

**CLOSE UP**<sup>®</sup>  
WASHINGTON DC

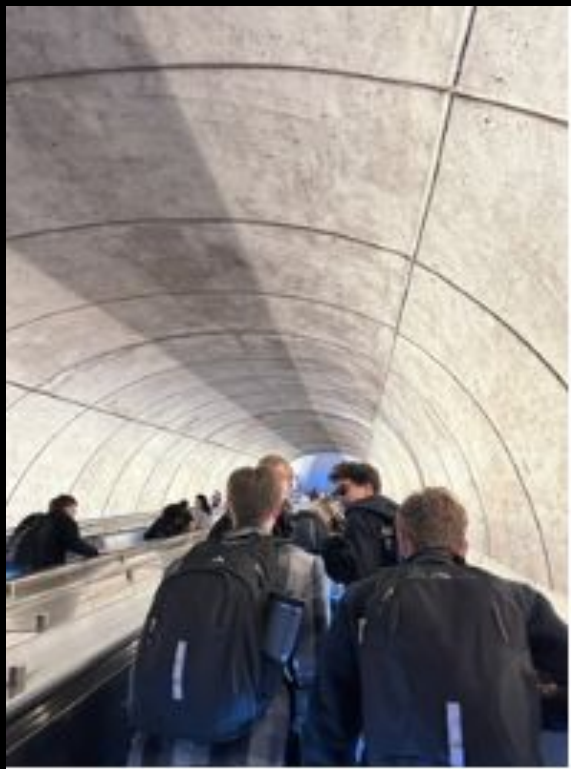
**PHS 2026**



































# DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

## How did it happen?

## July 1776

In early July of 1776, news of British ships set sail to wage war with America. "What was the message of the Continental Congress doing?"  
The arrival of a massive British war fleet in New York Harbor sent a clear message: victory of war threatened the north. Although a great majority of war-hungry Americans supported a Congress intended to repel the British, the Declaration of Independence was not the only option available to the colonists. Many were reluctant to engage in a war that would be so costly. The Declaration's authorship was a delicate task of persuasion against King George III was an important step in persuading other members to join the fight.

### FEATURED FOUNDER



We are in the very midst of a revolution the most complete, unopposed and irreversible, since the history of nations.

John Adams

John Adams was one of the key figures in the drafting of the Declaration of Independence. He was a member of the committee that drafted the document and was one of the signers. He was also the first Vice President of the United States.

### Rallying the Troops

The British were not the only force against the colonies. It was also the British navy that threatened the colonies. The British navy was the most powerful force in the world at the time and was a major threat to the colonies. The British navy was the most powerful force in the world at the time and was a major threat to the colonies.



When you see the Declaration of Independence, you will see the signatures of the men who signed it. The Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4, 1776, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

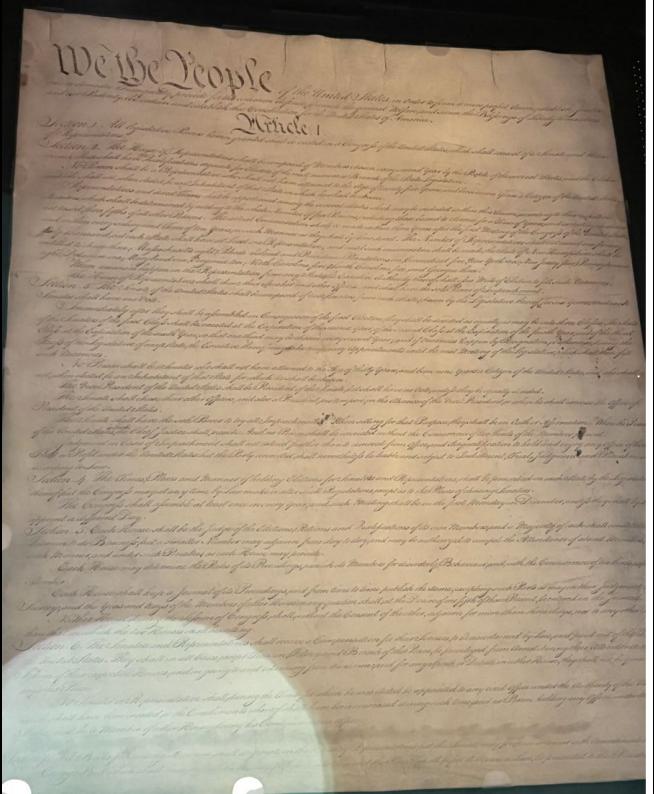


The first draft of the Declaration of Independence was written by Thomas Jefferson. It was a long and detailed document that outlined the reasons for the colonies' decision to declare independence from Great Britain.

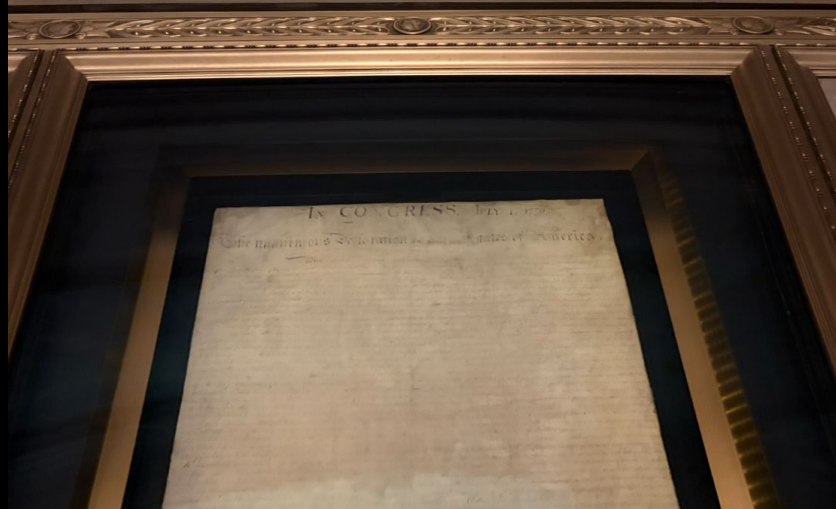
The Declaration of Independence was signed by 56 delegates from the 13 colonies. It was a landmark document that marked the beginning of the United States as an independent nation.



