300 YEARS AND STILL CURRENT:
America Celebrates Franklin’s 300th Birthday
The Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary, a non-profit organization supported by a lead grant of $4 million from The Pew Charitable Trusts, was established to mark the 300-year anniversary of Benjamin Franklin's birth (1706-2006) with a celebration dedicated to educating the public about his enduring legacy and inspiring renewed appreciation of the values he embodied. The Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary was founded in 2000 by a consortium of five Philadelphia cultural institutions: the American Philosophical Society, The Franklin Institute, The Library Company of Philadelphia, the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the University of Pennsylvania. In addition, an Act of Congress in 2002 created the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Commission, a panel of fifteen outstanding Americans chosen to study and recommend programs to celebrate Franklin's 300th birthday. The Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary can be found online at www.benfranklin300.org.
Today, January 17, 2006, our nation celebrates Benjamin Franklin’s 300th birthday, honoring the first of our founding fathers to reach this milestone. Scientist, inventor, diplomat, humorist, philanthropist, entrepreneur and more: Benjamin Franklin is one of the most remarkable and influential Americans of any generation.

Three hundred years after his birth, we still are inspired by this remarkable man’s story. Franklin’s lifelong efforts to improve himself and the world around him stemmed from the same ambition and intellectual energy he demonstrated as a young boy and printer. His commitment to public service also built on his sociable nature: Franklin was a true philanthropist. He believed that society’s many challenges required mutual action, collaboration, and generosity. This, for Franklin, defined citizenship, in the colonies, in the young republic and in the world beyond, making him one of the first truly global citizens.

Looking around us today, we see the influence of Franklin at almost every turn. We honor Franklin today by recognizing those who have followed in his footsteps, who exemplify his approach to life and service to community, and who show the promise of tomorrow in their commitment and desire to improve upon the status quo. Today, we will all have the perfect opportunity to learn from Franklin’s example— and help everyone create a better world. Most of all, we will see there is a bit of Ben Franklin in all of us.
### THE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TERCENTENARY COMMISSION

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**GEORGE W. BUSH**  
President of the United States  
Honorary Chairman

**THE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TERCENTENARY COMMISSION**
THE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TERCENTENARY

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Printers are educated in the Belief, that when Men differ in Opinion, both Sides ought equally to have the Advantage of being heard by the Publick; and that when Truth and Error have fair Play, the former is always an overmatch for the latter.

— Benjamin Franklin, “Apology for Printers,” The Pennsylvania Gazette, 1731
Having progressed from apprentice to owner of his own printing shop, Franklin expanded his printing network throughout the colonies. Franklin printed everything from forms and broadsides, to pamphlets, books, his newspaper, and even currency.

The printing industry has changed dramatically from the days of Franklin and letterpress printing. Today, printing encompasses the digital world as well. The goals, however, remain the same: to disseminate information and communicate with a broad range of people through the written word.
Bruce R. James, Public Printer of the United States

As the nation’s 24th Public Printer, Bruce R. James serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), one of the nation’s oldest and most venerable agencies. James brings a lifetime of print and information industry experience to the GPO. Beginning with a basement print shop in his hometown of Cleveland, Ohio at age 11, he founded, developed and managed technology-driven printing and publishing enterprises that operated throughout the country and the world.

Mary L. Garnett, Vice President, Printing Industries of America

The Printing Industries of America (PIA)/Graphic Arts Technical Foundation (GATF) is the world’s largest graphic arts trade association representing an industry with more than 1.2 million employees. Located in Sewickley, Pennsylvania, the consolidated organization serves the interests of more than 12,000 member companies. PIA/GATF will celebrate 2006 as The Year of Digital Print.

Harriet and Larry Weiss, CRW Graphics

CRW Graphics is more than just a state-of-the-art printing company—they are a valuable corporate partner in the Greater Philadelphia community. Owner Harriet Weiss and her husband Larry give back to the community through service on the boards of several nonprofit organizations, and they have generously provided CRW Graphics’ services to the National Constitution Center’s Franklin Exhibition Guides, the Skuggs Family Guide and the Franklin Teachers Guides, among other projects.
Franklin made considerable contributions to the development of our nation’s coinage and currency. He was a supporter of paper currency, developing innovative printing techniques to combat counterfeiting. The “Fugio” cents of 1787—the first coins issued by the authority of the United States—were based on an earlier design suggested by Franklin, which showed the chain of union between the 13 states.

