

The Haversack

THE NEWSLETTER OF FORT TICONDEROGA



THE BIG PICTURE

Power of Place

Each summer, thousands of visitors from across the globe immerse themselves in Ticonderoga's majestic, storied 2000-acre historic site, and experience the awe that can only come from walking in the very footsteps of history.

"Power of Place" is a key theme Fort Ticonderoga will interpret during the upcoming 250th commemoration of the American Revolution. The struggle had a lasting effect on individuals and nations, and that impact can still

be traced on our landscape.



Planning is underway for a major 250th Commemorative exhibition, made possible through a prestigious and highly competitive grant in the amount of \$237,630 from the Institute of Museum and Library Studies (IMLS). Read more about the plans

and how Fort Ticonderoga is activating its singular museum collection, including the Nittolo Collection, to inform our understanding of the Revolutionary era.

"Uncovering Liberty Hill" is a much-anticipated next step for our battlefield research. Funded through a major grant from the American Battlefield Preservation Program (ABPP) through the Department of Interior, a comprehensive study of the American encampment on Liberty Hill will begin this fall, ushering in a deeper understanding of the site's history.

The power of place is front and center for our upcoming Winter Quarters programs beginning in November with a NEW living history event featuring the story of British prisoners of war at Ticonderoga in 1775.

Increased investment in our digital platforms, permits virtual visitors, including teachers and students, to have more on-demand content available, transporting the power of place into classrooms across America and beyond.

We constantly build upon our success. It is a joy to see the power of your support in action. Although we have accomplished a great deal, there is much work ahead. Your contributions, large or small, help 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 and ever onward!

Beth L. Hill. President and CEO



Contributions

Support Fort Ticonderoga's education and preservation programs with a tax-deductible contribution in the form of cash, stocks, mutual fund shares, or donor-advised funds. Donate online with a credit card at fortticonderoga.org/join-support/fort-ticonderoga-fund.

Robert C. Nittolo, Champion of History Carrying Forward the Legacy of our Past



Fort Ticonderoga recently lost a dear friend, historian, collector, and champion of history, Robert "Bob" Nittolo (July 29, 1941-August 23, 2023). Inspired by a boyhood visit to Fort Ticonderoga, Bob dedicated his life to acquiring one of the most important private collections of 18th-century militaria. In his last years, Bob and his family ensured that his singular collection of more than 3,000

objects return to the hallowed ground that inspired his lifelong passion. For Fort Ticonderoga this acquisition is perhaps the most significant endeavor undertaken in the last 100+ years. Thanks to the support of many very generous donors, the addition of the Robert Nittolo Collection is transforming Fort Ticonderoga's holdings from world-class to world's best and positions Fort Ticonderoga as the leading center of study for Colonial and Revolutionary War history. This remarkable collection is now passed on to our museum, with the promise that it will remain for posterity.

To learn how you can support the Nittolo acquisition, contact President and CEO Beth L. Hill at bhill@fort-ticonderoga.org or call 518-585-2821.

SAVE THE DATE TO CELEBRATE!



THE 30TH ANNUAL TICONDEROGA BALL WILL RETURN TO THE ELEGANT UNION LEAGUE CLUB IN NEW YORK CITY ON FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2024



Dinner • Live Auction • Dancing with The Lester Lanin Orchestra

Exciting New Exclusive Experiences Auction Items Online!

A stunning black tie affair to support Fort Ticonderoga's mission to preserve, educate, and provoke an active discussion about the past and its importance to present and future generations.

Visit fortticonderoga.org or call 518-585-2821 for more information.

Uncovering Liberty Hill

The 250th anniversary of the American Revolution is fast approaching, and Fort Ticonderoga is embarking on an exciting new project to survey the Continental Army encampment on Liberty Hill! As American forces retreated from their disastrous invasion of Canada and arrived at Ticonderoga in July 1776, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York troops took up residence to the east of the old French Lines, where they began to rebuild the crumbling earthworks.

