**THE AMERICAN’S CREED AWARD**

**Is for a performance or paper** exemplifying the principles of the **American’s Creed**. A statement showing the connection between the project and the American’s Creed is required. The project may be from any American era.

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**The American’s Creed**

**“I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign nation of many sovereign states; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.” Wm. Tyler Page**

**America’s Founders** risked everything to establish a new nation uniting 13 diverse colonies grounded on common principles.

They developed essential documents which, with subsequent additions and interpretations, continue to be relevant and pertinent 250 years later. Many other countries have adopted elements of these documents.

Founding principles include: individual liberty, dual sovereignty of nation and state, limited government, private property, separation of powers, checks and balances and the qualities of justice, equality, freedom and humanity.

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***Don’t Forget the Ladies****” \*Abigail Adams*

In addition to keeping the home, raising 5-8 (living) children, and often managing their husband’s business, they were also couriers, spies, fund raisers, reporters and nurses. Some joined the army as soldiers.

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**Possible History Day subjects:**

Roots of the revolution, Declaration of Independence, critical points in the war, Constitutional Convention, the aftermath

George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, James Madison, Thomas Paine, John Marshall, Alexander Hamilton, Daniel Webster, Patrick Henry, Henry Knox, Henry Clay, Benjamin Franklin, Martha Washington, Abigail Adams, Eliza Pinckney, Dolley Madison, Mercy Otis Warren, Deborah Sampson, Sybil Luddington, Margaret Corbin, Lydia Darragh, Elizabeth Freeman

Many individuals have sacrificed for their principles since then: Ralph Carr, Harry Truman, Martin Luther King, Helen Keller