The United States Mint’s Benjamin Franklin Commemorative Coin Program contains two silver dollar coins, one of which features a young Franklin on the coin’s obverse and recalls his legendary experiments into the nature of electricity in June of 1752. The reverse design of this coin reproduces his famous “Join or Die” political cartoon. The second coin’s obverse depicts an older Franklin and the reverse design features a 1776 Continental Currency dollar, showcasing the contributions Franklin made to early American coinage design.
**David A. Lebryk,** Acting Director of the United States Mint

David Lebryk began serving as Acting Director of the United States Mint on August 2, 2005. He serves as the senior career official in the United States Mint with responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the world’s largest manufacturer of coins, medals, and coin products with operations in San Francisco, Denver, Philadelphia, West Point, Fort Knox, and the District of Columbia. Mr. Lebryk graduated from Harvard College with an A.B. in Economics. He received his Master in Public Administration from Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government.

**Dov Zerah,** Director, Monnaie de Paris

Dov Zerah has served as the Director of the French Mint since August 2002. This year, the French Mint will issue an uncirculated silver coin to celebrate the 300th anniversary of Benjamin Franklin’s birth. Franklin’s diplomatic and scientific accomplishments are captured in the images on the obverse, while the reverse reflects the deep and longstanding friendship that he helped to create between France and the United States. The Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary is proud to have been a partner with Monnaie de Paris in the creation of this special coin.
For Franklin, the printing trade provided more than just an income. He used his press to disseminate his views on almost every topic, from the need for paper money, to witty observations in every Poor Richard’s Almanack, to promoting colonial unity.

Franklin followed the journalistic policy of presenting various sides of an issue, initiating debates that kept his customers coming back for more, but allowing no space for libel or personal abuse in his newspapers.

Who would have anticipated that journalism would be as challenging a field as it has become? Franklin’s expression of fairness in reporting still is the principle that guides journalists and their publishers.
Amanda Bennett, Executive Vice President and Editor, The Philadelphia Inquirer

Amanda Bennett, a 23-year veteran of The Wall Street Journal, was appointed editor and executive vice president of The Philadelphia Inquirer in June 2003. Prior to that, she was the editor of the Lexington Herald-Leader, Lexington, Kentucky. While at the Journal, she shared in the Journal’s 1998 Pulitzer Prize in national reporting for her story about how public health officials mischaracterized the AIDS epidemic to increase public funding. As managing editor at The Oregonian, she helped lead a reporting team that won the 2000 Pulitzer Prize in public service for a series detailing abuses by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Michael Days, Editor-in-Chief, Philadelphia Daily News

A native of Philadelphia, Michael Days became editor-in-chief of the Philadelphia Daily News in January 2005. He worked at several papers, including The Wall Street Journal, before joining the Daily News. Days began his career with the Daily News as a reporter 18 years before his rise to editor-in-chief, serving six years as deputy managing editor and then just under one year as managing editor before being promoted to editor-in-chief.

John F. Sturm, President and CEO, Newspaper Association of America

The Newspaper Association of America (NAA) is a nonprofit organization whose more than 2000 members account for nearly 90 percent of the daily circulation in the United States and a wide range of non-daily U.S. newspapers. John F. Sturm is in his eighth year as president and CEO of NAA and is a member of the board of directors of the Advertising Council and the corporate advisory board of SOME (“So Others Might Eat”) in Washington, D.C.
ALMANAC MAKER  The first issue of Poor Richard’s Almanack was an instant best-seller. Franklin, writing as the humble Poor Richard, skillfully combined useful information—astronomical and meteorological predictions—with entertainment, in the form of proverbs, humor, and poetry. According to Franklin, many of the aphorisms found in Poor Richard’s Almanack were gleaned from the “wisdom of the ages and nations,” yet in recrafting older sayings, he brought new life to timeworn truisms.

FRANKLIN TODAY  Almanacs today are easily accessible founts of information ranging from the basics of when the sun rises and when it sets to facts about animals, computers, and space.
Ken Park, Publisher, The World Almanac for Kids

Published annually since 1995 and with more than 3 million copies sold to date, The World Almanac for Kids provides kids with the information they crave on thousands of subjects. Like Franklin’s Poor Richard’s Almanack, this book, too has become a bestseller.

