



Huntsville, Alabama

305 Fountain Circle
Huntsville, AL 35801

Cover Memo

Meeting Type: City Council Regular Meeting **Meeting Date:** 3/26/2026

File ID: TMP-6742

Department: Finance

Subject:

Type of Action: Approval/Action

Authorizing the Mayor to submit an application for a \$2,500 Alabama Semiquincentennial Community Grant from the America 250 Alabama Foundation for activities related to the celebration of America's 250 Anniversary.

Resolution No.

Finance Information:

Account Number: TBD

City Cost Amount: N/A

Total Cost: \$ N/A

Special Circumstances:

Grant Funded: \$ 2,500.00

Grant Title - CFDA or granting Agency: American250 Foundation

Resolution #: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Location: (list below)

Address: N/A

District: District 1 District 2 District 3 District 4 District 5

Additional Comments:

RESOLUTION NO. 26-_____

WHEREAS, the Huntsville Salutes America’s 250th Committee was launched by the City of Huntsville as a year-long celebration of America’s 250th anniversary to lead a coordinated effort to honor the nation’s founding through civic events, cultural programming, and historical reflection leading up to the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the America 250 Alabama Foundation is offering Semiquincentennial Community Grants which are open to each of Alabama’s municipalities and county commissions; and

WHEREAS, local governments are encouraged to develop projects in partnership with local schools, museums, libraries, historic sites, and other nonprofit cultural and community organizations; and

BE IT NOW RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Huntsville, Alabama that the Mayor is authorized to apply for a Semiquincentennial Community Grant from America 250 Alabama Foundation in the amount of \$2,500 for printing and publication costs associated with the Huntsville Salutes America’s 250th Celebration on July 4, 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in the event a grant is awarded, the Mayor of the City of Huntsville is authorized, requested, and directed, on behalf of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, to enter into such grant agreement with the America 250 Alabama Foundation, submit any required supporting and collateral materials, and file all reporting as required.

ADOPTED this the 26th day of April, 2026.

President of the City Council of the
City of Huntsville, Alabama

APPROVED this the 26th day of April, 2026.

Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama

Huntsville Salutes America's 250th

Semiquincentennial Community Grant (\$2,500)

City of Huntsville Alabama

Tommy Battle
305 Fountain Cir SW
Huntsville, AL 35801

O: 256-427-5432

Whitney Gentry

305 Fountain Cir SW
Huntsville, AL 35801

whitney.gentry@huntsvilleal.gov
O: 256-427-5432

Application Form

Applicant Information

Organization Name*

Enter the legal name of your municipality or county commission. The name provided here will be the grantee name printed on any future agreements, checks, and reports.

City of Huntsville Alabama

Organization Type*

Select whether you are applying as an Alabama municipality or county commission.

Municipality

Municipality or County Seat*

Enter the name of your municipality or, if applying as a commission, the municipality that serves as your county seat. America250AL will use this data when generating reports.

City of Huntsville

Organization County*

Select the name of your county or, if applying as a municipality, the county or counties where your municipality is located. America250AL will use this data when generating reports.

Madison

Federal Congressional District*

Select the federal Congressional district(s) where your organization is located. To view a map of Alabama's Congressional Districts, or to search by address, click [here](#). America250AL will use this data when generating reports.

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State Senate District*

Enter the state senate district(s) where your organization is located. To view a map of Alabama's Congressional districts, or to search by address, click [here](#). America250AL will use this data when generating reports.

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State House District*

Select the state house district(s) where your organization is located. To view a map of Alabama's Congressional districts, or to search by address, click [here](#). America250AL will use this data when generating reports.

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Project Information

Project Name*

Enter a title for your proposed project.

Huntsville Salutes America's 250th

Project Description*

Provide a brief summary of your proposed project. America250AL will use this description when promoting funded projects and when generating reports.

The Huntsville Salutes America's 250th Committee will lead the coordinated effort to honor the nation's founding through civic events, cultural programming, and historical reflection, all while highlighting Huntsville's diverse contributions to the American story. These events will lead up to the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. This collaboration of local organizations will create meaningful experiences to educate, engage, and inspire residents of all generations.

Project Dates*

Provide the date, or a range of dates, when you intend to host public events and programs.

July 4, 2026

Community Involvement Criteria*

All grant-funded projects must meet **all of the following** criteria. Select each that you believe your project will meet.

Be open and accessible to the public
Foster community involvement and unity

Community Involvement Details*

Briefly describe how your project will meet the criteria you selected above.

The July 4, 2026, event hosted by the City of Huntsville will be free and open to all community members. The event will be hosted at Big Spring Park in downtown Huntsville, chosen for ample parking, accessibility, and large open space in the heart of downtown. The event will include vendors and demonstrations from a variety of organizations to include The Daughters of the American Revolution, The Sons of the American Revolution, historical recreations courtesy of Burritt Museum, hands-on demonstrations for children from the EarlyWorks Children's Museum, Native American reenactments, and many others, each fostering unity and community involvement.

250th Commemoration Criteria*

All grant-funded projects must meet **all of the following** criteria. Select each that you believe your project will meet.

Demonstrate clear relevance to Alabama's commemoration of the U.S. sesquicentennial
Be feasible and take place between January 1 and August 31, 2026
Acknowledge support from America250AL

250th Commemoration Details*

Briefly describe how your project will meet the criteria you selected above.

