result of close collaboration between colleagues with different areas of expertise. The team includes curators, archaeologists, architectural historians, and documentary historians who use objects, fragments and their contexts, buildings, and written records to study the past. Only by weaving the strands of evidence together can they create the most complete available tapestry demonstrating life in the Madisons’ time.

A cross section of that team took some time to enjoy an al fresco luncheon in the House’s backyard, where Dolley hosted many meals during fair-weather days centuries before. Lauren, Terry, Jennifer,

Hilarie, and Mary represent only a portion of the different departments at Montpelier that are needed to bring every part of the Montpelier experience from the past to the present.

“It’s not something you think about every day—all of the different niches and varied expertise needed to validate our findings,” says Jenn Glass, “but in being a part of the Montpelier team, you get to see that cooperative effort in motion, as well as all of the remarkable outcomes that are a direct result of it.”

Come see the fruits of their labors next year when the new dining room will be revealed to the public.

On the Record

DESCENDANTS AND RESEARCHERS WORK TOGETHER ON AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY PROJECT

When Rebecca Gilmore Coleman approached The Montpelier Foundation in the late 1990s about restoring the dilapidated cabin on Route 20 where her grandfather grew up, she intended to start a new conversation about African American history. According to oral accounts in her family, George Gilmore was born a slave at Montpelier and worked for the Madisons, but his name hadn't shown up in any of Montpelier's documentary records.

"Rebecca's case is actually typical," said Montpelier Vice President for Museum Programs Elizabeth Chew. "She knows where she comes from, but, until recently, historians who rely on written sources discounted family stories passed orally down the generations."

The solution, according to Chew, is to create a new way of making history in collaboration with descendants who are able to help researchers bridge the gap between the documentary record and oral histories of African American families.

"Montpelier's enslaved community belonged to a bigger community that extended across the region, and after Emancipation that network grew out from here," Chew said. "The African American history at Montpelier can't just be about slavery and it's not isolated in this place. In order to find the real story, you have to connect to the people who have preserved it and work with them to find the truth."

With funding from David M. Rubenstein, Montpelier launched earlier this year a new research effort, the African American Descendants' Project, that will help inform upcoming exhibitions on slavery at Montpelier in the South Yard and in the lower level of the House. Next June, the first phase of The Rubenstein Initiative will culminate with the opening of the permanent exhibition "The Mere Distinction of Colour: Slavery at Montpelier."

But behind the fast and furious work to bring Montpelier's research and interpretation of slavery to the public, the effort to find out more



about Montpelier's enslaved community and its descendants continues. The research—which is led by Montpelier Research Coordinator Elizabeth Ladner, Research Associate Lydia Neuroth, and Zann Nelson, director of the Montpelier Descendants' Project—has already yielded results, including possible documentary evidence supporting the narrative that George Gilmore began his life as a Montpelier slave.

Nelson recently tracked down two property tax records that were previously unknown to Montpelier.

"We didn't have any solid documentation that says George Gilmore was enslaved at Montpelier. But now we are starting to have a preponderance of evidence, because in two of the personal property tax records directly after Emancipation, 1868 and 1869, he is living here," said Nelson. "And the

consensus among most researchers is that, close to Emancipation, a newly freed slave is likely living where he was enslaved."

While Rebecca Gilmore Coleman is excited by finding a new clue in her family history, she's even more excited about the far-reaching implications the project has for Montpelier's efforts to tell the story of African American men and women.

"It brings me great happiness to witness Montpelier's commitment to research and interpret the inclusive story of America's history of all its people," she said. "The Descendants' Project, the reconstruction of the slave quarters on the South Yard and the wonderful new exhibit in the lower level of the House will enable us all to better understand how much African Americans contributed, endured and survived during the terrible years of enslavement."

Above: Rebecca Gilmore Coleman, a leader in the Montpelier descendants community, stands with Research Associate Lydia Neuroth, Research Coordinator Elizabeth Ladner, and Zann Nelson, director of the Montpelier Oral History Project, at the slave cemetery at Montpelier.