Eric Utne, Editor, Cosmo Doogood’s Urban Almanac

A contemporary almanac created in the spirit of Franklin’s classic, Cosmo Doogood’s Urban Almanac contains “urban survival strategies,” such as “How to sound intelligent”; weather forecasts; seasonal poems; exercise programs; and assorted activities for city-dwellers wishing to get in touch with nature.
CARTOONIST AND HUMORIST Franklin was the first to create a political cartoon in America, published in Plain Truth, a pamphlet advocating improved military preparedness.

At 16, Franklin was an ambitious and accomplished writer. He used the pen name “Silence Dogood” to write a series of letters to the editor of The New-England Courant. His disguise was that of a prim, middle-aged widow from a rural area—-a remarkable contrast to the cheeky, unmarried teenager who had never been out of Boston! The letters poke fun at the pretensions of the elite and the follies of everyday life.

FRANKLIN TODAY Political humor and cartoons abound in the United States! From ongoing social commentary in long-running comics to signature cartoons by some of the wittiest and most talented artists to nightly monologues challenging our perceptions of world events.
Tony Auth, Editorial Cartoonist, The Philadelphia Inquirer

Tony Auth began cartooning for his college paper at UCLA, before settling into a career as a medical illustrator. While employed as the chief medical illustrator at Rancho Los Amigo Hospital, he began drawing political cartoons and, by 1968, he was producing three cartoons a week for the UCLA Daily Bruin. Auth joined The Philadelphia Inquirer in 1971 as the staff editorial cartoonist. He serves on the Editorial Board and participates in their daily editorial meetings. Auth won a Pulitzer Prize for his work in 1976, as well as five Overseas Press Club awards and the Sigma Delta Chi Award for Distinguished Service in Journalism.

Signe Wilkinson, Editorial Cartoonist, Philadelphia Daily News

Signe Wilkinson recently celebrated 20 years at the Philadelphia Daily News. She began her newspaper career as a reporter, but then began drawing the people she was reporting on, realizing she could combine her interests in art and politics. Her work is recognized for its unique style and famous irreverence. A former president of the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists, Wilkinson was the first woman to win the Pulitzer Prize for editorial cartooning.
WRITER AND AUTHOR Franklin is considered one of our first writers of humor, but was also an essayist and political reporter, and, of course, the creator of Poor Richard’s Almanack — one of the colonies’ first best-selling books.

Though he never finished writing it, Franklin’s Autobiography is the most widely published memoir in history and has never gone out of print. Over the past 200 years, Franklin’s Autobiography has been translated into more than 20 languages.

Since his death in April 1790, more than two centuries ago, Franklin has been memorialized, revered, romanticized, spoofed, and made into an advertising and financial icon. His life story and every aspect of his achievements are the ongoing subjects of magazine and newspaper articles, books, and countless school projects providing opportunities for budding authors.
Ellen Cohn, Editor, The Papers of Benjamin Franklin

The Papers of Benjamin Franklin is a collaborative undertaking by a team of scholars at Yale University to collect, edit, and publish the writings and papers of one of America’s most remarkable founding fathers and indeed one of the most extraordinary people this nation has ever produced. Established in 1954 under the joint auspices of Yale University and the American Philosophical Society, 38 volumes have been published to date. The entire edition is projected to reach 47 volumes and will publish in full or in abbreviated form the total corpus of Franklin’s approximately 30,000 extant papers. One of the most successful examples of collaborative scholarship in the humanities, the Franklin edition is recognized around the world as an example of the highest of American scholarly achievements.

Claude-Anne Lopez

Claude-Anne Lopez,— having served as Assistant Editor, Associate Editor, Editor-in-Chief and Consulting Editor of The Papers of Benjamin Franklin, spent more than half a century getting to know Benjamin Franklin, his friends, family and associates. She is the author of My Life with Benjamin Franklin, Le Sceptre et la Foudre: Franklin en France (1776-1785), A Good House Contrived to My Mind, The Private Franklin: The Man and his Family (with Eugenia Herbert) and Mon Cher Papa: Franklin and the Ladies of Paris.