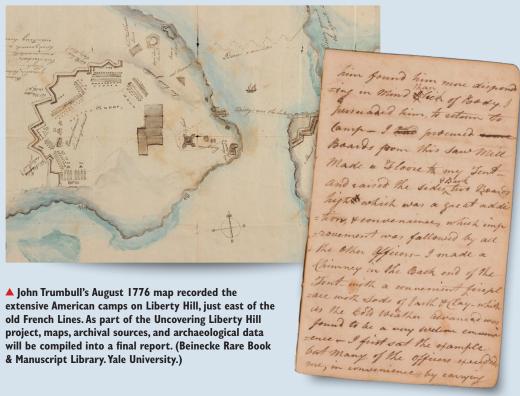
The massive camp included semipermanent huts of board, log, and sod that housed thousands of soldiers as well as many women and children. It was in this spot that General Arthur St. Clair first read the Declaration of Independence to the Continental Army on July 28, 1776. In honor of that, the soldiers named the position Liberty Hill.

Funding from a Preservation
Planning Grant from the National
Park Service's American Battlefield
Protection Program will allow a
comprehensive study of the Liberty
Hill encampment to begin this fall,
ushering in a new chapter for our
growing archaeology program.
The project will be a crucial step in
enhancing our understanding of daily
life for soldiers' and their families
and creating responsible accessibility
to this important site of American
Independence.

Project activities include identifying historical accounts and maps, sub-surface testing along a proposed trail route to bring access to Liberty Hill, and a survey training opportunity with Advanced Metal Detecting for the Archaeologist (AMDA). We look forward to sharing updates as this project continues through 2024 and 2025!



▲ Visitors following the Carillon Battlefield Hiking Trail can now get glimpse of recreated soldiers' huts that Pennsylvania troops originally built on these historic heights! Visitors of all ages have been able to experience raising the frames of these simple wooden houses.



▶ Captain John Lacey of Anthony Wayne's 4th Pennsylvania Battalion described building his hut in his journal: "I procured Boards from this Saw Mill Made a Floor to my Tent and raised the sides & Back two Boards high which was a great addition & convenience, which improvement was followed by all the other Officers − I made a Chimney in the Back end of the Tent with a convenient fireplace with Sods of Earth & Clay." (Fort Ticonderoga Museum purchase 2016, generously supported by Thomas B. Hagen).

Interpreting Forgotten Stories

New research continually informs our programs, which connect the events that unfolded at Ticonderoga to the broader context of the Revolutionary War and its legacy. The first *Winter Quarters* event will take place on November 11, with our 1775 British prisoners of war living history. This NEW living history event will recreate the passage of British soldiers and their families who were captured by the Continental Army after sieges of Chambly and St. Jean in fall 1775.

The experience of these soldiers, their wives, and children has often ended up on the margins of popular history. But a recent book by Fort Ticonderoga War Council member Dr. T. Cole Jones, Captives of Liberty: Prisoners of War and the Politics of Vengeance in the American Revolution, examines the military and cultural dilemmas the American's faced by the large capture of British prisoners of war in 1775.

This innovative living history event will explore the material world and life experience of these prisoners of war and make use of a wealth of correspondence about the captured men, women, and children who came to American-held Fort Ticonderoga and then marched south into uncertainty. During this event, there will be readings of the actual orders issued by American General Philip Schuyler and the hectic arrival of boats, wagons, weapons, and baggage will set the scene for this often-forgotten historical episode.



- ▲ Women and children were captured with British soldiers in 1775, and underwent the same harrowing journey. This November, Fort Ticonderoga will use documents to bring to life their gripping story.
- A Ticonderoga interpreter reads orders to his men, recreating the way soldiers and civilians experienced the words found on manuscripts in our museum collection.



The British soldiers, sailors, and camp followers who fell into Patriot hands after the capture of the posts of Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Chambly, and St. Jean during the campaign of 1775 became the first sizable contingent of prisoners in a conflict that was not yet a war much less a revolution. Yet the problems they posed their American captors—how would they be treated, where would they be held, who would pay for their upkeep, etc.—forced American revolutionaries to develop a system of prisoner management that would endure for the remainder of the eight-year struggle for independence. They would become a test case in America's ongoing struggle to reconcile liberty with power, justice with safety, and humanity with vengeance.

—Dr.T. Cole Jones, Associate Professor of History, Purdue University

COLLECTIONS CALL OUT

This return (2003.0074.007) details the prisoners, provisions, weapons, and equipment captured at the fall of Chambly on October 18, 1775. Notice that there were even more women and children than soldiers among the prisoners. The captives spent the night at Ticonderoga on their way south, and many more prisoners streamed southward through Ticonderoga as St. Jean and Montreal capitulated to American forces.