The July 4, 2026, event hosted by the City of Huntsville with the help of local organizations will have information and demonstrations related to the founding of America. These groups will be readily available to provide information on the sacrifices of American veterans, educate the public on the contributions of American Patriots, Native Americans, and other such groups to form the country we have today. The event will also include a parade which will be educational in that it will have displays and entries representing different timeframes of American History.

Programming Criteria*

All grant-funded projects must meet **at least one of the following** criteria. Select each that you believe your project will meet.

Enrich public understanding of America's founding principles, history, or system of self-government
 Enhance civic education and engagement to advance the cause of liberty and self-governance
 Educate students or the broader public about historical contributions to the nation's story
 Emphasize the service and sacrifices of American veterans of all generations

Programming Details*

Briefly describe how your project will meet the criteria you selected above.

The event on July 4, 2026 will start at 5pm with a parade through downtown Huntsville. The theme of the parade is American Eras and will have entries representing different eras throughout American history, education the public on the following periods:

- The American Revolution 1763-1783
- The New Nation 1783-1815
- National Expansion and Reform 1815-1880
- Civil War and Reconstruction 1861-1877
- Rise of Industrial America 1876-1900
- Progressive Era to New Era 1900-1929
- Great Depression and WWII 1929-1945
- Cold War 1947-1962
- Civil Rights Movement 1954-1968
- Space Race 1957-1969
- Cold War and Social Change 1970s – 1980s
- Technological Revolution and Global Conflict 1990s – 2000s

The parade will end at Big Spring Park in Downtown Huntsville where there will be a number of vendor tents set up with information to educate the public on the American Revolution, the role of Native Americans in this history of America, the sacrifices of our veterans to uphold our freedoms. In addition to the educational opportunities in the park, there will also be live music which will begin at 6pm. The final performance of the evening will be the Huntsville Concert Band who will play patriotic music before and during a fireworks show which will be the conclusion of the days' activities.

Additional Project Details

Provide any additional information you believe may be helpful for our reviewers to fully understand your project. You may choose to provide a full narrative for your project, describe context for your project, or simply list important details.

You might consider:

- Identifying the objectives of the project and the major elements and activities.
- Providing an outline detailing when activities will occur, including planning, publicity, and events.
- Describing the goals, expected outcomes of the project, and the anticipated impact of the project on your local community.

America250AL may deny applications or request additional information before awarding a grant if not enough details are provided to fully describe the project or demonstrate the project meets all required criteria.

Support Materials (Optional)

Attach additional materials to support your application. Attachments may include photographs and graphics, brochures, agendas, and promotional items. All materials must be combined into one file to upload.

Financial Information

Funds Requested*

Enter the total amount of grant funds requested from America250AL. **The amount listed here should match the total provided in the table below and should not exceed \$2,500.00.**

\$2,500.00

Disallowed Costs*

Grant funding may not be used to pay for **any of the following costs**. Select each to indicate that you understand and agree not to expend funding on any of the listed costs.

- Food and alcohol
- Personnel (salaries and wages)
- Lobbying and lobbying services
- Contributions to endowment funds
- Real estate purchases

Grant Period*

Grant funding may only be used to pay for costs incurred by your organization between **January 1 and August 31, 2026**. Select the box below to indicate that you understand and that you intend to incur all costs listed below within the stated grant period.

I understand

Budget Spreadsheet

Describe below how your organization will expend the funding awarded by America250AL. **The amount listed here should match the total requested above and should not exceed \$2,500.00.**

Line Items	Budgeted Costs (Application)	Approved Costs (Grant Agreement)	Actual Costs (Final Report)
Artist Stipends and Fees			

Honoraria for Scholars and Presenters			
Printing and Publications	\$2,500.00		
Promotion and Advertising			
Supplies, Materials, and Equipment			
Travel Costs			
Venue Rentals and Facility Fees			
Other Costs (describe below)			
Total	2500		

Budget Notes

Provide any notes for your budget that you believe may be helpful for our reviewers to fully understand your project. If you requested funding for Other Costs, explain those costs here.

America250AL may deny applications or request additional information before awarding a grant if not enough details are provided to fully describe the project or demonstrate the project meets all required criteria.

The \$2,500 requested will be used for event signage such as posters promoting the event, signage in the park and on-stage banners. Any funds remaining after these purchases will go towards sound equipment rental for the stage in Big Spring Park.

Contact Information

Project Director's Name*

Enter the name of the individual who is primarily responsible for completing the proposed project.

John Hamilton

Project Director's Organization and Title*

City Administrator, City of Huntsville

Project Director's Email Address*

john.hamilton@huntsvilleal.gov

Project Director's Phone Number*

256-427-5009

AGREEMENT

By submitting this application, the applicant certifies:

- that the individual listed above has reviewed the information provided and is authorized to apply for this grant on behalf of the applicant organization.
- that all information provided is true and accurate to the best of the applicant's knowledge.
- that the applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal and state laws governing the use of public funds.
- and acknowledges that, if a grant is awarded, acceptance of funds will require execution of a grant agreement and submission of relevant documentation, including a final grant report.
- that the applicant agrees to use any awarded funds solely for the purposes described in this application or as otherwise specified in a grant agreement with America250AL.

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

No files were uploaded