Bridging the Gap

Montpelier staff has been working with descendants of the plantation’s enslaved community for almost two decades, with the most visible outcome being the publication of Elizabeth Dowling Taylor’s *A Slave in the White House: Paul Jennings and the Madisons* in 2012. The current effort is focusing on families who are not as well documented as the Jennings.

When Montpelier Research Coordinator Elizabeth Ladner arrived in 2015 to lead the organization’s new Rubenstein-funded research effort, she realized that records relating to the descendants had not been digitized and there was no good way to understand where dialogues with descendants had left off.

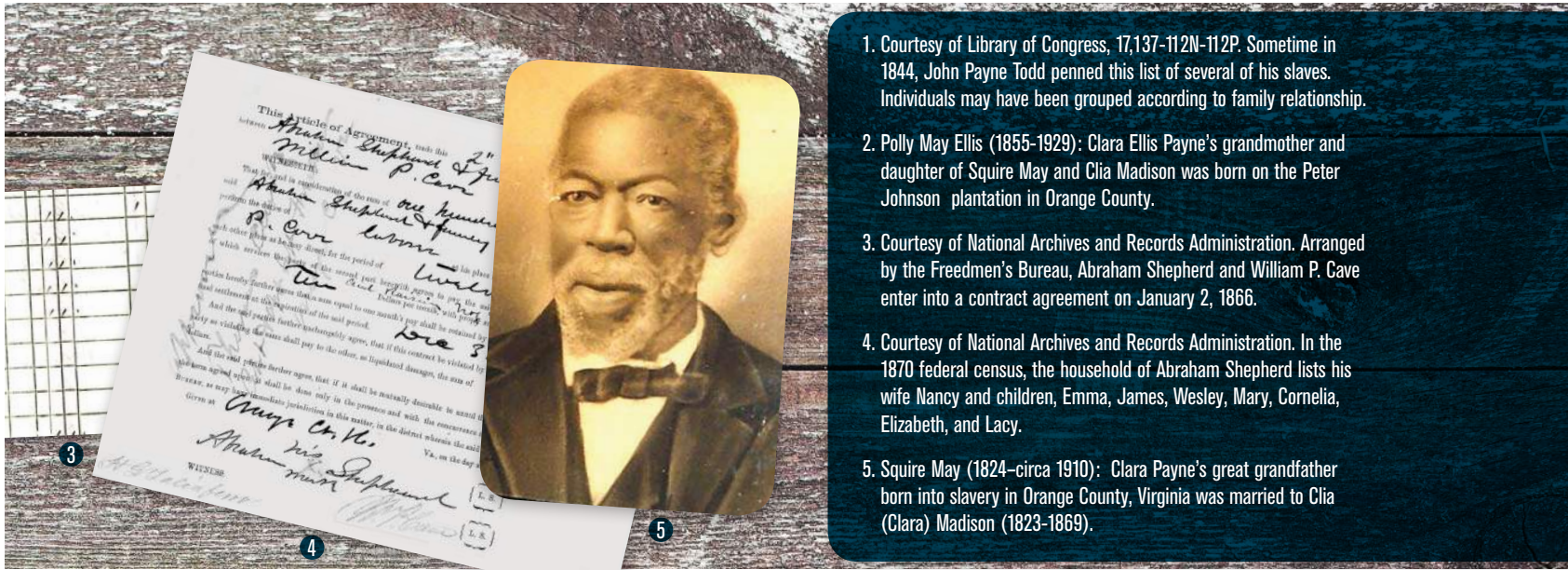
“The biggest thing was trying to gain an understanding of what we had done that hadn’t been documented,” Ladner said. “We knew there was an impression out there that Montpelier would send out researchers and make contact and then nothing would come of it. That was the starting point and then the next step was trying to understand what the historic resources were out there that Montpelier hadn’t had time to track down.”