Dr. Nian-Sheng Huang, Associate Professor and Chair, History Program, California State University Channel Islands

Born and raised in Beijing, China, Nian-Sheng Huang became a peasant-farmer during the Cultural Revolution when most schools were closed. He stayed at a small village in Inner Mongolia for ten years before attending the Teachers University in the same region, where he obtained a B.A. degree in political science and history. He also received an M.A. (history) from Tufts University and a Ph.D. (history) from Cornell University. He is the author of Benjamin Franklin in American Thought and Culture, 1790-1990 (a “Choice Outstanding Academic Book” for 1995) and Franklin’s Father Josiah (2000), both published by the American Philosophical Society.
BUSINESSMAN AND ENTREPRENEUR Franklin may be America’s original entrepreneur. Arriving in Philadelphia in 1723, Franklin worked to establish himself as a printer. Over the next 25 years, he expanded his network of personal friends and business connections both in the colonies and in England. In printing, Franklin found a way to “do well by doing good”: not only did he accumulate enough wealth to retire from active business at the age of 42, he was also able to use his publications to communicate his ideas.

FRANKLIN TODAY The story of the American entrepreneurship is legendary. Businesses started in a garage, or on a shoestring and based on a unique approach to fulfilling a need in the marketplace, grow and impact the world, both economically and socially. Franklin’s “do well by doing good” model characterizes some of America’s top corporations and motivates future entrepreneurs.
Dr. Blaine McCormick, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs, Baylor University

Dr. Blaine McCormick is the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs at the Hankamer School of Business at Baylor University. A nationally recognized scholar on the business legacies and practices of Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Edison, Dr. McCormick is interviewed frequently across all forms of media including The New York Times, CNN, and ABC World News. His latest book is a modern version of Franklin’s autobiography for the business reader entitled Ben Franklin: America’s Original Entrepreneur. His favorite maxim from Poor Richard is, “Tricks and treachery are the practice of fools, that have not the wit enough to be honest.”

Tony Simmons, Owner, Pagosa Brewing

As brewers throughout the United States plan to celebrate the 300th birthday of Benjamin Franklin by brewing a batch of Poor Richard’s Ale, they turn to a recipe developed especially for the occasion. Tony Simmons created the winning recipe for Poor Richard’s Ale, which included two distinctive ingredients: molasses and corn. A veteran homebrewer in the process of starting a commercial brewery, Simmons himself embodies Franklin’s entrepreneurial spirit. He has started his own advertising and marketing companies in the past and since 1999 has owned a brewing supply business in his hometown of Pagosa Springs, Colorado. Not long after starting that business he began to work on opening his own brewery—a dream that he expects to make real in 2006.
RoseAnn B. Rosenthal, President and CEO, Ben Franklin Technology Partners of Southeastern Pennsylvania

RoseAnn B. Rosenthal has served as President and CEO of Ben Franklin Technology Partners of Southeastern Pennsylvania (BFTP/SEP) since 1996. Since that time, Rosenthal has significantly enhanced Ben Franklin Technology Partners’ investment, technology commercialization and business service initiatives. With a current portfolio of more than 135 technology companies, BFTP/SEP continues to build its proven track record of seeding hundreds of southeastern Pennsylvania’s technology leaders in biotechnology, information technologies, communications, advanced materials, and nanotechnology.

Noah Katz, Vice President, Foodtown

Along with his brother Daniel, and father Sydney, Noah Katz owns and operates 13 Foodtown supermarkets in the Tri-State New York Metropolitan region. His responsibilities include marketing, customer relationship management and community outreach. Katz is an avid Franklin collector, with a primary interest in 18th century books and art. He shares Franklin’s sense of adventure, having reached the summits of Mount McKinley, Mount Elbrus, and Mount Aconcagua.

Samuel M. “Beau” Freeman II, Chairman, Samuel T. Freeman & Co.

In 2005, America’s oldest auction house celebrated its 200th anniversary. Seven generations of Freemans have followed in the footsteps of company founder, Tristram Bampfylde Freeman. The expertise of the Samuel T. Freeman & Co. staff has been invaluable in the creation of the Tercentenary’s exhibition, Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World.
Franklin believed that integrity and moral responsibility were the backbone of a successful life and a strong community. He examined his own behavior frequently and, at one point, outlined 12 virtues that needed his attention: temperance, silence, order, resolution, frugality, industry, sincerity, justice, moderation, cleanliness, tranquility, and chastity. A Quaker friend suggested a 13th—humility—but Franklin admitted: “I cannot boast of much success in acquiring the reality of this virtue; but I had a good deal with regard to the appearance of it.”

