

Spring 2021  
Volume XXX  
No. 2

# The Haversack

THE NEWSLETTER OF FORT TICONDEROGA

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They grow up so fast. Mick—or is it Mack?—enjoys some fresh hay. Our pair of handsome Red Devon oxen turn four this year, which means they are officially working cattle! Come see them in action. Story, p. 9.

## THE BIG PICTURE

### Hats (and bearskin caps) off to you!

Spring is a time of renewal, and this spring brings us even more optimism as the global pandemic appears to wane. Over the past year we found inspiration in our nation's history and in your support to continue our important work to preserve this remarkable site. Thank you!

Our 2021 living history will focus on the 1774 British Garrison on the eve of the American Revolution. This portrayal will be capped off by bearskin caps worn by grenadiers, drummers, and fifers, a resplendent sight rarely seen since the 18<sup>th</sup> century!



A major new exhibition "A Well Regulated Militia: Citizen, Soldier, and State," explores this often misunderstood institution of service.

Throughout colonial and early federal America, the militia formed the largest and often only means of defense. The

exhibit includes more than 100 rare artifacts, many displayed for the first time.

Our tour boat *Carillon* returns sporting a brand new hull. Guests will again enjoy Ticonderoga's rich maritime history, not to mention gorgeous views that will make you gasp!

The Center for Digital History will host the upcoming History Conference for Educators and the 25th Annual War College of the Seven Years' War, as well as a robust line-up of Author Series programs and other programs. Plans are underway for the Seminar on the American Revolution in September to be in person while offering a digital component to attendees unable to travel. Our digital educational programs have quickly established themselves as essential resources for teachers and students across America.

The Pavilion's restoration and adaptive re-use project will finish this year! The Grand Opening will take place at our 20th Annual Garden Party scheduled for Saturday, August 7. Purchase your tickets and help us celebrate this incredible milestone!

Hats, and bearskin caps, off to you, our supporters! Your contributions, large or small, make our transformative initiatives possible as we preserve, educate, and provoke an active discussion about the past and its importance to present and future generations.

With gratitude for your support,  
Beth L. Hill President and CEO

## Be part of the action!

### Become a member of Fort Ticonderoga and receive:

- Free admission to Fort Ticonderoga for one year
- Subscription to *The Haversack* newsletter
- 10% discount in the Museum Store
- Free or discounted admission to selected events

### You'll want to visit more than once to:

- Enjoy our world-class exhibits
- Interact with our dynamic museum staff
- Explore beautiful gardens
- Attend programs and special events
- Tour Lake Champlain aboard the *Carillon*
- Take in a breathtaking birds-eye view from Mount Defiance

See back page for more information

### Contributions

Make a tax-deductible contribution to Fort Ticonderoga in the form of cash, stocks, mutual fund shares, or donor-advised funds. All gifts directly support Fort Ticonderoga's education and preservation programs. Use a credit card to donate online at [fortticonderoga.org/join-support/fort-ticonderoga-fund](https://fortticonderoga.org/join-support/fort-ticonderoga-fund).



### Cannon and Coffee

Be the first guests to enter Fort Ticonderoga with this special early bird program and explore a world-class collection of 18th-century artillery from a whole new perspective. Join Curator Dr. Matthew Keagle for this special tour of Ticonderoga's big guns and learn the surprising histories of the museum's artillery collection, which spans the Atlantic Ocean from the American, French, and Haitian Revolutions all the way to the Spanish American War and World War One. Learn how historians "read" these pieces and discover what they have to tell us about military history, technology, art, and more.

### You get your own ammunition: Fresh coffee provided!

**Availability:** June 25, July 16, August 6 | *Gate opens at 7:30 a.m., tour begins at 8 a.m.*

General admission tickets and special tour tickets can be purchased by visiting [www.fortticonderoga.org](http://www.fortticonderoga.org) or calling 518-585-2821.