Montpelier has documented over 300 identified names of enslaved individuals from the Madison era, but only 10 distinct last names.

Tracking Montpelier’s slaves presents a particular challenge for researchers. Dolley Madison sold Montpelier in 1844 and only some of the enslaved individuals in the Madison household traveled with her to Washington, D.C. When her son, John Payne Todd, died in 1852, he left a will freeing his slaves and leaving them \$200 to start their new lives, but his debts, according to correspondence from the time, make it more likely that his slaves were sold by the executors of his estate. Prior to Emancipation, most enslaved individuals didn’t appear on census records, so the 1870 census records are the first comprehensive documentary records of African American families across the South.

“Essentially from the 1840s and the last mention of them in the documents, you have to jump to the 1870 census, the first time they’re identified as free people, and maybe you find them listed in a household in D.C., living with their relatives, and you can track their children and their relatives and move forward,” said Neuroth. “And that’s kind of the day-to-day of what we do, and how we get from a name, Abraham, listed in the Montpelier records, to Abraham Shepherd in the 1870 census.”

Neuroth and Ladner use digital tools like ancestry.com, but they also do the laborious work of combing through land deeds, tax records, personal



1. Courtesy of Library of Congress, 17,137-112N-112P. Sometime in 1844, John Payne Todd penned this list of several of his slaves. Individuals may have been grouped according to family relationship.
2. Polly May Ellis (1855-1929): Clara Ellis Payne's grandmother and daughter of Squire May and Clia Madison was born on the Peter Johnson plantation in Orange County.
3. Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration. Arranged by the Freedmen's Bureau, Abraham Shepherd and William P. Cave enter into a contract agreement on January 2, 1866.
4. Courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration. In the 1870 federal census, the household of Abraham Shepherd lists his wife Nancy and children, Emma, James, Wesley, Mary, Cornelia, Elizabeth, and Lacy.
5. Squire May (1824-circa 1910): Clara Payne's great grandfather born into slavery in Orange County, Virginia was married to Clia (Clara) Madison (1823-1869).

family papers, and runaway ads from newspapers. Their world is full of microfilm and fruitless visits to cramped records rooms in county courthouses.

Meanwhile, Nelson is working from the other side building strong relationships in the African American community. By interviewing people about their family histories, she hopes to track those histories backwards, connecting family narratives and last names to people who had been enslaved at Montpelier or in Orange County. Nelson said that most of the people she reaches out to have a strong desire to connect with their roots, but there is also a mistrust of institutions that either have never told their stories or have told them irresponsibly.

"I think there's a hunger to have your history, your ancestors, recognized. You know, from your own world, what your family's contributions and accomplishments and lives have been like. But you live in a world that has denied those truths, or misrepresented them, or ignored them, really forever. There is a desire to believe that an institution like Montpelier is willing to change that."

"The story doesn't stop with Emancipation. It goes on because so did the lives and the struggles that impacted this country."

-Zann Nelson

Nelson's particular focus over her career has been connecting oral accounts with documentary records. She believes that oral history projects are crucial to any accurate reconstruction of the African American narrative.

"I think that oral histories represent people's own voices about a particular subject. I think it's extremely important in African American history, because that voice has been absent in the writings, in the tellings, in the documentation. It's just been absent."

In addition to tracking down documentary evidence of George Gilmore's connection to Montpelier, the team has begun to piece together stories of enslaved individuals like Sarah Madden and the aforementioned Abraham Shepherd.

"The story doesn't stop with Emancipation," Nelson said. "It goes on because so did the lives and the struggles that impacted this country. Through Reconstruction, Jim Crow, the Civil Rights movement, and even what we're experiencing today."

Above: Old photographs and documents like these are helping the researchers working on the Descendants' Project piece together the story of individuals who were part of Montpelier's enslaved community.

