# THE GILDER LEHRMAN INSTITUTE of AMERICAN HISTORY

Inside the Vault: Highlights from the Gilder Lehrman Collection

July 1, 2021

#### The session will start shortly. Please note:

- Your video and audio will automatically turn off.
- You can participate through the Q&A function.
- If you have technical difficulties, please email <u>collectionprograms@gilderlehrman.org</u> so we can assist you.

#### Our Team

- Allison Kraft Assistant Curator
- Stacie Christensen Educator at Horizon Elementary School and 2020 Idaho History Teacher of the Year
- Simon Longnight Lafayette/Jefferson in the LA Company of Hamilton
- Junious Whitaker IV Collection Management Intern
- Zoya Siddiqui Curatorial Intern

# During the Session



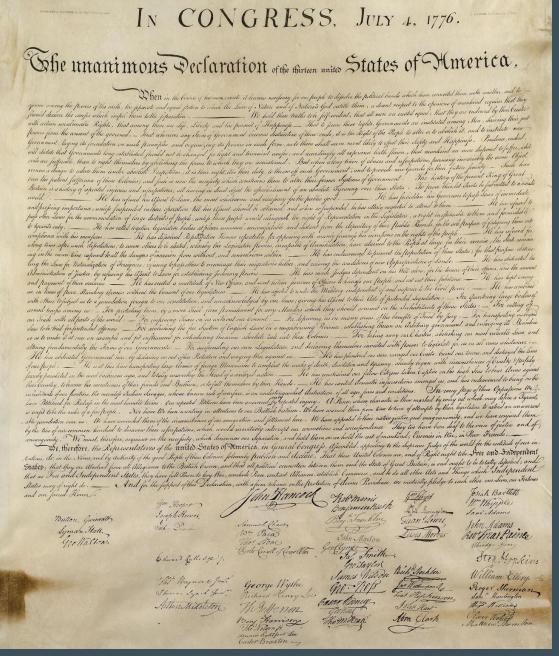
- If you would like to ask a question, you can use the Q&A feature.
- We will be answering audience questions throughout the session.

#### **For Security and Privacy**

- Your microphone is automatically muted.
- Your camera is automatically turned off.

## Today's Documents

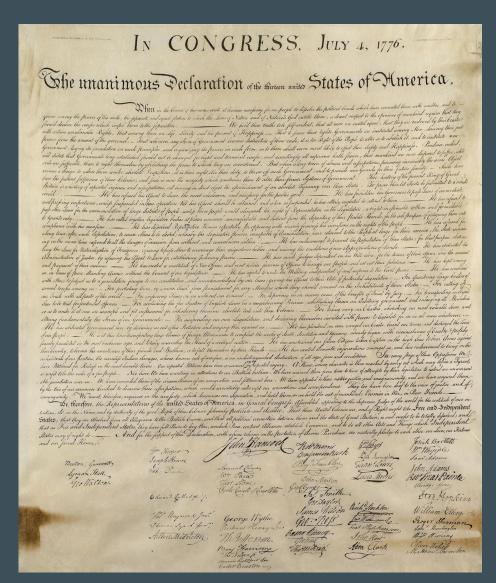
- William J. Stone's printing of the Declaration of Independence
- A letter describing the reception of the Declaration in New York
- A German interpretation of the events in New York
- A British response to the Declaration of Independence



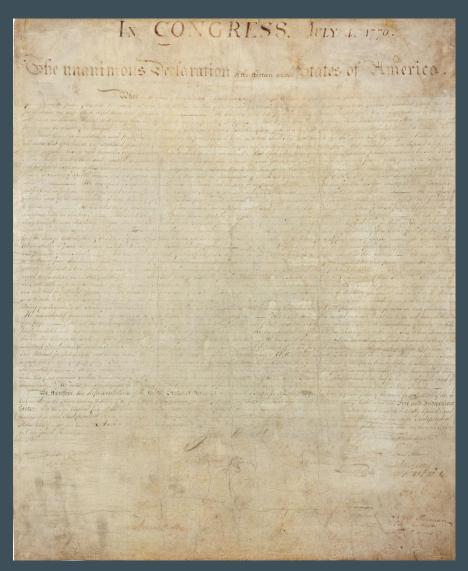
William J. Stone's
Printing of the
Declaration of
Independence, 1823

