



SEMIQUIN GRANTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
March 21, 2025

MEDIA CONTACT:
A250PA – Matt Darragh

Director of
Communications &
Marketing, America250PA

Matt@America250PA.org

Kristin Groenveld
Executive Director, ASI

kristin@artsphere.org
info@artsphere.org

ART SPHERE INC AWARDED \$5,000 SEMIQUIN GRANT



Art Sphere, Inc. received a \$5,000 America250PA SemiQuin Grant to support its “Celebrating Pennsylvania: Past, Present, and Future” initiative, with A250PA Executive Director Cassandra Coleman, Commissioner Kevin Vaughan, & Advisory Committee Member Noel Abejo on hand for the presentation.

PENNSYLVANIA – Art Sphere Inc. received a \$5,000 America250PA Semiquin Grant to support the development and statewide distribution of its *Celebrating Pennsylvania: Past, Present, and Future* lesson plan workbook—an interactive arts education resource that brings Pennsylvania’s history and landmarks to life for students and families.

“We are so excited to contribute to Pennsylvania’s celebration of the 250th Anniversary with a lesson plan book to reach students locally and globally. Philadelphia is the epicenter for the founding of our nation, but it’s also a hub for the arts, science, and historical preservation. We want students to be active participants in making history and impacting change throughout Pennsylvania and the world. Students and the communities they are a part of have so much to celebrate!” said Kristin Groenveld, Executive Director of Art Sphere Inc.

"America250PA hopes to engage Pennsylvanians, from all of our 67 counties, to participate in creating a statewide celebration and bringing the Commonwealth's history into the conversation. We strive to connect neighbors through the stories of our past, fostering pride in our shared journey and hope for our future. By embracing inclusivity and encouraging dialogue, we can strengthen the bonds that unite us. The E.P.I.C. framework—Educate, Preserve, Innovate, and Celebrate—serves as the guiding vision to honor Pennsylvania’s role in America’s story as we bring the Semiquincentennial to life.” said Cassandra Coleman, Executive Director of America250PA.

For more information about the Semiquincentennial Grants, please visit https://www.america250pa.org/Semiquin_Grants.

If you have any additional questions, please reach out to Kristin Groenveld at kristin@artsphere.org.

#

About Art Sphere Inc.

Our mission is to engage the creativity of youth, empower neighborhoods to focus on the positives in people’s lives, and support healing of the mind, body, and spirit through the arts. By embracing the strengths of young people and their communities, we aim to build safe, enriching learning environments with an emphasis on creatively using local resources. Our site-specific art workshops transform any space into a living classroom where students gain confidence in their self-worth. Founded in 1998, Art Sphere Inc. is the only nonprofit of its kind to deliver a range of artistic and human services to youth living in culturally underserved neighborhoods throughout the Philadelphia region.

About America250PA

The Pennsylvania Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial (America250PA) was established by the General Assembly and Governor in 2018 to plan, encourage, develop and coordinate the commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the United States, Pennsylvania's integral role in that event, and the impact of its people on the nation's past, present, and future. The Commission is made up of current and past Pennsylvania leaders, celebrating the rich history and diversity of the state.

America250PA hopes to engage all citizens of the Commonwealth, from each of its 67 counties, to participate in creating a statewide celebration and bringing the Commonwealth's history into

the conversation. That shared history gives us the foundation to better understand the origins and diverse viewpoints on the challenges affecting both our Commonwealth and our nation. The Commission's ability to communicate its vision, engage various audiences, and encourage inclusive and cohesive participation is key to a successful America250PA. The visionary framework – especially our E.P.I.C. theme of Educate, Preserve, Innovate, and Celebrate, contains the essential messaging to bring the Semiquincentennial to life across the Commonwealth.