Designing the Past

MONTPELIER DESIGN CONGRESS CREATES NEW MODEL FOR THE DESIGN OF AMERICAN HISTORIC SITES

The Montpelier landscape contains rich archaeological sites, scenic pastures, integrated trail systems, and protected woodlands that embody the rich historical and ecological narrative of the Virginia Piedmont. As a highly-visited destination of historic tourism and a cultural institution that offers a wide variety of programs to the public, the site's use poses a range of possibilities and challenges.

Ensuring that Montpelier's landscape is used in the most inspiring way was the motivation for the first Montpelier Design Congress, held from October 10-12 and made possible by a generous gift from Michael Bills and Sonjia Smith.

The three day event brought together experts in a range of fields, including *Founding Gardeners* author Andrea Wulf, SUNY-ESF professor of conservation biology Dr. James Gibbs, and president, CEO and founder of The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF) Charles A. Birnbaum, FASLA, FAAR. The future-focused discussion was moderated by renowned landscape architect Thomas Woltz. We asked Woltz about the vision for what, we believe, will be a far-reaching discussion for many years.

What made Montpelier the perfect place for this discussion?

Thomas Woltz: The Montpelier Design Congress convened national thought leaders in topics ranging from conservation biology and systems engineering to constitutional theory in order to understand the evolution of the institution and to design a vision for its future. The group explored the hypothetical question, “What would a constitutional amendment for the environment look like?” There is no better place to explore such an audacious and timely question than on the land of the author of the U.S. Constitution.

What do you think the broader implication of this kind of project is for other historic sites today?

TW: We hope—and we have approached this project from the beginning with this in mind—the Montpelier Design Congress will be a significant effort toward redefining the potential of historic sites in our nation. By carefully looking at the layered and complex past of Montpelier, we can construct a bold and impactful future for this historic site that expands the range of landscape experiences for future visitors. We aspired to give the public a more intimate understanding of Madison’s rapport with all aspects of land: Madison the experimental farmer, Madison the slave owner, and Madison the environmental conservationist. A closer look at the landscapes of Montpelier will yield rich narratives of the site that can be interpreted in ways similar to the clarity of the architectural restoration of eight years ago. Revealing the authentic landscapes of the past while balancing ecological management for a resilient future was a primary goal of this event. Our hope is that historic sites across America will find inspiration in this design process, one that balances restoration ecology with the stewardship of cultural landscapes.

What types of people joined you there and how did you decide who to invite?

TW: Each of the Congress participants brought a deep knowledge from their area of focus and an inclination for cross-disciplinary collaboration. The team was created with Montpelier in mind—primarily, to consider its many facets as a significant historic site, as a place of Constitutional convening, and an ecologically compelling site, etc., and then provide a vision for balancing those elements and broadcasting an inclusive approach to the greater public. We were extremely excited to engage folks like Clemson wildlife professor J. Drew Lanham and Andrea Wulf, author of *Founding Gardeners*, toward this goal.

If you could ask James Madison why he did something a certain way, what would it be?

TW: Two questions come to mind: one related to slavery at Montpelier and the other related to conservation. What exactly was the motivation for building the South Yard compound? Was it to demonstrate a model of more acceptable accommodation for an institution the founding thinkers recognized as an abomination? Was it an attempt at justification or a Potemkin village covering the realities of the more typical slave accommodations?

The second question would be to know the specific influences leading to the preservation of the forest behind the House. Was it related to the pragmatics of soil stabilization and erosion control? Was it aesthetic to protect the views from the main House? Or was it perhaps the first notion of conservation of a natural resource in the U.S. before the interconnected web of nature was fully understood by science? What, in fact, was his understanding of this complex natural system, beyond merely a resource for consumption as most colonial era farmers thought?

Learn more about the Montpelier Design Congress at montpelier.org.