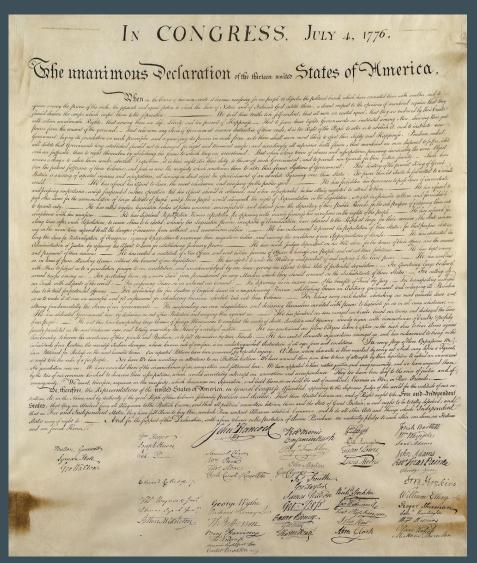
### William J. Stone's Facsimile

- William J. Stone's facsimile of the Declaration took three years to complete.
- The facsimile was commissioned by John Quincy Adams, who was Secretary of State at the time.
  - The original was already fading.
- It is the closest copy of the original document.
- Copies were given to the president, vice president, original signers, and families of the signers.
- Only about thirty printings of the facsimile exist today.



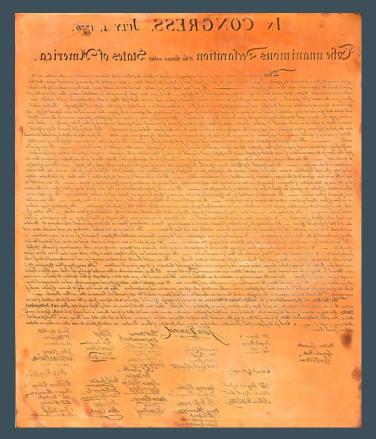
# Original vs. Facsimile





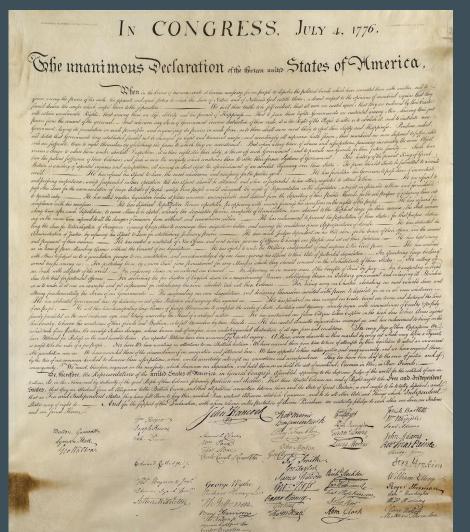
# Making the Facsimile

- Stone created a copperplate engraving of the original Declaration, which he used to make subsequent copies.
- The copies were printed on vellum.
  - The original Declaration was written on parchment, which is less durable than vellum.
- Copperplate engravings are made by copying the original document in reverse onto a sheet of copper. Ink was then applied to the copper, and transferred onto paper.
- Stone's original copies included the statement "ENGRAVED by W. J. Stone for the Dept. of State, by order"



**National Archives** 

ENGRAVED by W.I.STONE , for the Dep! of State, by order



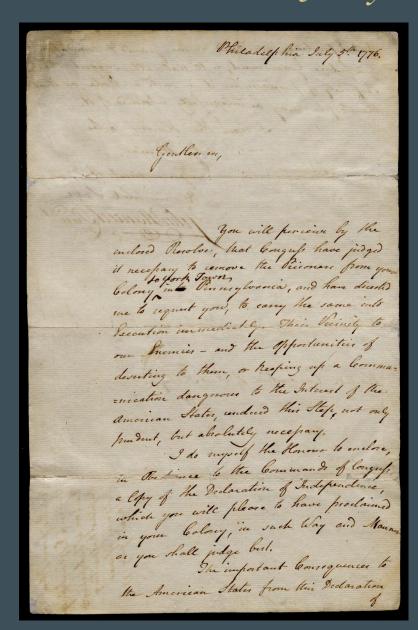
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William J. Stone's
Printing of the
Declaration of
Independence, 1823