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The capture of three successive British forces over October and November of 1775, beginning with Chambly, ultimately netted over 800 British captives and nearly 300 women and children. While these captives presented a burden for the young Continental Army, the stores captured with them were a lifeline for the Americans. Some of the cannon, like the mortars described here, would even find their way with Knox to the siege lines outside Boston.

Plan Ahead for Upcoming Events!

More information can be found at fortticonderoga.org.



1776 Winter at Ticonderoga February 17, 2024

In February 1776, the guard at Fort Ticonderoga dwindled to dozens as New York soldiers from 1775 debated reenlisting. Thanks to the research of 2021 Edward W. Pell Graduate Fellow Brian Gehring, this dark hour in our story will come to life in in this unique living history event.



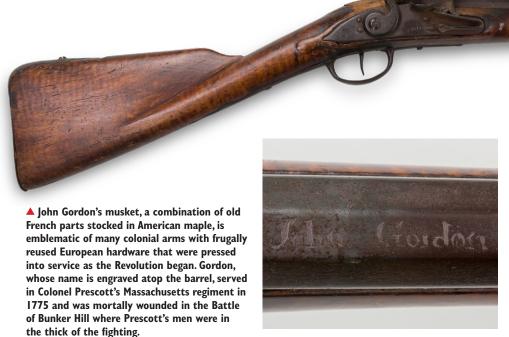
1759 Battle on Snowshoes March 9, 2024

This living history event turns the traditional narrative of the French and Indian War on its head as British soldiers and rangers worked closely with Mohawk warriors in their grand scout of French Fort Carillon. Don't miss this lively reenactment that highlights surprising alliances and incredible events described in the journals and letters of the officers and soldiers who fought on the ice and snow below Fort Carillon in 1759.

Taking Stock of a Legacy

The Robert Nittolo Collection is a lasting legacy of a lifetime of collecting. As the nation nears its 250th anniversary, the late Nittolo's unrivaled collection provides a vital window into the Revolutionary era. Fort Ticonderoga is working hard to further Nittolo's passionate pursuit of history and make his collection available for generations to come.

This summer, the museum's Edward W. Pell Graduate Fellowship provided two of our four Fellows a direct and meaningful engagement with the collection to continue Nittolo's legacy. Brendan Quinn (University of Toledo) and Mary Schrader (North Carolina State University) cataloged, researched, and photographed more than 200 rare examples of firearms in the Nittolo Collection. Their work will make these artifacts accessible for students, scholars, and the public for the first time.





▲ This pistol, newly cataloged and photographed this summer by our Collections Fellow Mary Schrader, was owned by Lieutenant William Digby Lawler who served in John Graves Simcoe's famous Queen's Rangers, perhaps most effective of the loyal American units that fought with the British. Lawler's name appears on a 1782 roster of loyalist officers in Fort Ticonderoga's Philip Skene collection. The pistol is just one of the firearms in the Nittolo Collection that represent the service of thousands of Americans who fought against the Revolution, reminding us of the complex reality of the War for Independence.

MAJOR NEW GRANT FOR TICONDEROGA

Our Fellows' work also fuels our exhibition program, which itself was recently awarded a major Federal grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services in the amount of \$237,630.00. This grant provides more than two years of funding to design and install the first wave of our 250th Anniversary exhibitions. Fort Ticonderoga is humbled to have been selected for this prestigious and competitive grant. Leaning heavily on the newly acquired material from the Robert Nittolo Collection, this award acknowledges the national value of the collection and making it accessible to the public at this time of national remembrance.





▲ Curatorial Fellow Brendan Quinn examines a rare Ferguson breechloading rifle in the Nittolo Collection that was made for a British officer. Physical examination is an important part of generating robust catalog entries, recording minute details such as length and caliber, in addition to documenting material characteristics.



▲ Collections Fellow Mary Schrader measures and prepares a pistol from the Robert Nittolo Collection for cataloging and record photography. Photos generated during this project will allow researchers from across the world to explore the Nittolo Collection online.

