

# *The Declaration of Independence*

*comes to Phoenix – February 19, 2010*

Pearson Foundation and Declare Yourself proudly invite you to view the only touring copy of the Declaration of Independence! Come see one of the 26 existing original copies of the Declaration of Independence, printed by Thomas Dunlap on July 4, 1776, only hours after Thomas Jefferson finished the final draft.

## **WHEN:**

February 19, 2010, 5:00 – 6:30 PM

## **WHERE:**

Arizona Capitol Museum  
1700 W Washington  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

## **RSVP:**

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## Declaration of Independence Exhibit at the Capitol Museum

An original copy of the Declaration of Independence came to Arizona's Capitol Museum on Saturday, February 20, 2009. Thousands came for a one-time, free viewing in the Capitol Rotunda from 8 to 5 pm. The Arizona Rangers provided security.

The Continental Congress, on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1776, ordered 200 copies of the Declaration to be distributed to the colonies. John Dunlap was the printer and only 26 copies are known to currently exist. This copy, the 25<sup>th</sup> of the 200, was found in 1989 tucked behind a painting bought at a flea market for \$4. It is currently owned by Norman Lear and a friend. They decided to make the copy publically available and regularly fund limited tours through the Declare Yourself Foundation, which focuses on getting young people registered to vote.

The viewing is a reward to Phoenix for having one of the highest participation rates in the nation in the National Student/Parent Mock Election, which mirrored the federal and state elections held in November 2008.



**Despite the rain, thousands came downtown to the State Capitol. All visitors were required to register and received materials explaining the exhibit. Photo by Jason Czerwinski**



Noted television writer and producer Norman Lear, left, poses with a first printing of the Declaration of Independence that he and partner David Hayden purchased for \$8.14 million dollars on June 29, during Sothebys internet auction mc/ep/Ezio Petersen UPI



**Long lines in the rain didn't stop the crowd.**  
Photo by Jason Czerwinski

**Volunteers devoted 462 hours to the Declaration of Independence Exhibit. They total provided the majority of the Museum customer service staff from 7:30am until 5pm. Among roughly 50 volunteers, half came from our existing team, and half were events specific recruits.**



**A group shot of volunteers with the Declaration of Independence Exhibit.**  
Photo by Jason Czerwinski

# Declaration of Independence media coverage

## Newspapers

*The Arizona Republic*

### **Declaration of Independence to make appearance at Capitol**

by Mary Jo Pitzl - Jan. 20, 2010 04:29 PM

The Arizona Republic

The Declaration of Independence will make a stop in Arizona next month, with a free one-day only viewing opportunity at the state Capitol.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, Feb. 20, and expect to wait in line, say operators of the state Capitol Museum, where the document will be on display.

The declaration was last in Arizona in 2003, where 25,000 people saw it during an eight-day span.

This time, exhibit hours will run to 4 p.m. and be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

After that, the document travels to Tucson for two days.

The state Capitol Museum is located at 1700 W. Washington St. in Phoenix. The exhibit is sponsored by the Governor's Office and the Arizona Secretary of State.

### **Copy of Declaration of Independence en route to Arizona**

by Mary Jo Pitzl - Feb. 18, 2010 12:00 AM

The Arizona Republic

An original copy of the Declaration of Independence will be on display in Arizona this weekend. While the history of the declaration is well known, the origins of this copy, made in 1776, are more obscure and contain some historical intrigue.

Viewing details: Saturday at the Arizona Capitol Museum, 1700 W. Washington St., Phoenix, inside the original Capitol building. Doors open at 8 a.m. and close at 5 p.m.

Sunday and Monday in Tucson at the Arizona History Museum, 949 E. Second St. Sunday viewing is from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Monday is from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

What to bring: Patience, comfortable shoes.

In 2003, the last time the document was in Arizona, more than 25,000 people showed up at the state Capitol, and lines were long.

That was over an eight-day viewing period. This time, it's a one-day opportunity in Phoenix, two days in Tucson. Admission is free on a first-come, first-served basis; photography is permitted.

History: The Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, ordered 200 copies of the declaration to be distributed to the Colonies. A printer named John Dunlap got the job order. Over the years, copies have been lost; only 26 are known to exist today. Most of them are housed at universities, public libraries, city halls or other government institutions.