# Lake Champlain is Calling

*Gorgeous, historic Carillon cruises resume in 2021*

**OUR 1920S-STYLED TOUR BOAT, *CARILLON***, will have the same charming look as it glides through Lake Champlain's beautiful waters this year, but it will be doing so with a new hull. At the end of 2019, a new, gleaming coat of paint ended the final phase of work to replace *Carillon*'s hull. Along with new cabin woodwork and windows, the hull capped off proactive repairs and upgrades to our reproduction wooden tour boat, guaranteeing years of service on the water. After a year in drydock, *Carillon*

is ready to offer premier views of Fort Ticonderoga, the Green Mountains, Adirondacks, and Lake Champlain in daily passenger cruises and sunset cruises in July and August.

*Carillon* is also back for charter service, whether for special group tours, private cruises, or family functions, like wedding rehearsals. Seating within the long open cabin can easily be rearranged to fit groups' needs and a bar is at the ready for food and beverages.



*Carillon* is waiting to take you on Lake Champlain for tours that offer incredible history and gorgeous views. Make your Fort Ticonderoga visit even more memorable with a *Carillon* tour.

## NEW MARITIME INTERNS



On land, skilled Maritime Interpreters will explain Fort Ticonderoga's connection to the water as they assemble a British bateau. They will be joined by two Maritime Trades Interns, thanks to grants from Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership. Maritime Trades Interns get practical experience in crafts including rigging, sail-making, and boat building, while helping interpret those skills to the public.

# BRING YOUR SUNGLASSES

*The Pavilion will soon be gleaming!*

**The Pavilion's long-awaited restoration** is in the final stretch. From delicate porch lattice, historic furnishings and lighting, to modern Wi-Fi, the restoration team is racing to get all the details right on the 1826 National Historic Landmark, so it is ready for its **August 7 Grand Opening at our 20th Annual Garden Party**.

Situated next to scenic Lake Champlain, the repurposed Pavilion will transform Fort Ticonderoga's visitor experience. Guests will enjoy the building year round as it will offer new exhibit, meeting, and event spaces, and new culinary offerings that will connect our gardens and history.

William Ferris Pell built the residence in the fashionable and stunning Greek Revival style as a summer home. As time passed, it was used as a hotel and then once again as a home for Pell family members until 1987. A great deal of the Pavilion's early fabric remained, but it had been altered over the years and was in dire condition. Without timely and vital stabilization and rehabilitation work, this architectural gem and layer of Ticonderoga's history could have been lost!

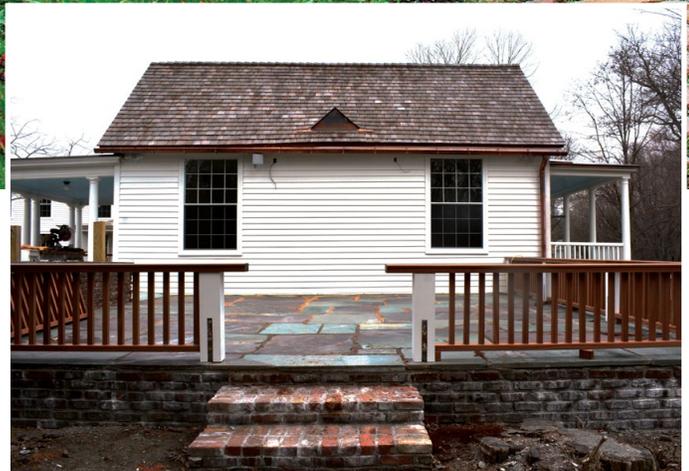
The restored Pavilion presents a wide array of opportunities for guests who might prefer to focus on non-military aspects of Fort Ticonderoga's experience, such as horticulture, agriculture, culinary, and decorative arts, not to mention the scenic beauty of the site. This will help broaden our visitor base and support our efforts to enhance the guest experience, extend length of stays, and help ensure our organizational sustainability.