Franklin’s advice and counsel certainly reappears in today’s literature, identifying avenues to business success and personal happiness. More importantly, however, is Franklin’s commitment to ongoing self-improvement that benefits not only the individual, but society as a whole. Scores of organizations and programs today create opportunities for personal and leadership development.
Philadelphia Urban League

Through its business and community leadership, the Urban League of Philadelphia is a leading source for empowering people. NULITES, the National Urban League Incentives To Excel & Succeed youth initiative, was founded on the principle that young people are our most valuable resource. NULITES provides youth with opportunities for academic, personal and social development and grooms future leaders by developing communication and decision-making skills as well as civic responsibility.

Christy E. Bartley, Program Leader, Pennsylvania 4-H

The 4-H motto is “To Make The Best Better.” Its intent is to inspire young people to continue to learn and grow, to make their best efforts better through participating in educational experiences. There are more than 7 million 4-Hers in the United States alone, making 4-H the largest out-of-school youth program. 4-H is a part of the Cooperative Extension System, a non-profit program operated through each state’s land grant university. Through the community of 4-H, youth learn skills they will benefit from forever. No matter what topic a 4-H program focuses on, 4-H always centers around three areas, leadership, citizenship, and life skills.
CIVIC VISIONS

"The noblest question in the world is What Good may I do in it?"

— Poor Richard’s Almanack, 1737
**PHILANTHROPIST** Franklin raised funds and personally contributed to many worthwhile causes, including printing lottery tickets to defray the cost of strengthening Philadelphia's defenses. He contributed to the building funds of every religious sect in Philadelphia, and his practical nature inspired him to invest in any useful project, as none were too small for his attention.

Charitable giving in the United States was estimated to be nearly $250 billion in 2004, the last year for which data is available.

The 111th Infantry and the 103rd Engineers of today's Pennsylvania National Guard trace their beginnings to Franklin's efforts to raise funds to provide for a common defense.
Rebecca W. Rimel, President & Chief Executive Officer, The Pew Charitable Trusts

The Pew Charitable Trusts serves the public interest by providing information, advancing policy solutions and supporting civic life. Known for its entrepreneurial and results-based philanthropy, the Trusts will invest $204 million in fiscal year 2006 to provide organizations and citizens with fact-based research and practical solutions for challenging issues. The Trusts provided the lead grant of $4 million in support of the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary and its celebration for Franklin’s 300th birthday.

Judith Rodin, Ph.D., President, The Rockefeller Foundation

Judith Rodin became president of the Rockefeller Foundation in March 2005. The Foundation, one of the nation’s oldest and largest private philanthropies, works to expand opportunities for poor people and to help ensure that the benefits of globalization are shared more equitably, making grants and programmatic investments averaging $140 million per year. Rodin is a member of the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Commission.

John M. Templeton, Jr., President, The John Templeton Foundation

The John Templeton Foundation was established in 1987 by renowned international investor, Sir John Templeton, to encourage a fresh appreciation of the critical importance—for all peoples and cultures—of the moral and spiritual dimensions of life. The Foundation currently funds more than 300 projects, studies, award programs and publications worldwide. Through the generous support of the Foundation, a copy of Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World, the companion book to the Tercentenary exhibition, has been provided to every public library system in the United States.
Pennsylvania National Guard

Today, the proud heirs of the militia tradition can be found in the 20,000 men and women of the Pennsylvania Army and Air National Guard. They are trained and equipped to join active military forces during time of war or national emergency. In addition, at the state level, they respond to the orders of the Governor, protecting lives and property during natural and man-made disasters.
EDUCATOR Franklin's self-education and religious tolerance made him challenge the dominant classical and theological approach to learning. Soon after his retirement, he helped found the Academy and College of Philadelphia, which later became the University of Pennsylvania, America's first university and its oldest nonsectarian college.

Franklin placed a high value on literacy and self-improvement throughout his life and remained committed to expanding educational access. On June 6, 1787, Franklin College—named after its most generous donor—opened its doors on the site of an old brewery in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

The University of Pennsylvania remains today a world-renowned center for the creation and dissemination of knowledge and serves as a model for research colleges and universities throughout the world. Franklin's spirit of free inquiry and learning in the service of society continues to guide the University today.

Today, Franklin & Marshall College proudly continues its dedication to intellectual freedom and critical learning as fundamental to a democratic society. The ideals of its founders and namesakes remain alive in its classrooms, playing fields, concert halls, and laboratories.