This copy, the 25th of the 200, was found in 1989, tucked behind a painting bought at a flea market for \$4, according to the Pearson Foundation, a non-profit organization that supports education efforts. It is owned by film and TV producer Norman Lear and a friend. They are making the declaration available for public viewing through the Declare Yourself Foundation, which focuses on registering people ages 18 to 29 to vote and getting them involved in local and national elections.

Why Arizona: The viewing is a reward to Phoenix for having one of the highest participation rates in the nation in the National Student/Parent Mock Election, which mirrored the federal and state elections held in November 2008. Phoenix is one of six cities where the Declaration of Independence will be showcased.

How it gets here: It's not quite the equivalent of a presidential visit, but the document will be flown in from California, where it is kept at Lear's home, with two security officers tending to it. It travels in a metal case and is transferred into a glass display case for viewings, with the handling done by a Pearson Foundation staffer who stays with the document. Special arrangements have been made with the federal Transportation Security Administration to get it through the security check-in. The document will be transported in the plane's cabin, not the luggage bay in the belly of the plane.

Who's paying: The Pearson Foundation is footing the bill for the document's trip to Arizona, as well as the other five cities where it is being displayed this year. Costs vary depending on location. In Arizona, the costs are lower because the declaration is traveling from California and because the Arizona Rangers are volunteering their time to provide local security for the document. The Rangers are a volunteer force available to help various police agencies.  
Information: Visit [www.lib.az.us/](http://www.lib.az.us/) museum.

### *Willcox Range News*

#### **Declaration of Independence comes to State Capitol**

Published: Wednesday, February 17, 2010 3:00 PM CST

One of 26 known original copies of the Declaration of Independence will be at the State Capitol for a pair of special viewings this month. The document will be at the Capitol on the evening of Feb. 19 for an opening event and viewing reception for state lawmakers, public officials and other dignitaries. The following day, Feb. 20, the Declaration of Independence will be on display at a free viewing for members of the public.

The visit of the Declaration of Independence is being underwritten by the Pearson Foundation.

This rare viewing is of one of the original copies of the Declaration of Independence.

This copy, one of about 200 original Dunlap Broadsides printed on July 4, 1776, was believed lost to history. But it was rediscovered in 1989 by a flea market shopper who found the document hidden behind a picture frame he had purchased for \$4. In 2000, noted Hollywood producer and philanthropist Norman Lear purchased the copy for \$8.1 million. In the years since, he and his wife have worked to ensure that "the people's document" remains accessible to the people.

On Feb. 20, at the public viewing, no invitation is needed and the exhibit is free-of-charge.

Doors will open at 8 a.m. and close at 5 p.m., rain or shine.

The viewing will be at Arizona Capitol Museum, 1700 W. Washington St., in Phoenix. The Museum is in the state's historic Capitol building.

Enter through doors on the east side.

The Declaration of Independence exhibit is made possible by a partnership between the Arizona Secretary of State's Office, Arizona Capitol Museum, National Student/Parent Mock Election, Pearson Foundation and Declare Yourself.

### *Daily News-Sun (Northwest Valley Newspapers)*

#### **Volunteers needed to assist with Declaration of Independence exhibit**

February 09, 2010 4:06 AM

STAFF REPORT

Daily News-Sun

One of only 26 known, original copies of the Declaration of Independence is coming to Phoenix, and the Arizona Capitol Museum needs at least 60 volunteers to assist with the exhibit.

The Feb. 20 event is open to the public. Doors will open at 8 a.m. and close at 5 p.m., rain or shine. A line will form outside the Capitol Museum, on the east side of the historic Capitol building. The public will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis. There will be no special tours or group arrangements.

Volunteers are needed to: greet guests, direct visitors through the exhibit and video presentation, help with event information and answer questions, promote voter awareness and registration and assist disabled or visually-impaired patrons

Volunteers are needed to work both inside and outside the Museum, and must be at least 18 years of age. Event training and orientation will be provided. Opportunities for continued participation in the Museum's volunteer program will be available after the exhibit.