Arms Symposium

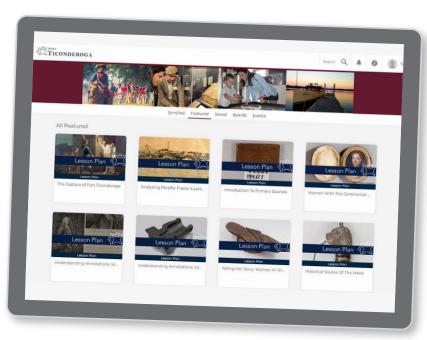
In late August our Curator, Dr. Matthew Keagle, joined colleagues from across the U.S., the U.K., Canada, Ukraine, and the Netherlands at the 2023 Kurt Swanson Bucholz Arsenals of History Symposium, held at Springfield Armory National Historic Site. Dr. Keagle shared Fort Ticonderoga's experiences interpreting historic firearms, including those from the Robert Nittolo Collection, with a wide range of audiences. Programs like Arming the Redcoats provide guests not only with greater access to our collection, but new and deeper perspectives on 18th-century arms that fulfill the museum's mission to "provoke an active discussion about the past and its importance to the present and future generations" through the material world of 18th-century warfare.



Expanding capacity to reach educators and students across America!

Fort Ticonderoga is reaching more students and teachers than ever before with new programs and classroom resources. Working with educators, we are refining our content to meet students' needs, leveraging our one-of-a-kind museum collections to be THE go-to resource for teaching about the Revolutionary War. A new interactive online platform to be unveiled later this fall will exponentially amplify our growing impact with students, both on site with field trips and overnights and through outreach coast to coast.

After every outreach program and every field trip, we ask educators to tell us how better to serve them. Their wish is on-demand, as we make lesson plans, videos, worksheets, and more available whenever teachers need them! Our **NEW** *Grab-and-Go* options allow educators to customize and track a menu of resources for teaching about the Revolutionary War and the military systems and material that preceded it. This new on-demand content puts the documents, objects, and personal stories from Fort Ticonderoga's museum collections in the palm of teachers' hands!



▲ Teachers can browse our menu of lesson plans to find what they need to teach students about the Revolutionary War. Videos and classroom activities use Fort Ticonderoga's museum collections to expand the lesson plan experience.



ARTILLERY ACADEMY

High school students can now apply math, chemistry, and physics, using the 18th-century science of gunnery in the newly established *Artillery Academy* program. This program brings to life artillery treatises in our manuscript collections, allowing students to hoist a cannon using artillery engines or hold portfire made from Henry Knox's recipe. After an auspicious trial program this spring, the *Artillery Academy* will be available for field trips this fall!

Want Fort Ticonderoga to come to students in your community? Though our in-person and virtual outreach programs we can! For more information and to book a program, visit https://www.fortticonderoga.org/learn-and-explore/educators/outreach

◆ How much will it lift? Students learn the mechanics and physics that enable an 18th-century artillery engine to hoist massive cannon barrels and carriages.

Teachers Will Teach Us!

Fort Ticonderoga has created a new teacher advisory group to provide feedback from teachers in the field of education for both current programming and new initiatives for educators and their students. These elementary, middle, and high school teachers representing classrooms across America will help shape new programs and projects, contributing their real-world experience to help create the best, pertinent educational materials and programs.

FORT TICONDEROGA TEACHER INSTITUTE

Since 2013, the Fort Ticonderoga Teacher Institute has brought K-12 teachers from 47 states to Fort Ticonderoga to spend a week exploring the critical role Ticonderoga played in the contest for empire and the creation of a new nation through the War for Independence. Educators engage with the historic landscape, learn from experts on the global importance of 18th-century history of the region, analyze manuscripts and artifacts related to the American Revolution, and participate in experiential learning activities with public history staff, and share ideas and concepts for translating their newly-acquired knowledge for students in their classrooms.



▲ July's Teacher Institute
participants. Front row: Guest
Instructor Dr. Kristi Fragnoli, Cindy
Karkatselos-Casiano (N.Y.), Corrine
Jones (Calif.), Teacher Facilitator Tim
Potts. Second row: Alan Birkemeier
(Ind.), Courtney Williamson (Texas),
Ashley Daeshlein (Mich.), Sarah
Malerich (Colo.). Back row: Quanta
Wyatt (Ark.), Diana Sandridge
(Calif.), Melanie Stuthard (Ohio),
Melissa Schuster (Neb.), Chad
Otdoerfer (Iowa), and Brittany
Knauer (Texas).