## **Pavilion Highlights:**

- Dedicated exhibit space to tell the story of 200 years of Ticonderoga preservation and restoration efforts, and feature our rich decorative arts collection.
- Amenities including indoor and outdoor dining facilities and public restrooms will be available.
- New space for educational programs, special events, conferences and meetings, which will provide opportunities for rental and food and beverage revenue.
- A teaching kitchen and new culinary program will connect our garden produce with centuries of international history and help meet a growing demand for culinary experiences and training.
- Key administrative staff will be headquartered at the Pavilion to be central to operations and also allow increased collections and research space at the Thompson-Pell Research Center.



© Josh Ryan



## A “PROHIBITION” AFFAIR IN THE GARDEN

You simply  
must be there!

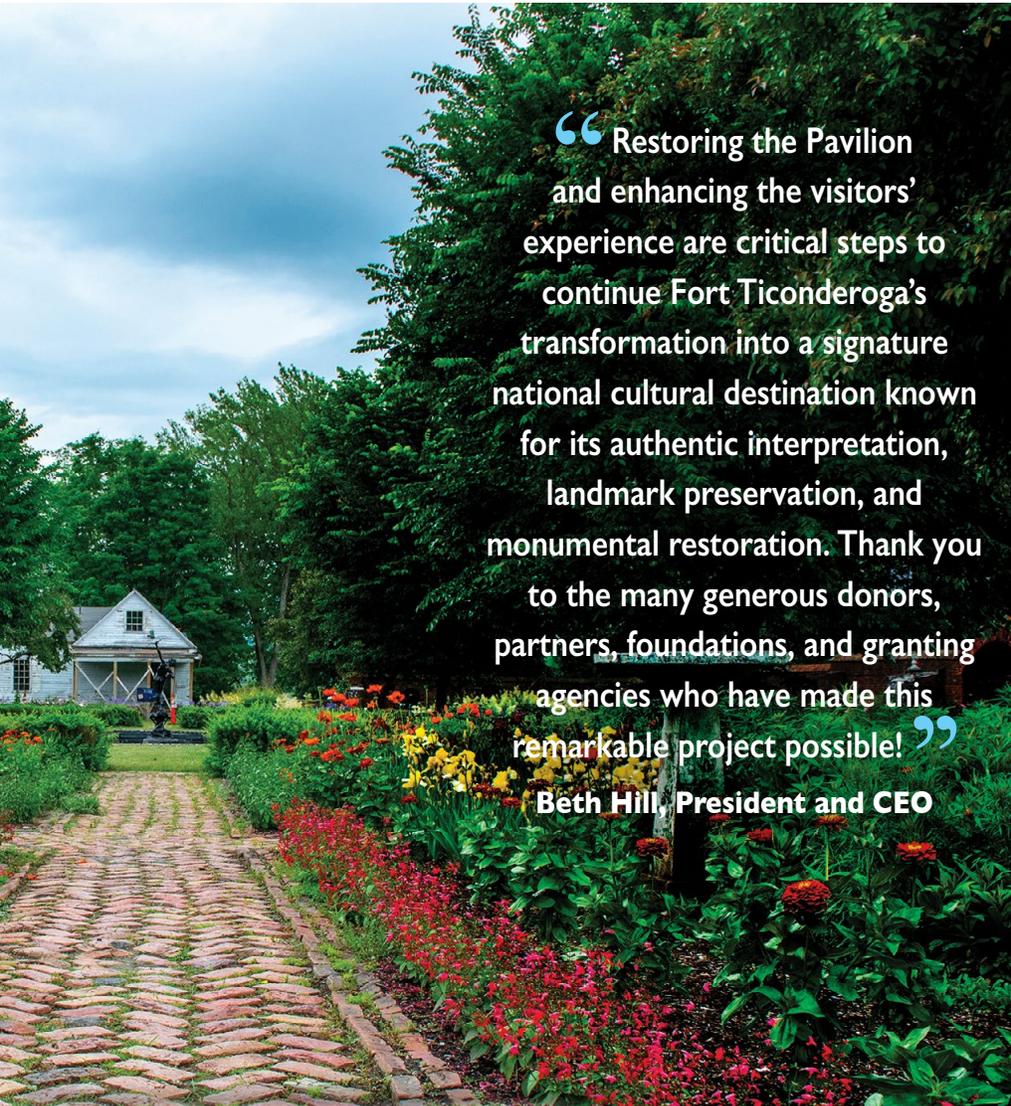


20<sup>th</sup> Annual Garden Party  
August 7

5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Join us for prohibition-inspired cocktails, music, and elegant fare! Tickets are limited, so reserve yours today! For more information, call 518-585-2821, or email [info@fort-ticonderoga.org](mailto:info@fort-ticonderoga.org). Interested in holding an event at the Pavilion?

Contact [info@fort-ticonderoga.org](mailto:info@fort-ticonderoga.org)



“Restoring the Pavilion and enhancing the visitors’ experience are critical steps to continue Fort Ticonderoga’s transformation into a signature national cultural destination known for its authentic interpretation, landmark preservation, and monumental restoration. Thank you to the many generous donors, partners, foundations, and granting agencies who have made this remarkable project possible!”

Beth Hill, President and CEO



Guests will enjoy relaxing on the Pavilion’s porches, and also be impressed at the Greek Revival interior details, seen in the image at far left, that have been painstakingly restored and preserved. Noted interior designer Sister Parish was brought to the Pavilion in the 1960s following her highly publicized work on the Kennedy White House. She combined antiques, new upholstery, and hanging textiles with the Pell family’s heirlooms to create a unique feel for their home. Decorative faux marbling in the central hall, left, is among her most lasting additions. It brought a sense of grandeur that remains a feature of the Pavilion to this day.

*Saving water, time, and trees*

