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125 NASSAU ST. NEW YORK

Alexander Hamilton.

Chancellor Livingston.

Roger Sherman.

M^c Otis, Secy. of Senate.

Washington.

John Adams.

Baron Steuben. Gen. Knox.

THE INAUGURATION OF WASHINGTON.

AS FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, APRIL 30th 1789, AT THE OLD CITY HALL, NEW YORK.

The oath of office was administered by Chancellor Livingston of the State of New York. M^c Otis the Secretary of the Senate holding up the Bible on a crimson cushion.

IT HAPPENED HERE AMERICAN PRESIDENTS IN NEW YORK

cultureNOW

The Lower Manhattan Historical Association

National Park Service

Sons of the RevolutionSM in the State of New York, Inc.

and its Fraunces Tavern[®] Museum

Grant Monument Association

cultureNOW
museum without walls



PROGRAM

Welcome

Park Ranger Jennifer Zebner
National Park Service

It Happened Here

Abby Suckle
President, cultureNOW;
Vice President, Lower Manhattan Historical Association

Keynote: Presidents and the Great City

Kenneth T. Jackson
Jacques Barzun Professor of History and the Social Sciences and
Director of the Herbert H. Lehman Center for the Study of American History at Columbia University

President James Madison

Ambrose Madison Richardson III
President, Lower Manhattan Historical Association

Theodore Roosevelt

Park Ranger Luke Greer
National Park Service

Ulysses S. Grant

Park Ranger Miranda Allen
National Park Service

Ulysses S. Grant: An American Story

Ed Hochman
Secretary, Grant Memorial Association

George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and The Promise of Liberty

Seth Kaller
Seth Kaller, Inc, Historical Documents & Legacy Collections

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



Jennifer Zehner is a Park Ranger at the National Park Service and the Site Manager at Federal Hall National Memorial.



Abby Suckle is President of cultureNOW and Vice President of the Lower Manhattan Historical Association. She has an architectural practice in New York. She has been leading the museum without walls project at cultureNOW. Her most recent book is *Cocktails & Conversations: Dialogues on Architectural Design*, published in 2018. She also lectures widely and gives walking tours.



Kenneth T. Jackson is the Jacques Barzun Professor Emeritus of History at Columbia University. He is considered an urban, social, and cultural historian and has made contributions to understanding of the history of New York City and of American suburbanization. He is former President of the Organization of American Historians, the Society of American Historians, the Urban History Association, and the New-York Historical Society. He has been a Fulbright Lecturer in Germany, Australia, & Japan.



Ambrose Madison Richardson III was born in Chicago, grew up in Illinois & Tennessee. He graduated from Harvard College & Harvard Law School & attended graduate school at the University of Virginia, where his great uncle James Madison was the second rector. He is a past president of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York, which owns & maintains Fraunces Tavern® & Fraunces Tavern® Museum, & past General Secretary of the General Society of the Sons of the Revolution. He is currently President of the LMHA & the Lyric Chamber Music Society of NY.



Luke Greer is a Park Ranger at the National Park Service and is assigned to the Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace National Historic Site.



Miranda Allen Park Ranger at the National Park Service and is assigned to the General Grant National Memorial Site.



Edward S. Hochman, an officer of the Grant Monument Association since 1994. An attorney, Hochman counsels the GMA in legal affairs and attends to the association's correspondence. It was in January 1994 that, upon reading a *New York Times* editorial about the deplorable condition of Grant's Tomb, he offered his assistance to remedy the situation. It was through his pro bono services that the GMA was incorporated and able to sue the federal government to restore Grant's final resting place.



Seth Kaller is a leading expert in buying, selling, authenticating, and appraising rare historic documents and artifacts. Kaller has built museum-quality collections for individuals and institutions, as well as legacy collections for philanthropists to donate. He has handled important manuscripts, documents and rare books relating to the *Declaration of Independence* and the *U.S. Constitution*; leaves from George Washington's draft of his inaugural address; and Abraham Lincoln's "*House Divided*" manuscript and others.

IT HAPPENED HERE

While New York's Lower Manhattan is best known as a global financial center, it has been America's town square since the founding of the city as New Amsterdam in 1624. Virtually every aspect of global, local, national, and local significance can be traced to this downtown stage in some manner. Some aspects have been long forgotten, some have been transformative to our culture, and many have fallen in between. It Happened Here captures the multiple and overlapping stories that have been woven throughout the 400-year life of New York. It embraces America's history along with the museums, monuments, and memorials that dot its streetscape. It highlights the concerns, events, passions, and places that the people who lived, fought, worked, and visited here found important at their moment in time.

It Happened Here seeks to excavate its many historical layers: from its inception as the precolonial Lenapehoking territory (once inhabited by the Munsee Lenape and Wappinger tribes), to the creation of New Amsterdam by the Dutch, to the establishment of the first free African settlement in North America, to the establishment of British control, to the gateway for immigration, to being the site of the American Revolution, to its present-day significance as the nation's cultural and financial nerve-center.

What better way to commemorate New York City's 400th anniversary and America's 250th than to combine them into one special celebration: It Happened Here.

It Happened Here officially began on July 3, 2025, with a naturalization of 150 New Americans at America's First Capitol: Federal Hall National Memorial. It was followed by a special July 4th weekend with 400 years into 5 days with each day being devoted to a century of the city's life and history. There will be many more programs and events over the next year, including tours and additional content on cultureNOW's digital "museum without walls" app.

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Explore the website culturenow.org

Download the App