► Teachers interacted with our oxen and numerous tradespeople.



"It was truly a privilege to attend the Fort Ticonderoga Teacher Institute. It has already enriched my teaching....As I look ahead to the upcoming school year, I am excited to integrate the insights I gained into my teaching. This experience will help empower my students to develop source analysis and critical thinking skills, enabling them to analyze and interpret historical events with a deeper context." —Sarah Malerich, Kiowa High School, Kiowa, Colo.



Ticonderoga Tuesdays Teacher
Webinars are free for educators
and pre-service teachers. Topics
for the fall of 2023 include "Ethan
Allen and the 250th Anniversary of
the American Revolution," "Using
Historic Documents with Students,"
and "Using Historic Objects with
Students." Additional information
and a link for registration can be
found at https://www.fortticonderoga.org/learn-and-explore/educators/
professional-development/.

On the Road

Rich Strum, Fort Ticonderoga
Director of Academic programs, will
present "Organic Primary Source
Lesson Design: Research, Formation,
and Implementation" at the National
Council for the Social Studies annual
conference in Nashville, Tenn., in
December. Fort Ticonderoga staff
will present at the Central New
York Council for the Social Studies
conference in Syracuse in October
and at the Vermont Alliance for
the Social Studies conference in
Burlington in December.

TEACHER TESTIMONIAL

"The virtual program, A Soldier's Life, was engaging, informative, and interesting for my 5th grade class. It was the perfect addition to our American Revolution curriculum and helped my students expand their knowledge with primary sources!"

—Melissa Dowches, Spring Garden Elementary School, Bethlehem, Pa.



Twelfth Annual Garden & Landscape Symposium

Noted garden expert and author Charlie Nardozzi is the keynote speaker for Fort Ticonderoga's Annual Garden & Landscape Symposium on Saturday, April 6, 2024. Nardozzi will speak on "No-Dig Gardening Makes Gardening Easier and More Environmentally Friendly" to kick off the day and after lunch will also highlight "Unique Gardens of Europe." Other sessions include a history of the Lenox Horticultural Society, reimagining forests, and little-known perennials. Fort Ticonderoga's Horticulturist-in-Residence Ann Hazelrigg will also share what to expect for the 2024 season. Registration is now open at fortticonderoga.org.

Virtual Material Matters Conference

The 13th Annual "Material Matters: It's in the Details" conference takes place online on Saturday, January 20, 2024. Offered through Fort Ticonderoga's Center for Digital History, this conference features seven material culture presentations including "Instrumental Impedimenta: The Material Culture of British Military Music during and after the Napoleonic War," and "La Corne à Poudre: Powder Horns in French Colonial North America." Registration is now open at fortticonderoga.org.

Author Series & Fort Fever Series

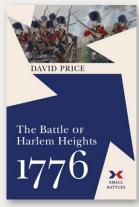
These programs are offered virtually and are FREE for members. For details and to register for programs, visit <u>fortticonderoga.org</u>.

FORT TICONDEROGA AUTHOR SERIES

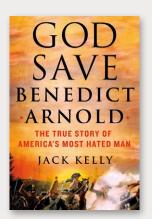
Sundays at 2 p.m., Eastern Time

The Author Series features presentations by authors of books related to Fort Ticonderoga's history.

- October 22 | Brady J. Crytzer, The Whiskey Rebellion: A Distilled History of an American Crisis
- November 5 | Eugene Procknow, William Hunter, Finding Free Speech: A British Soldier's Son Who Became an Early American
- January 14 | David Price, The Battle of Harlem Heights, 1776
- February II | Andrew Wehrman, The Contagion of Liberty: The Politics of Smallpox in the American Revolution
- March 10 | Jack Kelly, God Save Benedict Arnold: The True Story of America's Most Hated Man
- April 14 | Jim Piecuch, South Carolina Provincials: Loyalists in British Service during the American Revolution
- June 9 | Theodore Corbett, The Promise of Freedom for Slaves Escaping in British Ships: The Emancipation Revolution, 1740-1807
- July 28 | Steven Park, The Burning of His Majesty's Schooner Gaspee: An Attack on Crown Rule Before the American Revolution



January 14



March 10

FORT TICONDEROGA FORT FEVER SERIES

Wednesdays at 7 p.m., Eastern Time

The Fort Ticonderoga Fort Fever Series features presentations by Fort Ticonderoga staff sharing recent research and projects.