## King’s Garden Updates

The refurbished Pavilion will be complimented by two incredible updates in the walled King’s Garden! Thanks to generous supporters, highly efficient drip irrigation will water the plants in the garden. The computerized system will save water and staff time, allowing more time to be devoted to keeping the garden resplendent each season.

Also, native American elm trees are coming back to the King’s Garden! When Marian Cruger Coffin planted the garden in the 1920s, she added elms to her design for their distinctive ‘martini glass’ shape that is pleasing to behold and also allows light to reach plants below. Restoring the trees will help bring visitors back to the early 20th century as they wander the brick paths of this soulful, peaceful Eden.



# A WELL REGULATED MILITIA

Citizen, Soldier, and State

*Based on new research and rare items from Ticonderoga's collections, a new 2021 exhibit will explore the American militia from its colonial formation through its decline in the early 19th century.*

**The militia was an important** American institution for centuries, but today is almost forgotten. Throughout the colonial and early national period, however, the militia formed the largest and often only means of defense. The first regular military units in the colonies were British Army troops who arrived during the French and Indian War. Even after the creation of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War, and then the

newly formed U.S. Army, militia forces greatly outnumbered regular units.

For much of American history, the militia was considered to be more virtuous than the regular army. Formed of ordinary citizens, the locally formed units represented a democratic impulse that underlay the creation of the American republic. Obligatory participation in the militia provided citizens not only with a means of defending themselves, but also vested them in the survival of the state. At its peak, as much as 10% of the U.S. population served in the militia, compared to well under 1% of the population that serves in the National Guard today, the modern descendant of the militia.

Despite being central to debates over the Constitution and American identity, the militia never, however, truly represented all of “the people” and had a mixed record in military campaigns. The new exhibit will explore the American militia beyond battles and campaigns, reflect on our national values, the obligations and benefits of citizenship, and who participates in American society.