Volunteer interviews and orientation will be conducted through Feb. 18. Call 602-926-3988 today to volunteer. Visit [www.lib.az.us/museum](http://www.lib.az.us/museum) for more information.

### **RADIO**

*KTAR-FM*

## **Declaration of Independence at AZ Capitol**

by KTAR.com (February 10th, 2010 @ 10:01am)  
PHOENIX -- One of 26 known original copies of the Declaration of Independence will be at the Arizona State Capitol for special viewings next week.

The document will be at the Capitol the evening of Feb. 19 for a viewing reception for state lawmakers, public officials and other dignitaries.

The public may view the document Feb. 20 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The display of the Declaration of Independence is being underwritten by the Pearson Foundation.

The copy on display in Phoenix is one of about 200 original Dunlap Broadsides printed on July 4, 1776. It was lost until 1989 when a flea market shopper found the document hidden behind a picture frame he had purchased for \$4. In 2000, Hollywood producer Norman Lear purchased the copy for \$8.1 million. In the years since, he and his wife have worked to make it accessible to the people.

The viewing will be in the Arizona Capitol Museum. Enter through doors on the east side.

## **TELEVISION**

### **AZ Family - Channel 3**

Extended story on public viewing 2/20.

View story at this link:

<http://www.azfamily.com/home/related/Declaration-of-Independence-on-display-at-Arizona-Capitol-Museum-85079462.html>

### **ABC-Channel 15**

(Videographer attended 2/19 ceremony. Video has been requested but not yet received. Story below was published on Website)

#### **Declaration of Independence on display at Arizona Capitol**

Reported by: Deborah Stocks

Email: dstocks@abc15.com

Reported by: Imani Randolph

Last Update: 2/20 9:34 am

Visitors could see a copy of the Declaration of Independence at the Arizona State Capitol PHOENIX -- Arizonans have a chance at a rare viewing of one of the original copies of the Declaration of Independence on Saturday February 20th.

Capitol officials say one of the original 26 copies of the document is at the State Capitol for a pair of viewings, one of them open free to the public.

This copy, one of about 200 original Dunlap Broad­sides printed on July 4, 1776, was believed lost to history but rediscovered in 1989 by a flea market shopper who found it hidden behind a picture frame he bought for \$4.

In 2000, Hollywood producer Norman Lear purchased the copy for \$8.1 million and since then he and his wife have worked to make sure "the people's document" remains accessible to the people.

Opening events on February 19 were for state lawmakers, public officials and other dignitaries.

On February 20, the document will be open to the public in the Arizona Capitol Museum from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., rain or shine, free of charge. Program manager of the Pearson Foundation Vanessa Nickson said, "The reception has been fabulous, school children, parents, families and the general community are really excited about being able to participate in this event."

The museum is located at the State Capitol, 1700 W. Washington Street, with entry on the east side of the building.

The Declaration of Independence exhibit is made possible by a partnership between the Arizona Secretary of State's Office, Arizona Capitol Museum, National Student/Parent Mock Election, Pearson Foundation and Declare Yourself.

### **Fox - Channel 10**

(Video not located, but videographer attended public viewing on Saturday. Additionally, search indicates brief mentions of document visit on 2/19 and 2/20)

### **KPNX - Channel 12**

(Video not located. Brief mentions of document on morning show 2/19)

### **Comcast Cable News (courtesy of ABC on Campus)**

View story at this link:

<http://www.necn.com/02/20/10/Declaration-of-Independence-on-tour/landing.html?blockID=183809&feedID=4215>

NECN: Phoenix, Ariz.) - One of 26 original copies of the Declaration of Independence is on a nationwide tour after being discovered as part of a flea market purchase.

The copy was unknowingly purchased along with a picture frame for \$ 4.

"Someone was shopping at a flea market and saw a picture frame they liked a lot and the picture frame cost \$ 4 and bought, brought it home and saw a piece of paper sticking out the back of it," Vanessa Nickson said. "Pried it open and discovered that it was this document, got it authenticated and sure enough it was one the original prints of the Declaration."

The print ended up on auction where it fetched more than \$ 8 million.

The buyer felt it would be important to engage young people in the democratic process, so he put it on tour.

It is currently in Phoenix on the third stop of a six-city tour.

*Video courtesy of ABC News.*

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