

Press Release

Prompted by the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the Encinitas Historical Society (EHS) invites the greater San Diego community to a series of "Independence Saturdays." Each Saturday will honor another of the many cultures whose work and words have shaped the experience of successive "independences" across Southern California since the 1760s. In its entirety, the series will deepen our regard for declarations of independence as at once aspirational and invitational.

The series begins in June with days dedicated to the history of Black Americans (Friday June 19–Saturday June 20), Japanese Americans (June 27), and the signers of the Declaration (July 4). Subsequent days will be devoted to Native Californians (August 8), U.S. women (August 22), Californians and San Diegans (September 12), and Mexican Americans (September 19), culminating in a celebration of the 40th anniversary of the city of Encinitas (October 3).

At our 1883 one-room Schoolhouse, the EHS Independence Saturdays will invoke history, civic reflection, and personal reminiscence via vivid timelines, collaborative murals, historic recordings, music, film, and video, amid a traditional hands-on curriculum: Reading (old textbooks); Reciting (orations, letters); Spelling/Writing (proclamations, with turkey quill, metal nib, chalk, or pencil stub); Geography (of constant migrations and shifting borders) --never forgetting Recess and gardening.

Independence Saturdays take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Schoolhouse, 390 West F St in Encinitas. All events are free and open to the public, ages 6 and up, courtesy of a grant from the Coastal Communities Foundation. We trust that this unique series will encourage visitors to engage with local and regional history while coming to appreciate how declarations of independence at every level are conditioned by time, place, age, and circumstance.

Contact: Dr. Hillel Schwartz, Archivist; Carolyn Cope, President; Brandon Jetter, media.
info@encinitashistoricalsociety.org