THE ROBERT H. SMITH CENTER FOR THE CONSTITUTION

Millennial Democracy

CENTER ENGAGES NEXT GENERATION OF POLITICAL LEADERS

The Robert H. Smith Center for the Constitution is investing in long-term programming designed to empower young leaders and highlight the importance of Millennial engagement. The programs draw inspiration from Mr. Madison himself, who was only 36 when designing and implementing the blueprint for a constitutional republic.

Recent programs hosted by the Center—the Montpelier Summits, State of the Constitution Lecture, and Millennial Engagement Summit—were designed to tap into the energy of the country’s most diverse and least politically-engaged generation.

We use the term “Millennial” to identify anyone born after 1980 who reached young adulthood in the early 2000s. It’s a generation characterized by technological proliferation, non-traditional thinking, and historically, apathy. According to a Pew Research study, though Millennials now have a share of the American electorate equal to the Baby Boomers (31%), they punch below their proverbial weight when it comes to casting actual ballots. In fact, in 2012, a mere 46% of eligible Millennials said that they had voted.

Aside from voting, a recent trend indicates that Millennials are less inclined to seek positions in government. Doug Smith, vice president for the Center for the Constitution, explains that this is due to “a lack of confidence in the legitimacy of government, translating into a generation of people who want to change the world but don’t think of themselves as government leaders.”

Montpelier is committed to changing the way Millennials view their potential positions in government. “The program reinforced my passion for public service,” says Spencer Moore, a past Montpelier Summit participant. “My cohort showed me the power compromise can have.”

The burning question is: how do we continue to engage what will soon be America’s most influential generation to take an active role in government?

Montpelier encourages Millennials to view tensions in government as an ode to its legitimacy, signifying that only the best ideas will survive. Through carefully curated programs, Montpelier is inspiring a new generation of leaders to wield their considerable influence by running for office, instead of from it.

Below: Steven Olikara of the Millennial Action Project (left) greets Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) (center) with Doug Smith, vice president for the Center of the Constitution, (right) at the State of the Constitution Lecture at the National Archives.



PROGRAMS FOR THE NEXT GENERATION ABOUT THE CONSTITUTION

State of the Constitution Lecture—National Archives, Washington, D.C.

For the second year in a row, Montpelier partnered with Steven Olikara and his organization, Millennial Action Project (MAP), to put on the State of the Constitution lecture at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Each year, the lecture builds a broader and more substantive conversation around pertinent Constitutional issues and the future of policymaking. This year's event, featuring panelists Senator Rand Paul (R-KY), Steven Olikara, and Doug Smith, had a waitlist of nearly 100 people, disproving the theory that Millennials are indifferent towards government, and affirming the fact that they are engaged and seeking more ways to be involved.

Montpelier Summits—Robert H. Smith Center for the Constitution, Orange, VA

Montpelier Summits, held throughout the year at the Robert H. Smith Center for the Constitution, are an exclusive opportunity for young professionals in government and public policy to connect with the source of American democracy. The objective is to rekindle nonpartisan, principled discussion and debate about the process of formulating and enacting policy through the lens of current pressing issues with respected thought leaders.

Participants leave with a new understanding of the practical application of the Constitution and a more enlightened world-view, provided by in-depth and critical bipartisan conversations with peers and mentors.

Millennial Engagement Summit—National Press Club, Washington, D.C.

On October 15, 2016, Montpelier hosted the Millennial Engagement Summit at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. This event brought together multiple groups working with Millennials in civic leadership, and challenged them to encourage the young people they mentor to run for office. This summit was established to instill in young people the value of their opinions and voices, and embolden them to become part of the public debate around government and policy.

UPCOMING MONTPELIER SEMINARS FOR EDUCATORS

Learn more at montpelier.org/center-for-the-constitution/online-courses

Congress, the Constitution and Contemporary Politics | Nov. 11-13, 2016

Explore questions of whether Congress is fulfilling its constitutional responsibilities of representing the people, deliberating issues, successfully legislating for the common good, and exercising its oversight of the executive.

