MISSION—The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, an educational institution of the Commonwealth of Virginia, shall foster through its living-history museums – Jamestown Settlement and American Revolution Museum at Yorktown – an awareness and understanding of the early history, settlement, and development of the United States through the convergence of American Indian, European, and African cultures and the enduring legacies bequeathed to the nation.

GOVERNING BOARD—The Foundation is governed by a Board of Trustees. The Code of Virginia calls for the board to consist of the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Education, members from the General Assembly, citizens of the Commonwealth appointed by the Governor, the president of the private affiliate Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., and individuals elected by the Board of Trustees.

PRIVATE AFFILIATE—The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Inc., coordinates private fund development in support of Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation programs. The Foundation, Inc. is administered by a Board of Directors. In FY 2017-2018 (July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018), fundraising efforts totaled more than $1.8 million in support of artifact acquisition and conservation, exhibitions, educational programs and resources, endowment and the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown®. The endowment amounted to $16.1 million as of December 31, 2018.

FOUNDATION BUDGET—The Foundation’s operating budget in FY 2018-2019 totals $20.5 million. General funds appropriated by the General Assembly comprise 52.4 percent of the operating budget, while non-general funds, which consist substantially of admissions revenue, account for the remaining 47.6 percent. An additional $10.9 million ($9.5 million in state support) was approved in the 2018-20 biennium for capital and maintenance reserve projects, including the Jamestown Settlement pier. In 2018, gift shop sales generated more than $460,000 in net revenue.

VISITATION—Combined paid visitation in 2018 totaled 533,730 – 359,687 at Jamestown Settlement and 174,043 at the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown. Ticket sales to groups comprised 37%, and to individuals 63%, of total paid visitation. Approximately 70% of individual paid visitors came from out of state. Top origin states are Virginia, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Maryland/Washington, D.C., Florida, New York, New Jersey, Ohio, California, Texas, Illinois and Georgia. Museum visitors spent an estimated $113.5 million in the Jamestown-Williamsburg-Yorktown area in the 2017 calendar year. There were 1,994,496 visits to historyisfun.org in 2018 and, at year-end, 121,133 fans on the museums’ Facebook page.

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES—The Foundation employs 160 full-time staff and more than 260 part-time staff, the number varying by season, in five management divisions: Museum Operations & Education; Marketing & Retail Operations; Development; Executive Office; and Administration (Facilities Management, Finance, Human Resources). A total of 1,864 core and special event volunteers provided 62,656 hours of service to all areas of the Foundation’s programs and activities in 2018.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS—During the 2017-2018 academic year, Foundation programs served 290,136 students through problem-solving sessions and guided tours at both museums and in outreach settings. Structured education programs at the two museums served 202,621 school participants. Outreach education programs were presented to 87,515 people, including students in 109 Virginia school districts. The Foundation also provides a variety of educational resources and curriculum materials on historyisfun.org to support educators, homeschoolers and students.

COLLECTION—The Foundation collection is comprised of 210,391 archaeological and non-archaeological artifacts. The portion related to the Jamestown Settlement theme features 1,532 non-archaeological and 207,499 archaeological objects, including 16th- and 17th-century portraits, documents, furnishings, toys, ceremonial and decorative objects, tools and weapons. The portion related to the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown is comprised of 1,366 artifacts, including documents, paintings, engravings, military equipment, nautical objects, medical tools, clothing, personal effects and household objects. The Foundation continues to build its collection by acquiring artifacts for exhibit at both museums to support its educational mission.

2019 COMMEMORATION—The 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution™, highlights events that occurred in Virginia in 1619 that continue to influence America today and commemorates the ongoing journey toward the key ideals of democracy, diversity and opportunity. The Foundation is the official Commonwealth of Virginia executive branch agency charged with leading the 2019 Commemoration.
Highlights of 2018

‘TENACITY’ SPECIAL EXHIBITION REVEALS STORIES OF WOMEN IN 17TH-CENTURY JAMESTOWN AND EARLY VIRGINIA

Women's roles in the events of early history were rarely recorded. “TENACITY: Women in Jamestown and Early Virginia,” a year-long special exhibition at Jamestown Settlement that opened November 10, 2018, explores the little-known, captivating personal stories of real women in Jamestown and the early Virginia colony, their tenacious spirit and impact on a fledgling society. “TENACITY,” on display through January 5, 2020, is a legacy project of the 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution”.

The exhibit features artifacts, images and primary sources – some on display in America for the first time – to examine the struggles women faced in the New World. Along with the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation’s collection of 17th-century objects, the exhibition features 60 objects on loan from 22 international and national institutions, including the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Master and Fellows of Magdalene College, Cambridge, and the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust.

The special exhibition, which features more than a dozen public lectures, events and performances, is a public-partnership funded by the Commonwealth of Virginia, James City County and 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution”, with additional support from the Robins Foundation.

