

## Virginia Commission on the Bicentennial of the American War of 1812



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**For Immediate Release**

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### **2014 Signature Event: Legacy Symposium**

Richmond--The Virginia Bicentennial of the American War of 1812 Commission, chaired by Delegate M. Kirkland Cox, announced today that the commission will commemorate the bicentennial of the *Forgotten War: America's Second War of Independence* with a Legacy Symposium on June 19 - 21, 2014 in Hampton, Virginia. The purpose of the Symposium is to encourage research concerning the war, promote historical literacy about the war and understanding of the war's legacy, collaborate with other states commemorating the bicentennial of the war, and engage and support historical and heritage organizations throughout the state with remembrance programs.

A musical introduction to the Symposium, "Music by the Bay," will be hosted by the Fort Monroe Authority on Thursday, June 19, 2014, at 6:45 p.m. at Continental Park at Fort Monroe. On Friday, June 20, 2014, the Educators Institute and Tours will be held from 8:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Fort Monroe Theatre, 41 Tidball Road, Fort Monroe. Teachers and museum educators are eligible to receive a \$50 travel stipend and teachers who attend Friday's session will receive a recertification certificate. The "Historians and Scholars Session," the concluding event, will be held at Hampton University on Saturday, June 21, 2014, from 8:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Persons desiring to attend the Symposium may register online at <http://museum.hamptonu.edu/1812> or by contacting Patrice Piggott at (757) 728-6025. There is no cost to registered teachers and museum educators to attend the Friday and Saturday sessions. Saturday's session is open to the public for an admission fee of \$40.00, which includes lunch. The admission fee must be paid no later than June 14, 2014 by credit card at <http://museum.hamptonu.edu/1812> or by check payable to Treasurer of Virginia (include "War of 1812 Commission" on check memo line). Please remit check to: Hampton University, ATTN: Treasurer's Office, 100 E. Queen Street, Hampton, VA 23668. Housing is available at Hampton University, \$40.00 double occupancy (twin beds); \$75.00 single occupancy. Area hotel accommodations are also available.

The War of 1812 marked the first invasion of the United States by a foreign power, tested the resolve of the nation, established the United States as an international power, and helped a collection of states to identify as a nation. The War of 1812 also represents the birth of the nation's Navy, Coast Guard, and national anthem, the "Star Spangled Banner." Homeland security, as it is currently known, and the art of diplomacy were first introduced in the War of 1812. The Symposium will feature several renown historians and scholars who will address the historical, social, military, economic, and legacy aspects of the war.

Other members of the Commission are Senators Stephen H. Martin, Vice Chairman, of Chesterfield; George L. Barker of Alexandria; John C. Miller of Newport News; and Delegates Rosalyn R. Dance of Petersburg; Christopher K. Peace of Mechanicsville; Kenneth R. Plum of Reston; and R. Lee Ware, Jr. of Powhatan; and nonlegislative citizen members Peter E. Broadbent, Jr., Esquire of Richmond; Nancy G. Heuser of Richmond; Betsy S. Barton, designee for Dr. Patricia I. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction, of Richmond; and Dr. Sandra G. Treadway, Librarian of Virginia, of Richmond.

For further information concerning Virginia's commemoration of the Bicentennial of the War of 1812, please contact Mrs. Brenda H. Edwards, Division of Legislative Services, at (804) 786-3591 or by email at [bedwards@dls.virginia.gov](mailto:bedwards@dls.virginia.gov). Commission's website: <http://va1812bicentennial.dls.virginia.gov>.