The Presidency and the Constitution | Mar. 10-12, 2017

Focus on the idea of the presidency under the Constitution and how that office has evolved over time, focusing on early understandings of the presidency and how they differ from more contemporary ideas.

Native Peoples and the U.S. Constitution | Mar. 24-26, 2017

Track the evolution and meaning of Native sovereignty from pre-contact times, to the early and sustained intrusions of European powers, to the manner in which the federal and state governments address the status of Native peoples today.

Slavery and the Constitution | Apr. 7-9, 2017

Examine how the slave clauses in the Constitution came to be there and what they meant, with special emphasis on Lincoln's efforts to limit slavery in a manner that was constitutionally permissible.

THE SPIRIT OF PHILANTHROPY

An Historic Challenge

\$500,000 MATCHING GRANT PLEDGE FOR ANNUAL FUND ANNOUNCED



Above: Montpelier President and CEO Kat Imhoff (second from left) stands with John “Jack” P. Garniewski, Jr., Michele Ahwash, and Margaret “Peggy” McGarrey on the House’s terrace.

In early September of this year, President and CEO Kat Imhoff received exciting news: the Nancy Woodson Spire Foundation, a dedicated supporter of The Montpelier Foundation since 2002, has made a \$500,000 matching grant pledge to benefit our Annual Fund.

The 1:1 challenge grant aims to match all new and increased unrestricted memberships and gifts received from July 2016 to June 2017 with the goal of raising a total of \$1 million that will go toward operating The Montpelier Foundation. This type of unrestricted giving is the lifeblood of mission-driven nonprofits, because it pays for all of the capacity a high quality organization requires, whether that means experienced staff, new roads, or IT infrastructure.

“The Nancy Woodson Spire Foundation has been instrumental to our progress at Montpelier since the beginning,” said Imhoff. “We are thrilled and grateful that the Foundation’s leadership has

invested in the success of an institution on the move and it feels like family when we get to show them our progress. We see the challenge grant as an act of leadership encouraging others to help us maintain our high level of work.”

The Nancy Woodson Spire Foundation was founded at the request of Nancy Woodson Spire, and established after her death in 1980. Today, the Foundation is led and administered by John “Jack” P. Garniewski, Jr., and two colleagues, Michele Ahwash and Margaret “Peggy” McGarrey.

“We are truly pleased to launch this new opportunity for The Montpelier Foundation,” said Garniewski. “We know how essential unrestricted support is for the vitality of a nonprofit organization, and we want to see Montpelier attract new friends and encourage current supporters to increase their gifts.

“We know how essential unrestricted support is for the vitality of a nonprofit organization, and we want to see Montpelier attract new friends and encourage current supporters to increase their gifts.”

**—John “Jack” P. Garniewski, Jr.
NANCY WOODSON SPIRE FOUNDATION**

Montpelier’s long-term health depends on a thriving Annual Fund. It is wonderful to be able to be part of the future success of Montpelier and to be associated with such a dedicated and committed group to make this happen.”

The Montpelier Annual Fund currently includes 1,400 individual supporters and raised nearly \$2 million last year.

These dollars bolster every aspect of Montpelier’s work and, because they are unrestricted, can be used where the need is greatest. Montpelier has over 80 full-time and 60 part-time staff and hosts more than 125,000 visitors each year. While named gifts continue to drive Montpelier’s largest initiatives, there is no better way to show your support for Montpelier’s growth and improvement than with an unrestricted gift—whether at a \$50 membership or with a \$5,000 gift to the Madison Cabinet.

Challenge Examples for the Nancy Woodson Spire Foundation Grant

If you are a new donor, the size of your gift will be doubled. This means if you did not give to Montpelier at all between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016, your gift of \$100 will mean \$200 in support for Montpelier.



If you increase your gift from the prior fiscal year (7/1/15 to 6/30/16), the increased amount of your gift will be matched 1:1. So, if you gave \$150 last year and you give \$250 this year, the increased amount of your gift (\$100) will be matched.