Joe Welch, 2018 National History Teacher of the Year

#### John Hancock to New Jersey Convention, 1776

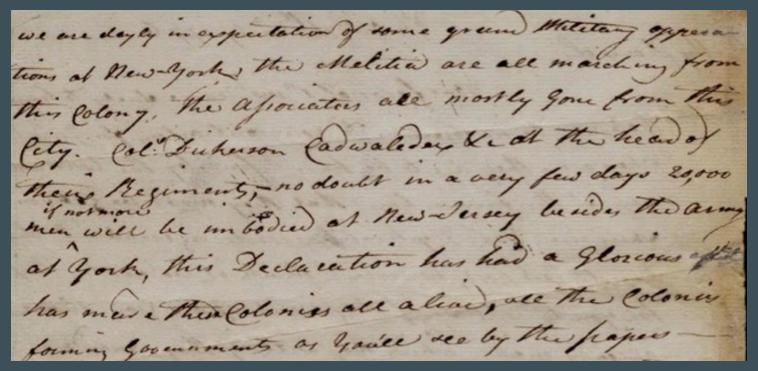


"I do myself the Honour to enclose, in Obedience to the Commands of Congress, a copy of the Declaration of Independence, which you will please to have proclaimed in your Colony, in such Way and Manner as you shall judge best. The important Consequences to the American States from this Declaration of Independence, considered as the Ground & Foundation of a future Government, will naturally suggest the Propriety of proclaiming it in such a Mode, as that the People may be universally informed of it."

Shila 16th July 1776 My Down Li your favor of I'ms came duely to hand there can be no objection to your contracting for gum where ever they are to be had, I find by the back and - nep of the farmer here ) that they must be got som - where else, gov! Hopkons has wrote agreeable to what I wrote last port, however I think it we not be amp for you to contract, if they work space you there already made, which they were of they consider The good of the vecous as they may make mow by the time their ships are ready for them you may depend the officer, well be appointed agreeable to your recommendation, Their comepions not being sent need be no hunderence to you in be rain, Petty officer and men Provision I wrote you qualous last post, I agree with you that then matter, have not been properly attended too, but I by no men take any part of the charge of neglect to my uly for no poor Devilo every begin for almy with more consituely then I have to get their matter, with & amother determined of possible to have everything complete before I leave this, - Two of the ships were Launch here last weak, viz, the Mandolph, & Delaware, but when they will get to sea is un-- certain as they have no auchors yet Imagendence was proclaim's the on the army at New york last Wendsday, when the Leaden thing in Bowling green was des mounted & is by this time cart into Bullets for the destruction of the Tools of Tyran my may every one of them be property Comme

William Whipple's Letter to Continental Congress, July 16, 1776

### Reception of the Declaration in New York



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"We are dayly in expectation of some grand Military opperations at New-York, the Militia are all marching from this Colony, the associators all mostly gone from this City. Col: Dickerson Cadwaleder &c all the head of these Regiments, no doubt in a very few days 20,000 men if not more will be embodied at New-Jersey besides the army at York, this Declaration has had a Glorious effect has made these Colonies all alive, all the Colonies forming Governments as you'll see by the papers-"

## King George Statue Torn Down

Independence was procleim's the medenty of the Leaden of New york last Wendsday, when The Leaden thing in Bowling green was dismounted & is by this time cast into Bullits for the destruction of this Tools of Tyranny may every one of them be properly Comments

Gilder Lehrman Collection

"Independence was proclaim'd in the army at New-York last Wednesday, when the Leaden King in the Bowling Green was dismounted & is by this time cast into Bullits for the destruction of this Tools of Tyranny may every one of them be properly Commission'd"



- Created by painter
   François Xaver Habermann
   who did a series of prints
   on the Revolution
- Vue d'optique
  - Projected onto a screen or wall with a candle and mirror
- Imagined image of the New York Sons of Liberty tearing down a statue of King George
  - Actual statue was torn down on July 9, 1776
- Image also depicts
   enslaved people who
   helped the Sons of Liberty

#### La Destruction de la Statue Royale a Nouvelle Yorck



Gilder Lehrman Collection

### THE GILDER LEHRMAN INSTITUTE of AMERICAN HISTORY

# American Depiction, 1875



Engraving by John C. McRae, 1875. Based off 1859 painting by Johannes A. Oertel Library of Congress

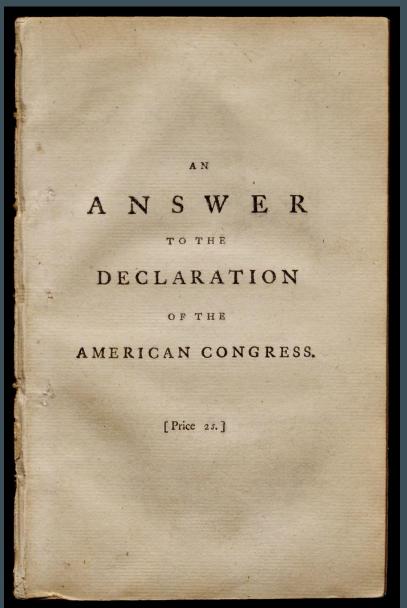


**New-York Historical Society** 

An Answer to the Declaration of the

American Congress

- Written by John Lind in response to the Declaration of Independence
- Provides a response to each article of the Declaration
   132 pages



# His Majesty the King

#### The Declaration of Independence

The history of the present
King of Great Britain is a
history of repeated injuries
and usurpations, all having in
direct object the
establishment of an absolute
Tyranny over these States. To
prove this, let Facts be
submitted to a candid world.