REVOLUTIONARY INNOVATION IN ARTILLERY DESIGN INSPIRED ‘BLAST FROM THE PAST’ EXHIBITION AT THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION MUSEUM AT YORKTOWN

The 1781 Siege of Yorktown is known for the use of artillery by General George Washington’s Continental Army. “Blast from the Past: Artillery in the War of Independence,” a special exhibition at the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown from June 10, 2018, and extended to March 3, 2019, explored a range of topics from innovations in artillery design and technology to the individual roles of an artillery crew. Topics examined artillery deployment and transport, as well as the range of fire and science behind these powerful weapons.

Eight American, French and British artillery pieces from the 18th century were on loan from the U.S. Army Center of Military History, the Mayor and Council of Boonsboro, Maryland, and several National Park Service sites, including the Colonial National Historical Park, Yorktown Collection.

A series of programs, demonstrations and musical performances accompanied the special exhibition, including an opening weekend event, “Artillery Through the Ages,” June 9-10, and in conjunction with the annual Yorktown Victory Celebration, “A Weekend of Revolutionary Noise,” concluding with an evening performance of Tchaikovsky’s “1812 Overture.”

JAMESTOWN SETTLEMENT’S GODSPEED SAILS TO BALTIMORE AND ALEXANDRIA TO HIGHLIGHT 2019 COMMEMORATION, FOUNDATION EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Jamestown Settlement’s Godspeed, a re-creation of one of the three ships that brought America’s first permanent English colonists to Virginia in 1607, sailed to Baltimore and Alexandria in October 2018 to host public tours and school field trips and raise awareness of the 400th anniversary of 1619 events that shaped American history and commemorative events in 2019 at Jamestown Settlement.

The Godspeed, which was docked alongside the U.S.S. Constellation in Baltimore’s Inner Harbor October 3-7 as part of Maryland Fleet Week and Air Show Baltimore, hosted 4,500 people during public tours and 721 students in maritime education programs. The Godspeed then sailed to Alexandria, where it docked at the City of Alexandria Marina near the Torpedo Factory Art Center October 12-16, as part of the Portside in Old Town Festival, and hosted nearly 3,000 visitors and 722 students in maritime education programs.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS SERVE LARGE AUDIENCE

The Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation continued to serve its mission as the largest museum provider of structured education programs in the Commonwealth, including curriculum-based on-site programs for student groups and homeschool families, in Virginia classroom outreach settings, teacher development and internship programs, and online educational materials.

Students and teachers were able to access educational resources with a new, revamped Learning Center portal on the Foundation's marketing website, historyisfun.org. The Learning Center portal, which went live in September 2018, features updated essays, lesson plans, interactives and other resources, arranged by grade level, historical thinking skill, theme and discipline, accessible through an online “smart search” feature.

The Foundation hosted its first “Agents of Change” youth leadership conference on October 12-14, 2018, at the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, allowing Virginia high school students and teachers to focus on leadership, service and civic responsibility. The educational conference, made possible by the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown Campaign for Support, allowed students from seven school...
divisions to obtain skills to create seven service projects to make a difference in their communities.

Youth volunteers assisted with Broadside summer history camps for children age 4 through 5th grade. Summer history camps, including “The School of the Musketeer,” provided immersive learning experiences for students in grades 4-8.

JAMESTOWN SETTLEMENT PERMANENT EXHIBITION GALLERIES UNDERGO REFRESH FOR 2019 COMMEMORATION

At Jamestown Settlement, one-third of the museum’s 30,000 square-foot permanent exhibition gallery space was under construction as part of a $10.6 million gallery enhancement to be completed in Summer 2019. Jamestown Settlement is a year-round stage for the 2019 Commemoration, with a new gallery to expand on historical events marking 400-year milestones, such as the first legislative assembly in the New World, the first recorded Africans in Virginia, and the influx of English women to the Virginia colony.

New historical research and technology, including interactive touch screens, immersive exhibits and a multimedia experiential theater, will enhance the story of the Virginia Indians with new research on Powhatan’s capital at Werowocomoco and Pocahontas, as well as the first recorded Africans in 1619 and the growth in slavery through 1699. The second phase will add a 124-seat Rebellion Theater, where the story of “Bacon’s Rebellion” — a 1676 armed rebellion of Virginia colonists led by Nathaniel Bacon against the rule of Governor William Berkeley — will unfold on multimedia screens with special effects.