Funding for this exhibit is made possible in part by the John Ben Snow Memorial Trust; International Paper Foundation; Society of Colonial Wars in the State of Massachusetts; and Society of Colonial Wars in the State of New York. Museum cataloging is made possible in part through the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

**AFTER THE WAR OF 1812**, the likelihood of the militia being called into actual service declined dramatically, especially in the East, and obligatory militia service was increasingly resented. Volunteer militia companies continued the tradition, often wearing elaborate and less practical attire and equipment. Accoutrements, like the knapsack at right and the canteen below, often expressed exuberance and stunning decorative combinations.



▲ On the pitcher above, a militia officer is encircled by the words “Success to America whose militia is better than standing armies.” That sentiment captures the feelings of many Americans, who felt the virtuous citizens in arms were a better defense than a federal military.

▼ Assistant Registrar Tabitha Hubbard and Museum Cataloger Tyler Ostrander photograph objects for the militia exhibit. More than 100 artifacts will be displayed, many for the first time.



◀ This Montgomery Guards uniform provides an excellent illustration of how immigrants asserted their patriotism and worth to American society through militia service. This is the only known example of the company's uniform. The unit survived less than a year, 1837, due to anti-Irish and Catholic sentiment in Boston.





A fifer, wearing the yellow, reverse-color musician's coat, and a grenadier of the 26th Regiment of Foot model their resplendent bearskin caps. The caps were recreated by skilled Ticonderoga craftsmen.

## Bearskin Caps and Booming Volleys

**THIS SUMMER, GUESTS WILL** enjoy and learn from our 1774 living history interpretation of British peacetime garrison life for soldiers of the 26th Regiment of Foot and their families. The grenadiers, drummers, and fifers of the regiment will wear stunning bearskin caps that give this impression an added dramatic flair. Soldier tailoring, shoemaking, and exciting weapons demonstrations will all be presented. You won't want to miss the Fifes and Drums of Fort Ticonderoga marching about the grounds this summer in their elaborate full-dress uniforms and bearskin caps.

“Beyond their period visual spectacle, the bearskin caps are an exceptional example of how we recreate history. Our Curator studied the original objects, and then that knowledge was used to create the exacting reproduction caps you'll see glinting in the sun during demonstrations and concerts.”

Stuart Lilie, VP of Public History



# A Mooving Milestone

*It's the Year of the Ox at Fort Ticonderoga!*



**JOIN US IN WISHING MICK and MACK**, our Red Devon oxen, a very happy fourth birthday! For working cattle, four is a milestone year when they officially become oxen. Serendipitously, 2021 is also the year of the ox in the Chinese calendar. Mick and Mack turn four in May, so make sure you wish them happy birthday—even belatedly—when you visit!

## STAFF SHOUTOUT

**CAMERON GREEN** worked at Ticonderoga as Assistant Director of Interpretation, and then left for other historical ventures. He has returned as our new Director of Interpretation!

### **What is the best part about being back?**

My colleagues. I am working with the best people in the field!

### **What is your favorite Ticonderoga tale?**

It's hard to pick one. We're constantly discovering new stories and even whole chapters of the fort's story. This place is amazing.

### **What are you most excited to bring to Fort Ticonderoga?**

I'm most excited to bring my experience with working livestock and period farming to our military story. Here, Mick and Mack aren't just novelties, I get to lead them as they perform needed work while providing guests with incredible visuals.

### **What are you most excited to learn about?**

Ticonderoga's naval story, both on the water and in maritime trades. It is a fascinating story, and it deserves more attention.



# Ticonderoga Travels Around The World

*Virtual Fort Ticonderoga programs reach a nationwide audience as well as international participants in Canada, Great Britain, and China!*

## • Fantastic Virtual Conference and Seminars

Our May 20 History Conference for Educators and the May 21-23 annual War College of the Seven Years' War will be virtual!

In September, the Seminar on the American Revolution and the October Historically Situated conferences will take place in person, but have online options available for those who can't travel to Ticonderoga!