#### An Answer to the Declaration

And furely the Declaration of the American Congress is an insult offered to every one who bears the name of Briton. For in considering the present contest between Great Britain and America, it is a truth which deserves our peculiar attention, and which therefore cannot be too often repeated, nor too strongly inculcated, that the dispute is not, nor ever has it been, between his Majesty and the whole, or any part, of his subjects. The dispute is clearly between one part of his subjects and another. The blow given by the Congress appears indeed to be levelled at his Majesty; but the wound was intended for us.

Gilder Lehrman Collection

### Article VII: Immigration

The Declaration of Independence

An Answer to the Declaration

Article VII: He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

#### ANSWER.

To prevent the population of a kingdom, is to diminish the number of subjects. That a King, who is not mad, should wish, and, in consequence of that wish,

wish, should deliberately endeavour, to diminish the number of his subjects, whilst they continue to be his subjects, is an imputation, which nothing, but the extreme malice of it, could save from being ridiculous. Not only the imputation is not true, but it is impossible it should be true; but it is impossible, that any man of common discernment should believe it to be true of any King. Of all Kings, it cannot be true of such a King as it is the design of this declaration to represent his present Majesty to be. That a King, through an inordinate thirst of power, should study to diminish the number of his subjects, is just as probable, as that, through an inordinate thirst of money, he should study to diminish the sum of his revenue.

### Response to the Preamble

#### The Declaration of Independence

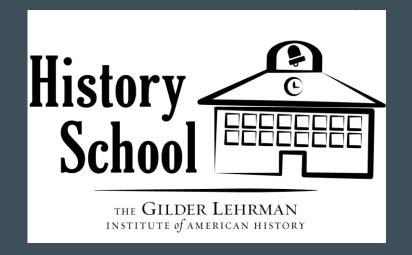
We hold these truths to be selfevident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.--That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed

#### An Answer to the Declaration

I can take upon me to determine, or even to guess. If to what they now demand they were entitled by any law of God, they had only to produce that law, and all controversy was at an end. Instead of this, what do they produce? What they call self-evident truths. "All men," they tell us, "are created equal." This surely is a new discovery; now, for the first time, we learn, that a child, at the moment of his birth, has the same quantity of natural power as the parent, the same quantity of political power as the magistrate.