2019 COMMEMORATION MOVES FORWARD

The 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution™, worked with leading partners in 2018 to build awareness of 1619 to Virginia and American history. An official launch of the 2019 Commemoration was held at the Virginia State Capitol in October, with a proclamation from Gov. Ralph Northam. A Virginia History Trails app, a 2019 Legacy Project, featuring 400 years of Virginia history won Best Mobile App’s Gold Award. The 2019 Steering Committee finalized its official schedule of events and exhibitions, and several events raised awareness of the commemoration, including a September reception at the British Embassy in Washington, D.C., attended by His Royal Highness Prince Edward, Earl of Essex, and Jamestown Settlement’s Godspeed Sail to Baltimore and Alexandria in October in partnership with the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation. American Evolution’s banner education program, 2019 Commemoration Schools, a yearlong challenge for educators to incorporate themes of democracy, diversity and opportunity in their classrooms, launched in September 2018. To learn more, visit AmericanEvolution2019.com.
JAMESTOWN SETTLEMENT

A museum of 17th-century colonial Virginia, Jamestown Settlement chronicles the history of America's first permanent English colony, founded in Virginia in 1607, from its beginnings in the Old World through the first century of its existence, and explores the Powhatan Indian, English and west central African cultures that converged there.

LOCATION

Between State Route 31 and the Colonial Parkway; adjacent to Colonial National Historical Park, which encompasses Historic Jamestowne, and six miles from Williamsburg. (GPS address: 2110 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185)

EXHIBIT AREAS

The museum consists of two elements: an indoor theater and gallery exhibits, and an outdoor living-history program. An introductory film, *1607: A Nation Takes Root*, is shown at regular intervals daily in the Robins Foundation Theater. Gallery exhibits chronicle the nation's 17th-century beginnings in Virginia in the context of its Powhatan Indian, English and west central African cultures. Exhibits set the stage for the founding of Jamestown in 1607 and examine the evolution of the Virginia colony during the 17th century and its legacies. Outdoors are a re-created Powhatan Indian village depicting the culture of Virginia’s original inhabitants, replicas of the three ships – *Susan Constant*, *Godspeed* and *Discovery* – that transported 104 men and boys from England to Jamestown in 1607, and a palisaded fort representing the colonists’ first home.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Jamestown colony was sponsored by the Virginia Company of London, whose stockholders hoped to make a profit on the venture. The settlement faced great difficulties, but managed to endure and was made economically viable through the cultivation of tobacco as a cash crop. Jamestown served as the capital of Virginia until 1699, when the seat of government moved to Williamsburg.

MUSEUM HISTORY

Jamestown Settlement opened April 1, 1957, as Jamestown Festival Park, marking the 350th anniversary of Jamestown’s founding. The name changed to Jamestown Settlement in 1990. Expansive exhibition galleries, an introductory film and revitalized living-history areas debuted in time for Jamestown’s 400th anniversary in 2007. Jamestown Settlement museum was rededicated on April 24, 2007. Immersive gallery exhibits were added in 2017, and are undergoing enhancements in 2018-2019. The site encompasses a total of 46 acres, including exhibit, parking, support and open areas.

AMERICAN REVOLUTION MUSEUM AT YORKTOWN

America’s struggle for independence, from the beginnings of colonial unrest to the formation of the new nation, is chronicled through the stories of citizens and soldiers in gallery exhibits, films and outdoor living history in re-creations of a Continental Army encampment and Revolution-era farm.

LOCATION

On Route 1020 in Yorktown; adjacent to Colonial National Historical Park, which encompasses Yorktown Battlefield, and 12 miles from Williamsburg. (GPS address: 200 Water Street, Yorktown, VA 23690)

EXHIBIT AREAS

Comprehensive indoor exhibits and outdoor living history capture the transformational nature and epic scale of the Revolution and its relevance today. A timeline corridor provides a visual journey from the 13 British colonies in the 1750s to 1790s. An introductory film, *Liberty Fever*, draws visitors into the world of Revolutionary America and sets the stage for museum experiences. Gallery exhibits feature period artifacts, immersive environments, interactive exhibits and films, including “The Siege of Yorktown,” with a 180-degree surround screen and dramatic special effects. Outdoors, visitors can witness artillery demonstrations and drill with wooden muskets at a re-created Continental Army encampment and explore – and help work – a Revolution-era farm based on a real-life 18th-century family.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Yorktown was the site of the climactic battle of the American Revolution. In early Fall 1781, Washington and Rochambeau had the British army trapped along the shores of the York River. The allied armies had all of the land routes blocked. The French navy blockaded escape by sea. Cornwallis had no option but to surrender to the combined forces.

MUSEUM HISTORY

The museum opened as the Yorktown Victory Center April 1, 1976, as one of three Bicentennial centers in Virginia. In the 1990s, the museum’s focus broadened to encompass the entire Revolutionary period. Two decades later, the museum underwent a phased transformation on the 22-acre site. Operations moved from the 1976 building to the new museum building in March 2015. The museum was renamed the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown in October 2016 with the debut of permanent exhibition galleries and introductory film. New outdoor living-history areas were completed in Spring 2017. A Grand Opening Celebration, March 25-April 4, 2017, and April 1 dedication officially launched the museum.