Remember, to qualify for the match your gift has to be received during the period of July 1, 2016 to May 31, 2017. Visit montpelier.org/support-us to learn about membership benefits given at different levels.

MONTPELIER LOVES A CHALLENGE AND IS LUCKY TO HAVE TWO!



It isn't often that we have the pleasure of announcing two challenge grants in the same magazine, but the Perry Foundation has also made a generous 1:1 challenge grant of \$120,000 to The Montpelier Foundation. This grant will be used for restoration of the South Grove, the important landscape area and grove of trees that sheltered the South Yard, home of Montpelier's enslaved house community. Funds raised will support critical archaeological excavation and research in this area that is so important to the story of all of Montpelier's people.

REPORT OF GIFTS

The Montpelier Foundation proudly recognizes those who generously made gifts or pledges between July 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016. Thank you.

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*The Madison Pillars celebrates friends
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Because of your thoughtful planning, your gift
will sustain our mission and provide long-
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names represent new 2016 members.*

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DOLLEY MADISON LEGACY LUNCHEON

Thank you for your support of the 11th Annual Dolley Madison Legacy Luncheon. Ms. Cokie Roberts addressed our guests at the first Luncheon in 2006 and we were delighted to have her back again this year.

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Calendar

We want to hear from you!



2016

MONTPELIER HUNT RACES | November 5

Celebrate the 82nd running of the historic Hunt Races, a premier event in the American Steeplechase Circuit. Friends and family also can enjoy Jack Russell Terrier and stick horse races and tailgate and hat contests. <http://www.montpelierhuntraces.org/>

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE | December 3

Visits with Santa, holiday refreshments, and special activities will be offered throughout the day at the Visitor Center. The House will be decorated in accordance with 19th-century customs. Spend the weekend in Orange County enjoying Montpelier's open house and many other holiday festivities!

2017

MANSION RESTORATION | January 3-13

Montpelier will be closed for House renovations, painting, and other repairs. Follow our progress on social media!

LOG CABIN RECONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP | February 5-10

Reconstruct a log cabin in the field quarters area. Work with Montpelier's expert staff and consultants to learn 19th-century log cabin construction techniques. No experience necessary. Housing is provided on campus at Arlington House, an antebellum plantation house.

CERAMICS WORKSHOP | February 19-24

Work in the Archaeology Laboratory and be involved in post-excavation cataloging, analysis, labeling, and reconstructing of ceramics and other historic artifacts. Learn about historic artifact types, iron conservation techniques, and how to reconstruct vessels for display in the Lab, the House, the galleries, and other museums. Housing is provided on campus at Arlington House, an antebellum plantation house.

JAMES MADISON'S BIRTHDAY | March 16

Commemorate the 266th birthday of James Madison, fourth President of the United States, Father of the Constitution, and Architect of the Bill of Rights. The wreath-laying ceremony at the Madison family cemetery will feature the United States Marine Corps Band and Color Guard.

SPRING WINE FESTIVAL | May 6-7

Join friends and family for this premier spring event showcasing distinctive arts and crafts, specialty food vendors, live music, children's entertainment, and tastings from great Virginia wineries and breweries.

DOLLEY MADISON LEGACY LUNCHEON | May 16

Enjoy a tour of the House and an elegant luncheon on the back lawn of the House to commemorate the 249th anniversary of Dolley's birthday. Featured speaker will be Andrea Wulf, author of five acclaimed books, including *Founding Gardeners* and *The Invention of Nature*, both on the *New York Times* Bestseller List. The luncheon raises funds to support the refurbishing of the House. Contact Karen Costello at 540.672.4370 or kcostello@montpelier.org for information and tickets.

DOLLEY MADISON'S BIRTHDAY | May 20

Celebrate the 249th birthday of America's first "First Lady." Free cupcakes at the Visitor Center, and free admission to the House for visitors who share Dolley's name or birthday!