

**Washington's Headquarters
State Historic Site**

Presents:



2021 MARTHA WASHINGTON WOMAN OF HISTORY AWARD

Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site opened in 1850, making it the first publicly owned historic site in the nation. The Commander-in-Chief, General George Washington, established Headquarters at Jonathan and Tryntje Hasbrouck's fieldstone farmhouse from April 1, 1782 until August 19, 1783. This became the longest of his stays at any one of his over 165 headquarters during the 8½ years of the Revolution.

While here, the General, his wife, officers, and free and enslaved servants lived and worked in close quarters as a steady stream of guests came to meet with the Washingtons. During the critical months spent in Newburgh, Washington maintained a strong Army with eventual plans to disband it. He negotiated a contentious Congress, while dealing with problems of supply, training, pay, morale and all other things that affected his troops. It was here that he rejected a suggestion of an American monarchy, defused a potential mutiny among the army, and offered advice on the future of the new republic considered to be the cornerstone of the US Constitution. While at Newburgh, in order to recognize the heroism of enlisted men, the Commander-in-Chief created the Badge of Military Merit, the forerunner of the Purple Heart medal. On April 19, 1783, General Washington's order for a "cessation of hostilities" was announced and he then dealt with concerns attendant to disbandment of the Army.

An essential part of this equation was the presence of Martha Washington. Each winter during the War, Martha would travel to headquarters to be with her husband. She utilized her vast life experiences to assist in the war effort. In Newburgh, Martha Washington relieved several responsibilities from the shoulders of her husband. She helped the aides-de-camp to copy letters and orders; became the Headquarters hostess to the many dignitaries and individuals looking to meet the General; embroidered her dining room chair covers for Mount Vernon; and maintained a garden.

Each year, in honor of Martha Washington herself, Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site presents the "Martha Washington Woman of History Award." The recipient of the award must be a woman who has demonstrated a contribution towards the education and preservation of history in the Hudson Valley. The recipient will receive a place of honor on the plaque showing past recipients of this award and an invitation to be part of the Selection Committee for future awardees. Along with this, she will be expected to attend "The General's Lady," a Women's History Month program, held each year in March, during which she will be acknowledged.

ELIGIBILITY and CRITERIA

Any woman who has made a significant contribution to the field of Hudson Valley history through education, promotion, or preservation is eligible to be nominated for this award.

The nominee's service to the historic community shall be taken into consideration. She can be someone who was involved in a project dealing with history and/or historic preservation. This individual must have been, in some way, influential in promoting the study of history, and thereby, encouraging further study and promotion of Hudson River Valley history even at its most basic or grassroots level.

All of this should be elaborated upon by way of example in the nomination form. Additional supportive material is encouraged. Linked webpages will not be accessible to the Selection Committee. Completed forms will be reviewed by the Selection Committee including Washington's Headquarters staff, volunteers, and previous Woman of History Award recipients. Nominators will be notified within one month after the submission deadline.

The 2021 award will be presented at **"The General's Lady" on Sunday, March 21, 2021 during Women's History Month**. Deadline for receipt of applications is **January 15, 2021**. For more information please call 845-562-1195.



Washington's Headquarters State Historic Site is a registered National Historic Landmark located at the corner of Liberty and Washington Streets within the city of Newburgh's East End Historic District. It is one of 35 historic sites within the New York

State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and one of 40 facilities administered by the Palisades Interstate Park Commission in New York and New Jersey. For further information please call (845) 562-1195, visit the New York State Parks website at:

<https://parks.ny.gov> or find us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/washingtonshheadquarters.



The Palisades Parks Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that supports the Palisades Interstate Parks and Historic Sites by raising funds, increasing public awareness and supporting visitor education. Find us at: <https://www.palisadeparks.org>, or call us 1-845-630-8174. Palisades Parks Conservancy, P.O. Box 513, New York, NY 10018



**Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation**

**Washington's Headquarters
State Historic Site**

Presents:



2021 MARTHA WASHINGTON WOMAN OF HISTORY AWARD NOMINATION FORM

*Please answer all questions below. Please attach any additional pages and supporting materials as necessary. (Linked webpages will **not** be accessible to the Selection Committee.) Application and materials will **not** be returned. Mail completed application and materials to:*

**Martha Washington Woman of History Award
c/o Washington's Headquarters SHS
PO Box 1783
Newburgh, NY 12551**

*Deadline for **receipt** of applications is **January 15, 2021.***

Name of Nominee _____

Organization, if applicable _____

Address _____

Telephone/Cell phone _____

Email _____

Name of Nominator _____

Organization, if applicable _____

Address _____

Telephone/Cell phone _____

Email _____

How does the nominee demonstrate the characteristics of Martha Washington acknowledged by this award?

What organizations or activities, if any, has the nominee been involved in that have been or may be relevant to this award? How has the nominee contributed to these programs? Please list volunteer and paid positions separately.

How has this person, through action or example, influenced others to participate in or pursue the study of history?

How has this person impressed you? What motivated you to nominate her?

Please use as many additional pages as necessary for thoughts, comments, and supplemental material.

Thank you.