- January 24 | Stuart Lilie, Vice President of Public History, "...modern Dragoons are become better Horse"
- February 28 | Dr. Matthew Keagle, Curator, "A Revolutionary Anthology: Power of Place and the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution"
- March 27 | Tabitha Hubbard, Collections Manager, "Cataloguing, Documenting, Sharing: A Collections Update"
- April 24 | Cameron Green, Director of Interpretation, "Ticonderoga's Neighborhood in 1774"

Event Schedule

November 11, 2023

Living History Event: 1775 British Prisoners of War

In this one-day living history event, discover the stories of captured British soldiers and their families. Following American victories at forts along the Richelieu River in the fall of 1775, captured British soldiers and their families faced an uncertain future as they were marched south. Explore their perspective through the sights and sounds of the tenuous lives of prisoners of war in the early days of the Revolution.

November 18 & 19Winter Workshop Series: Regimental Coats

Learn the latest research on Revolutionary War enlisted regimental coats as you build your own. Discover original construction details and efficiencies to sew these mass produced garments. Pre-registration required.

December 2

Winter Workshop Series: Men's & Women's Cloaks

Build one of your choice of outwear; women's cloak, sentry's cloak, or horseman's cloak. Pre-registration required.

December 16

Living History Event: Noble Train of Artillery

Relive Henry Knox's epic feat as he prepared to move massive cannon from Ticonderoga to Boston to force the British evacuation in 1776.

January 13, 2024

Living History Event: 1774 His Majesty's Garrison of Ticonderoga

See Fort Ticonderoga on the eve of the American Revolution as British soldiers and their families live in this peacetime fort on the frontier.

January 27 & 28

Winter Workshop Series: British Trousers & American Overalls

Build a pair of fitted linen trousers used from 1777 onward. Stout linen sheeting, sheeting, and tent linen are available for various British Army portrayals. Striped linen ticking is available for Brunswick soldiers serving in 1777. Preregistration required.

February 10 & 11

Winter Workshop Series: 1770s Straight-bodied Coats

Examine details from surviving 1770s civilian coats, Then cut and begin assembly of your own. Pre-registration required.

February 17

Living History Event: 1776 Winter at Ticonderoga

See how soldiers and teamsters kept sleds running over the ice of Lake Champlain to feed and clothe the Continental Army soldiers.

March 9

Battle Reenactment: 1759 Battle on Snowshoes

Experience the third Battle on Snowshoes as Major Robert Roger's and his rangers go on "A Grand Scout" before the 1759 campaign season!

March 16 & 17

Winter Workshop Series: Brunswick & Hessian Regimental Coats

Learn the latest research on Brunswick & Hessian enlisted regimental coats as you begin to build your own.

For more information on our Winter Quarters programs and events, visit <u>fortticonderoga.org</u>.

NEW IN THE MUSEUM STORE

Another great *Bulletin* is hot off the press! Read new research on gift giving and the alliance between the French and natives, explore the origin of one of Ticonderoga's ghost stories, and read absorbing details in a 1777 American orderly book. To purchase a copy online, visit https://shop.fortticonderoga.org/collections/ticonderoga-press



GIVE THE GIFT OF HISTORY

Whether your friends and family live near or far, 365 days of adventure awaits with a **Fort Ticonderoga Gift Membership!** FREE Virtual Author & Fort Fever Series, Seminar & Shopping Discounts, our 2023 Season of Admission & Living History Events, and their very own Haversack subscription.



Call or purchase online NOW to catch every moment!



102 Fort Ti Road, Ticonderoga, NY 12883 518-585-2821 fortticonderoga.org

Donate!

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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

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			



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to sign up online!

☐ 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** (\$70)

All of the above benefits for one named adult individual

☐ Sergeant (\$90)

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

☐ **Ensign** (\$135)

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

☐ Lieutenant (\$180)

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. Join online at fortticonderoga.org/join-and-support/become-a-member

KEEP THE CONNECTION!