John Hancock, the first President of the United States, signed the Declaration of Independence in a large, bold signature. His signature is the most prominent one on the document.

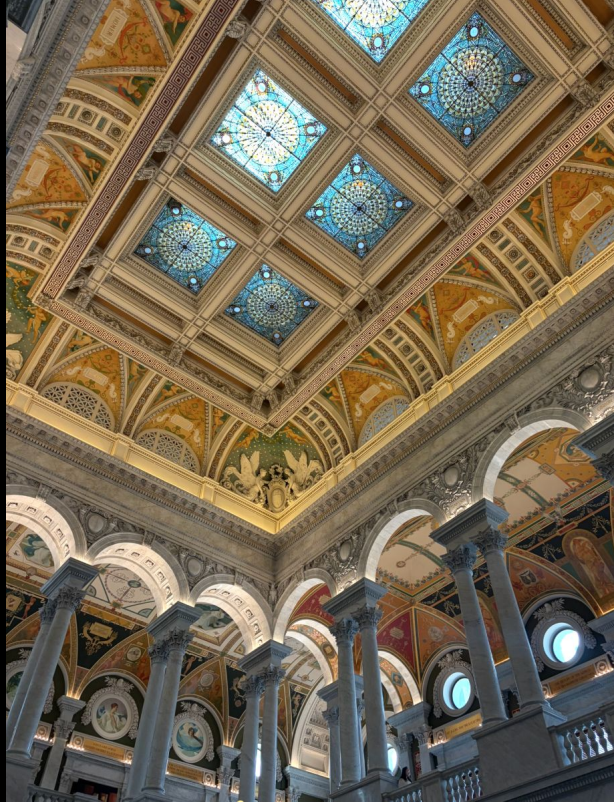


DECLARATION  
OF  
INDEPENDENCE



CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

















# NEW YORK 2026







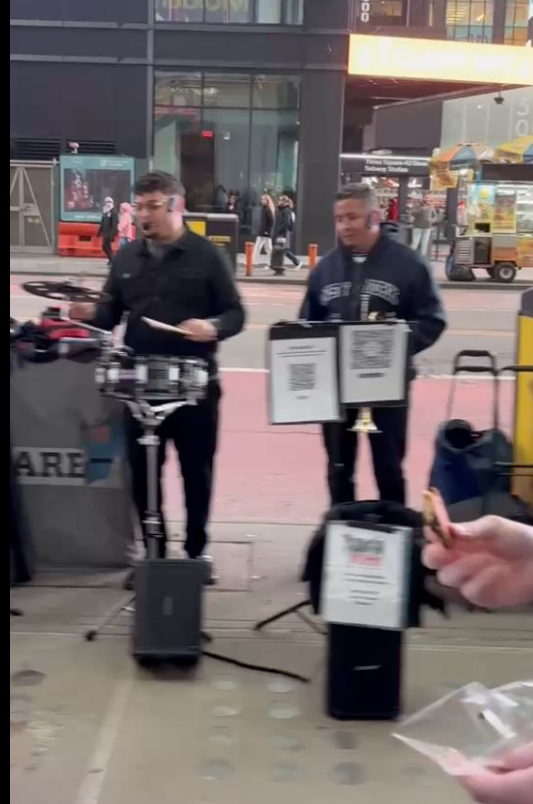


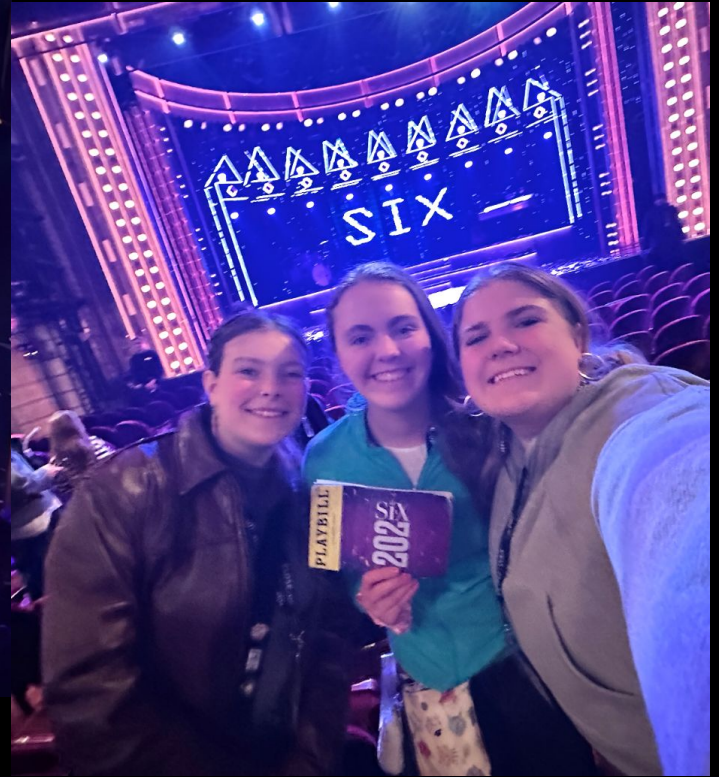
























Thank You  
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