*Registration for all these programs is open online.*

## • Virtual Author Series

You won't want to miss the fascinating discussions on recent scholarship presented in the Fort Ticonderoga Author Series. Donald F. Johnson, author of *Occupied America: British Military Rule and the Experience of Revolution*, and Lt. Col. Seanegan P. Sculley, who wrote *Contest for Liberty: Leadership in the Continental Army, 1775-1783*, are among the historians featured in upcoming programs.

**MEMBER PERK!** Fort Ticonderoga Members receive free admission!

*Pre-registration is required by visiting the website.*

## • Educator Resources Available Online

Thanks to the generous NEH CARES grant project, Fort Ticonderoga has taken a big step toward our goal of being the go-to resource for bringing Revolutionary War programming to the classroom. Our lesson plans use an interdisciplinary approach to teach critical thinking skills to young minds, combining math, science, civics, and Ticonderoga's epic story. These lesson plans have been thoughtfully redesigned, updated to current curriculum standards, and made easily accessible as part of the Center for Digital History.

## • Teacher webinars, grants, growth

Ticonderoga Tuesdays, our new webinar series for teachers, continues this summer and fall. Grant support from Humanities New York and the Lake Champlain Basin Program enable teachers from across the country to attend these webinars at no cost. Upcoming programs focus on the impact of Samuel de Champlain's arrival in the region in 1609, what archaeology can tell us about life at Fort Ticonderoga, and a conversation with British historian Stephen Brumwell.

*Additional details on our website!*

2021

# Event Schedule

*Want to learn more? Visit [fortticonderoga.org](http://fortticonderoga.org) for event details and to purchase tickets!*

## May 1: Fort Ticonderoga Campaign Season & Daily Visitation Begins! (Open Tuesday through Sunday until October 31)

Experience a blend of interpretive history, fascinating museum exhibits, and natural beauty like nowhere else! You'll marvel at the 2000 acres of America's most historic landscape located on the shores of Lake Champlain and nestled between New York's Adirondack and Vermont's Green Mountains.

## May 8-9: Two-day Living History Event: No Quarter

You'll be enthralled by this real-time reenactment of the legendary Green Mountain Boys capture of Fort Ticonderoga in 1775. Examine the real story behind America's first victory and offensive of the Revolutionary War. During a dramatic nighttime program, the Green Mountain Boys will appear out of the dark to storm the gates, stun the British garrison, and capture Ticonderoga.

## May 29-30: Memorial Day Commemoration

Visit on Memorial Day weekend to remember the service of the United States armed forces on the very ground where so many American soldiers fought and sacrificed. See all aspects of Continental Army life

recreated and demonstrated, from weapons to rations.

## June 12: Living History Event: Fête du Fort!

Bring the whole family to taste delicious French cuisine and learn about the culture of the Champlain Valley in this day-long celebration! Discover the French and Canadian cultures that took deep root along the shores of Lake Champlain, and learn about the influence of their military heritage.

## July 3-4: Independence Day Weekend 1776

Celebrate independence by exploring one of the greatest American triumphs of 1776! Meet soldiers of the Northern Continental Army fighting for liberty at Ticonderoga. Watch them work to prepare cannons, ammunition, and themselves to stop a British invasion on Lake Champlain.

## July 24-25: Battle Reenactment: Defiance & Independence

Witness the epic 1777 siege of American-held Ticonderoga. As British General John Burgoyne tightened his hold on Ticonderoga, see how American soldiers held the line in the name of Liberty. Hear muskets and cannons roar and watch the retreat that saved the remains of the American Army.