“Genius without Education is like Silver in the Mine.”
— Poor Richard's Almanack
University of Pennsylvania

For more than two centuries, the University of Pennsylvania has been committed to excellence in scholarship, research and service. From its highly regarded undergraduate, graduate and professional schools to its wide-ranging program of interdisciplinary research and scholarship, Penn takes pride in being a place where students and faculty can pursue knowledge without boundaries, a place where theory and practice combine to produce a better understanding of our world and ourselves.

John A. Fry, President, Franklin & Marshall College

John A. Fry became the 14th president of Franklin & Marshall College on July 1, 2002 and currently serves as a member of the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Commission. Franklin & Marshall’s aims are to inspire in young people of high promise and diverse backgrounds a genuine and enduring love for learning, to teach them to read, write, and think critically, to instill in them the capacity for both independent and collaborative action, and to educate them to explore and understand the natural, social, and cultural worlds in which they live. In so doing, the College seeks to foster in its students qualities of intellect, creativity, and character, that they may live fulfilling lives and contribute meaningfully to their occupations, their communities, and their world.
In his role as deputy postmaster of the British North American colonies, Franklin worked to modernize and improve the colonial postal system. Having personally inspected many of the post offices, Franklin helped introduce home delivery; improve postal accounting procedures (including printing customized forms); create a dead-letter office; and accept customer credit. During his tenure, the colonial postal system, for the first time, turned a profit.

America's present Postal Service descends in an unbroken line from the system Franklin planned and placed in operation. Today, the U.S. Postal Service delivers hundreds of millions of messages each day to more than 141 million homes and businesses.
Alan C. Kessler, Vice Chairman, Board of Governors of the U.S. Postal Service

Alan C. Kessler, Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors, is a Philadelphia attorney and partner in the firm of Wolf, Block, Schorr and Solis-Cohen, LLP, with substantial experience in the defense of class-action litigation, including securities, antitrust, toxic tort and civil rights cases. He was appointed a Governor of the U.S. Postal Service in November 2000.

Judith L. Martin, Postmaster, Philadelphia

Judith Martin was appointed Postmaster of Philadelphia in July 2005. She is the first female postmaster of Philadelphia, managing 62 stations, postal retail stores and branches. In Philadelphia, the Postal Service delivers more than 3 million pieces of mail daily to 712,000 residences and businesses. Martin began her carrier with the Postal Service in 1987 as a letter carrier in Hartford, Connecticut.
PROTECTING THE CITIZENS

Franklin's drive to improve himself naturally spilled over into a desire to further the common good. His public spirit mixed with practical organizational skills to produce a variety of civic improvement schemes. Because Franklin's first priority was to see his ideas realized, he was always willing to cede credit to and collaborate with others.
Even as a young tradesman, Franklin sought to better himself and his community. He organized the Junto—a small group of fellow tradesmen and artisans committed to mutual improvement. At their weekly meetings they asked how they “may be serviceable to mankind? to their country, to their friends, or to themselves?” The Junto’s actions formed their answer.

The vitality of the concept of service to community is illustrated by the fact that 64.5 million people volunteer their time each year, providing needed resources at the neighborhood, community, state, and national levels.
LEADERSHIP Philadelphia

For more than 45 years LEADERSHIP Philadelphia has been mobilizing the talent of the private sector to work on behalf of the community. Through a series of intensive seminars, the LEADERSHIP experience enhances participants’ civic knowledge and awareness and enriches leadership skills. Participants are trained to be board leaders, and can be placed on non-profit boards through LEADERSHIP’s deep and wide community network.
Benjamin Franklin and his fellow Junto members relied on reading to educate themselves. Since most books available in the colonies were expensive imports, the group soon decided to pool their resources to form The Library Company of Philadelphia. Each member was charged a subscription fee that went toward new acquisitions. Non-members could also use the library and even check out books if they put down a deposit.

Today, The Library Company of Philadelphia is a non-profit independent research library with collections documenting every aspect of the history and background of American culture from the colonial period to the end of the 19th century.