Gilder Lehrman Collection

#### IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776. The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America. When in the lower of human events it becomes neederny for on people to dispolve the publical bands which have connected them with mother, and to om among the flower of the earth, the piparate and equal station to which the Lawre of Status and of Status life of cutate them, a deard respect to the opinion of markind region that they did declare the coape which in high them to the fifteen that the coape which them to the fifteen that the men are coaled equal, that they are endowed by this breaks took fifteen that all men are coaled equal, that they are endowed by this breaks took fifteen that all men are coaled equal, that they are endowed by this breaks took fifteen that all men are coaled equal, that they are endowed by this breaks took fifteen that all men are coaled equal. culture analymetric Rights, that among three are Life, Libratic and the passed of Happingto — That to force these lights, flore mainly a instituted among Man, showing that pur-form the consent of the governed. — That winners any down of government occurs destinative of these ands it is the Right of the Boyle to alter or to about the and to constitute new ment, laying to foundation on such framaples and organizing its powers in each form, as to them shall sum most likely to oper their clafty and Happine's. Pradum, indied, ishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when along train of aleases and uparations, parsaing invariably the same Object ternes a longer to reduce them under absolute Despotsion, it is their right in their duty, their day, there of such by comment, and topic quarter for their judicial from the patient fulframent, and their marks for their judicial from the form of free the formal for the second more from a father from the first of from the first of from the formal for the formal for the formal formal for the formal for the formal formal formal formal for the formal pop other Low for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless these people would relinqued the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right ineflimable bottom and formed He has called together legislative bodies at places unresult, uncomfortable and distant from the depository of their flubilic Records, for the set fluspose of f is grain and, the new cases organic responses comes region responses comes organic responses to the register of the people of the first accesses the data and the markets for many farmed him when a large for their accesses the data and the first at large for their accesses the data and the first at large for their accesses the data and the first at large for their accesses the data and the first at the first attention of their datas for the first proper of the first accesses the first proper of He has endeavoured to prevent the flopulation of these States; for that purpose obstine in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within ! ling the Law for Maturalization of Forugmas ; Lywing topas charte incomage their migrations better and raising the conditions of me Appropriations of Lands. ns of Juan Standing Urmas without the Consent of our bigolatures. —— He has ayaded to rends the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Jewes tabject as to a junisdiction fough to on constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Afant bothin Acts of Judinial Augustation : — For Junihing large bodies of - For protecting him, og a more that from flandshound for any Menders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States : - For culting of so as to under it at one an wample and fit inframent for introducing his same absolute rate rate these Colonies : \_\_ The haling away one Charles, abolishing on most valuable Laws and nding our own Legislature, and dictaring themselves invisited with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsower ... He has plandered our seas, ravaged our boasts, burnt our towns, and dishoyed the lives He is at this time han specting large Unios of foreign Mercenaus to complicat the cooks of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of breathy specified that boundry to become the accustioner of their grands and Buthern, or to fall the motion by their Hands - He has cented Commotic infrarections amongst us, and has endeavoured to being on the inhabitual of our fenture, his mercity endan classeges, whose known rule of warfare, is an underinguished Mahadien of all age force and conditions. In very fage of three Oppopular Westerned for Redwig in the most humble terms. Our expeated Millions have been answered by personal injury. A Ring, whose character is those marked by every act which may define a Topant, is write tobe the rule of a fee freque . Not have the been wanting in attendance to our Bettich believe . We have warned them from time to have of attempts by their legislature to asked an un able parietation over us . We have reminded them of the irrementance of on emigration and followed lare . We have appealed to their native justice and magnanism'ty, and we have conjused them by the ties of our common kinded to disavow these expensations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of We must, therefore, acquive in the newfrity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankend, Enemies in Har, in Place Friends ... Se, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of Homerica, in General Congress. Openhid spending to the Supreme Judge of the world for the red link of our me taking the in the Name, and by italiant of the good Rept of the Security of the good Rept of the good Rept of the security of the good Rept of the good Rep that as Free and Independent Mates, they have full Powerte boy Han, conduct Prace contract alliances, atablet Commune, and to do all other and Things which Independent - And for the Support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the strottedion of devine Providence, we meeting pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes John Hancock Josiah Bartleto Not morris 1mm Whipple Joseph Hewes. Button Gwinnetts Saan Linu Tom Para John Adams Lyman Hall. Root Frankaine Gollacton. Step Horkins Edward Bulledge 450 Jaylor William Ellery George Wythe Joger Sherman Allun Mideleton 11/2 Milliams Abra Clark



- Registration open now until July 12
- Classes for students grades K-12
  - Hamilton Cast Read Along (elementary-age students and families)
  - History Camp: Life in Colonial Times (3rd-5th grade)
  - Immigration and the American Story (6th-12th grade)
  - History in the Making (6th-12th grade)
  - The Global Cold War (6th-12th grade)
  - APUSH: The Remix (9th-12th grade)
  - AP US Government and Politics: Foundational Documents (9th-12th grade)

#### Declaration 250

This project is a multi-year, broad-based initiative by the Gilder Lehrman Institute to recognize the importance of the Declaration in the history of America, and of the world. The initiative will produce resources and programs that explore themes such as the intellectual and cultural origins of the Declaration, its unprecedented nature among traditional forms of government, the Declaration and the genesis of the African American civil rights movement, the influence of the Declaration on the formation of other countries, and the impact of the Declaration on later generations of Americans, from the Civil War to the twenty-first century. For its launch in July 2021, it will feature highlights from the Institute's work on the Declaration in recent years.

- Inside the Vaults and Spotlights on Primary Source Documents
- Essays from History Now
- Images from the Gilder Lehrman Collection
- Video clips from Hamilton cast members
- Online and traveling exhibitions
- Scholar lectures
- Self-Paced Courses
- Lesson Plans
- And more!

# Upcoming Programs

- Inside the Vault, Thursday, July 15 at 7 p.m. ET (4 p.m. PT)
  - We will be discussing the Massachusetts 54th Infantry.
- Book Breaks, July 4 at 2 p.m. ET (11 a.m. PT)
  - David Armitage discusses his book The Declaration of Independence: A Global History.
- History Now
  - O "Black Lives in the Founding Era," the sixtieth issue of *History Now*, is available to subscribers (Affiliate School teachers can get a subscription for free). This landmark issue includes sixteen essays by leading historians. The essays focus on the lives and achievements of African American founders such as Phillis Wheatley, Richard Allen, Jarena Lee, and James Forten, among others.