## SPECIAL BEHIND THE SCENES PROGRAMS AND TOURS



### Sunset Cruise on Lake Champlain aboard the *Carillon*

Enjoy a relaxing summer evening aboard the *Carillon* tour boat and revel in the region's scenic beauty. Toast to the King's health with a complimentary cocktail of rum punch as you discover Ticonderoga's rich maritime history. Let stories of armed schooners and Prohibition-era rum runners fire your imagination during your trip on Lake Champlain in this 1920s-style vessel. A selection of beer, wine, soft drinks, snacks, and signature cocktails featuring Stonecutters Spirits will be available for purchase!

**Availability:** July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; August 7, 14 at 6:30 p.m. (boarding 6 p.m.). | August 21, 28 at 6 p.m. (boarding 5:30 p.m.)

### Fort Ticonderoga Guns by Night

The flash of musketry and roar of cannon fire by night will captivate you in this unique tour and demonstration of 18th-century firepower. The program concludes with a dramatic firing of weapons at night that you will not see anywhere else!

**Availability:** July 8, 15, 22, 29; August 5, 12, 19, 26 | Gate opens at 7:30 p.m., tour begins at 8 p.m.

## BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

### Beneath Fortress Walls

**Curator Dr. Matthew Keagle** leads this amazing tour of the history of the building and rebuilding of Fort Ticonderoga. Explore around, on top, and inside of the fort to find out Ticonderoga's secrets, including areas off limits to the general public. This tour involves stairs and moderate walking.

**Availability:** July 7, 21, August 4 | Gate opens 6 p.m., tour begins at 6:30 p.m.

### The Gossip Tour of Fort Ticonderoga

Go beyond the battles to get the untold, adults-only, story of life at Ticonderoga. Between the battles, the men and women stationed at Ticonderoga from 1755 to 1781 endured scandals, hijinks, and above all... drama! This tour involves stairs and moderate walking, and is not for young audiences.

**Availability:** June 30; July 14, 28; August 11 | Gate opens at 6 p.m., tour begins at 6:30 p.m.



P.O. Box 390, Ticonderoga, NY 12883  
518-585-2821  
fortticonderoga.org

# Donate!

## YOUR GENEROUS DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Fort Ticonderoga is owned and operated by The Fort Ticonderoga Association, a 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization. Thanks to generous support from donors across the United States and beyond, Fort Ticonderoga is able to serve its mission to “preserve, educate and provoke an active discussion about the past and its importance to present and future generations.”

**Please consider a gift today!**

[fortticonderoga.org/join-and-support/donate](http://fortticonderoga.org/join-and-support/donate)

## JOIN OUR RANKS AND SUPPORT FORT TICONDEROGA!

**Members of Fort Ticonderoga** support our mission to preserve, educate, and provoke active discussion about the past and its importance to present and future generations. Now is the time to enlist or to re-enlist!

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

My check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ payable to Fort Ticonderoga is enclosed

Please charge by MasterCard / Visa / American Express

**Card Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Exp. Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Security Code** \_\_\_\_\_

**Sentinel** (\$25)

Free admission to Fort Ticonderoga for one named full-time student; 10% discount in the museum store; 10% discount on general admission for guests; Subscription to the *Haversack*; email updates

**Corporal** (\$60)

All of the above benefits for one named adult individual

**Sergeant** (\$85)

All of the above benefits for two adults in the same household

**Ensign** (\$125)

All of the above benefits for two adults in the same household and their children or grandchildren under the age of 18

**Lieutenant** (\$175)

All of the above benefits plus two guest passes

**Captain** (\$250)

All of the above benefits plus two additional guest passes (4 total)

**Major** (\$500)

All of the above benefits plus two additional guest passes (6 total)

**Colonel** (\$1,000)

All of the benefits listed above plus a private tour with a curator for up to four people

Please mail application and payment to: Fort Ticonderoga, P.O. Box 390, Ticonderoga, NY 12883 or fax to 518-585-2210. Join online at [fortticonderoga.org/join-and-support/become-a-member](http://fortticonderoga.org/join-and-support/become-a-member)

KEEP THE  
CONNECTION!

