



MARTIN O'MALLEY
GOVERNOR

ANTHONY BROWN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Dear Maryland Educator:

In September 2014, America will commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Star-Spangled Banner. Maryland and Marylanders played a pivotal role in the causes, conduct and outcomes of the War of 1812, and created two of the proudest symbols of America-the flag and the anthem-while the Chesapeake was engulfed in War.

Many bicentennial activities are being planned for Maryland in 2014 for the K-12 audience in virtual and non-virtual formats. Some of the most notable and easily accessible opportunities currently operating or planned include:

- Visiting [Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine](#), especially to be a part of the [Bicentennial Living American Flag](#) on September 9, 2014.
- Discovering War of 1812 sites along the [Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail](#) in Maryland, Washington DC, and Virginia aided with the [Chesapeake Explorer](#) mobile app or printed guide, [In Full Glory Reflected: Discovering the War of 1812 in the Chesapeake](#).
- Scheduling a trip for free tours of international tall ships and Navy vessels during [Star-Spangled Spectacular](#) in Baltimore, September 11-15.
- Exploring Maryland Public Television's (MPT) [War of 1812 website](#), on Thinkport, for ample, engaging, internet-based home and classroom resources, including [Interactive Battlefield Maps](#).
- Screening the Emmy award winning MPT-produced film, [The War of 1812 on the Chesapeake; Home of the Brave](#).
- Participating in the Maryland State Arts Council's [National Anthem Sing-Off](#), or the Maryland Humanities Council's [Maryland History Day/National History Day](#).

For more information on any of these activities and more, please contact Heather Ersts, Outreach and Partnership Coordinator at the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission (410-767-6974, hersts@choosemaryland.org), or Abbi Wicklein-Bayne, Education Specialist, The Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail (443-321-3610, abbi_wicklein-bayne@nps.gov).

Thank you for all that you do for the children and families of Maryland.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin O'Malley".

Martin O'Malley
Governor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lillian M. Lowery".

Lillian M. Lowery, Ed. D.
State Superintendent of Schools