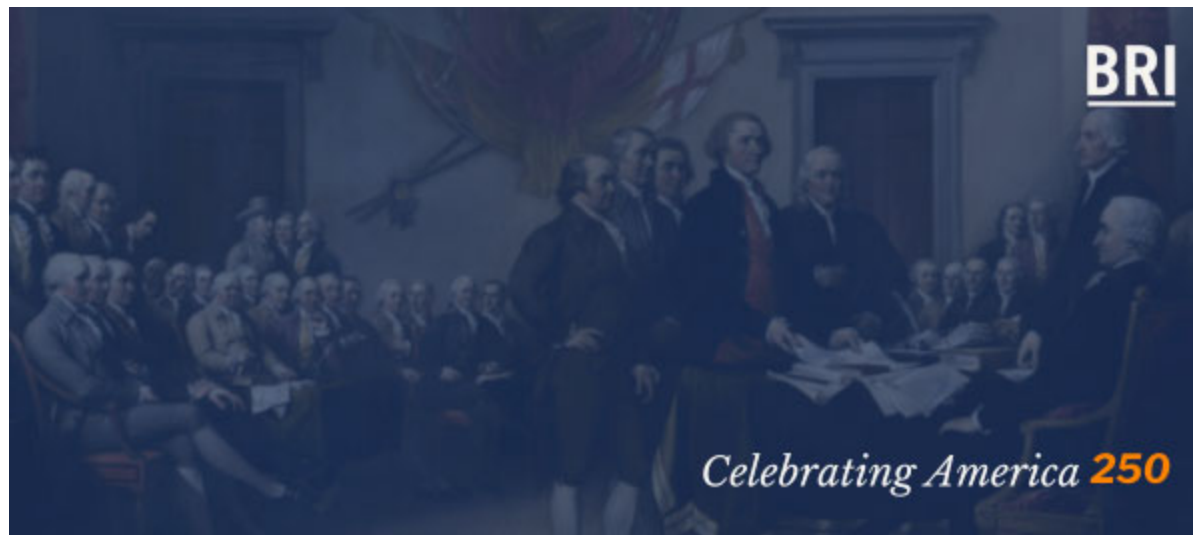


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View on [Web browser](#)



## The Founders and the March to Independence

As America prepares to celebrate its 250<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2026, we are honoring the key historical moments that shaped our nation.

In May 1775, 250 years ago, our nation's Founders convened the Second Continental Congress at Independence Hall in Philadelphia. The Second Continental Congress adopted the [Declaration of Independence](#) in 1776 and was instrumental in managing the American war

effort.

BRI's American Founders resource explores the lives of many key figures in the Second Continental Congress, including [George Washington](#), [John Adams](#), [Benjamin Franklin](#), [James Madison](#), and many more.

[View the Declaration of Independence](#)

## New Civics Resource Examines America's Founding and Government Today



BRI has launched its comprehensive new civics curriculum, [Government and Politics: Civics for the American Experiment](#). This new resource helps students learn about America's government, our Founding principles, and their rights and responsibilities as citizens.

With 7 units and nearly 40 lessons, students learn through engaging content, including:

### Primary Sources

How does the Declaration of Independence address issues like [natural rights and government by consent](#) ?

How did the English philosopher John Locke influence the Founding Principles of the Declaration of Independence?

And why did the [Articles of Confederation](#) limit the effectiveness of America's new government? Students explore

### Informative Videos

Government and Politics: Civics for the American Experiment offers 11 high-quality videos to support classroom instruction.

Through these videos, students engage with concepts like [civic virtues](#), [federalism](#), and the [structure of American government](#).

Students also have the opportunity to hear from real people [working in public](#)

### Educational Games

[Game-based learning](#) is effective way to help students understand key concepts and retain information.

Government and Politics: Civics for the American Experiment uses engaging tabletop and interactive games to help students learn about [civic virtues](#), [how Congress functions](#), the [relationships between private citizens and](#)

these issues and more through [service today](#), and [learn about their daily lives](#), and much more.

## Meet BRI Teaching Fellow Bridget Jordan



BRI believes every student should have access to a quality civic education. That means investing in the educators who serve our young people.

Through [BRI's Teacher Fellowship](#), educators commit to a 9-month program designed to deepen their understanding of civic education.

[Bridget Jordan](#), an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) teacher at Baltimore Highlands Elementary School in Baltimore, MD, served as a BRI Teacher Fellow for the 2024-2025 school year.

“The Fellowship has been transformative in equipping me to better support my students with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to actively participate in a democratic society,” she said.

Jordan frequently uses BRI's primary sources analyses, discussion guides, and interactive activities focused on foundational American documents like the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights.

After working with BRI, Jordan said she “not only [grew] as a teacher but also contributed to a community of educators dedicated to promoting civic literacy and engagement.”



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