

AMERICAN
PHILOSOPHICAL
SOCIETY

David Center for the American Revolution

February 14, 2020

Dear Members of the David Library Community:

We at the American Philosophical Society (APS) are honored to partner with the David Library of the American Revolution in the creation of the David Center for the American Revolution at the APS. We are confident that this collaboration will help us better steward the David Library's collections and traditions while increasing the public's awareness of and appreciation for the American Revolution.

Ambitious projects like this promise long-term benefit but inevitably involve some short-term disruption in service. With that in mind, this letter is to bring you up-to-date on our current plans and suggest ways that you can stay connected for the latest updates.

This winter, the David Library's collections will move from Washington Crossing to the APS's Library Hall in Philadelphia, across the street from Independence Hall. The world-class Sol Feinstone Collection of rare manuscripts and the David Library Rare Books Collection have already been relocated and are fully accessible at APS. We hope to have the rest of the David Library's rich collections accessible in the months following their arrival at the APS.

We don't want you to miss an update. Here's how you can stay connected:

- 🔗 **Bookmark the David Center's webpage.** Here you can find the information in this letter as well as the latest updates on the transition: <https://www.amphilsoc.org/david-center-american-revolution>
- 🔗 **Check your email in-box.** The David Library's email listserv will be staffed by the APS's communications team who will send out regular updates
- 🔗 **Follow the APS's social media.** Find updates on #DavidCenter on our Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/americanphilosophicalsociety/>) and Twitter (@amphilsoc) pages

When you are ready to make a visit to the APS to use the David Library and other American Revolution materials, we encourage you to:

- 🔗 **Call our reference line.** You do not need an appointment to come to the APS, but if we know you are coming we can have materials ready for you. Call 215-440-3400 to talk with one of our highly-trained reference librarians. Prefer to email? Drop us a line at reference@amphilsoc.org.
- 🔗 **Chart out your trip.** Type 105 South 5th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106 into your GPS or go to our website (<https://www.amphilsoc.org/about/getting-here>) for directions by train, public transit, bus, and plane - as well as recommended nearby parking garages.
- 🔗 **Check the calendar.** The APS is open Monday-Friday, 9 am - 4:30 pm. We offer public programs throughout the year which you are invited to attend. We hope to offer some Saturday open days over the coming year.

☞ **Explore the area.** The APS is a short walk to Independence Hall, the National Constitution Center, Carpenter's Hall, and the Museum of the American Revolution, among other attractions. The APS Museum is free and mounts groundbreaking exhibitions every April through January.

Looking to the future, we hope you are as excited as we are about what this collaboration will mean for all of us who study the American Revolution and its lessons. We are already in the planning stages for important projects that will:

Increase Access to the collections through the digitization of the Sol Feinstone collection of original manuscripts and the David Library's microfilm collection; a virtual browser of the book stacks; creation of new online guides to revolutionary-era sources; and hiring a curator who specializes in the era of the American Revolution to answer reference requests, mount exhibitions, and plan public programs.

Expand Programming on the American Revolution with lunchtime talks, evening lectures (in Philadelphia and Bucks County), family programs, online and classroom-based educational resources, major exhibitions at the APS Museum, and international conferences.

Support Research through the continuation of the David Library fellowship program, addition of new long-term fellowships, and the publication of new research through the APS Blog and its scholarly press, one of the oldest continuing publishing operations in the United States (since 1771!)

Thank you for your ongoing support for this exciting new collaboration. We look forward to seeing you at the APS often. In the meantime, if you have any questions or want to learn more about the David Center at the APS, please email Patrick Spero at librarian@amphilsoc.org.

Sincerely yours,



Robert M. Hauser
Executive Officer



Patrick K. Spero
Librarian