Public libraries all over America can trace their roots from this innovation. There are more than 117,000 libraries in the United States today. In addition to public libraries in almost every community, there are thousands of libraries in schools, colleges and universities, hospitals, law firms, businesses, and the armed forces.
James N. Green, Librarian, The Library Company of Philadelphia

James Green, Librarian of The Library Company of Philadelphia, continues to build upon the Library's core collection, but has expanded the collection in other areas not previously cultivated so intensively, such as economics, philosophy, popular fiction, popular medicine, photographic literature (in support of the Print Department), books by women, the history of printing and publishing, and illustrated books. The collection is constantly growing and adapting to new currents in scholarship, but its essential character has not changed. The Library Company's Book Collection holds approximately 500,000 books, periodicals, broadsides, and other printed items.

Kathleen Arnold-Yerger, Executive Director, Montgomery County-Norristown Public Library

As Executive Director of the Montgomery County-Norristown Public Library, Kathleen Arnold-Yerger is very aware of the dynamic changes occurring in today's library systems. Her library system is evaluating plans for renovating its main library, which alone has over half a million titles, and branches. The master plan must consider locations for computer labs, whether or not to offer wireless Internet services, and how to create open areas out of stacks upon stacks of books.

Susan Campbell, Director, Schmidt Library, York College

Susan Campbell has been the Director of Schmidt Library since 1985. She recently oversaw the complete gutting of the Schmidt Library and its transformation into a library that meets the studying and learning needs of today's students. The new library provides group-study spaces for collaborative work, wireless Internet access, computer work stations, and a “media alley” for producing documents. The Schmidt Library has 7,600 online books and 15,000 full-text online periodicals.
Franklin, having seen Boston and London’s fire-fighting systems, used his newspaper to suggest that Philadelphia too should organize and train teams of firemen. As usual, Franklin followed up his proposal with concrete action. In 1736, Franklin and nineteen of his neighbors organized the Union Fire Company.

There are more than 1.1 million volunteer and paid firefighters across the country. Fire departments in the United States respond to nearly 2 million fire calls each year.
Scott Adams, President, International Fire Marshals Association

Members of the International Fire Marshals Association (IFMA) are professionals engaged in the prevention of fire, the investigation of fires, and public fire and life safety education. IFMA provides its members with educational and professional development opportunities, actively participates in the code and standards-making process, monitors safety issues, and monitors and supports research and development of solutions to fire protection and fire prevention problems.

Nancy Weaver, Executive Director, International Association of Fire Chiefs

Established in 1873, the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) is a powerful network of more than 12,000 chief fire and emergency officers. Their members are the world’s leading experts in fire fighting, emergency medical services, terrorism response, hazardous materials spills, natural disasters, search and rescue, and public safety legislation.

Lloyd Ayres, Commissioner, Philadelphia Fire Department

The Philadelphia Fire Department has been serving Philadelphia for 270 years. The organized volunteer firefighting service was launched on December 7, 1736, and has served the community with unsung acts of bravery for nearly 135 years. In 1870, the City Council transformed the volunteer fire service into a professional fire department to meet the demands of the City’s growth and the Philadelphia Fire Department was created. Lloyd Ayers began his career with the Philadelphia Fire Department in 1974, and has since served in a variety of positions ranging from lieutenant to deputy commissioner prior to becoming commissioner.
INSURANCE Expanding on the idea of mutual aid, Franklin and his friends in 1751 created the Philadelphia Contributionship, the colonies' first fire insurance company. The Contributionship pushed for safer building standards, protected member households from fire, and even underwrote mortgages.

Franklin's dedication to progress and innovation has left its mark on The Contributionship, which now includes five subsidiaries known as The Contributionship Companies and is still located in Philadelphia. Today, there are over 1,400 mutual insurance companies in the United States.
Robert A. Wadsworth, CPCU, CIC, was elected Chairman of the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (NAMIC) in October of 2005. He has served on the NAMIC Board of Directors since September of 2001. Mr. Wadsworth is the President and CEO of Preferred Mutual Insurance Company in New Berlin, New York. Founded in 1895, the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies has made a significant and lasting impact on the property/casualty insurance industry. NAMIC sees mutual insurance—a concept developed by Franklin—as a successful, stable, and policyholder focused structure that provides distinct perspective and contributions to the insurance marketplace.
Noting that the part-time patrols of watchmen were ineffective, Franklin drafted legislation that would organize the watchmen as a full-time municipal service.

Today, there are more than 663,000 police officers in the United States. In partnership with these full-time professional, citizens play a critical role in crime prevention and safety through organizations like Town Watch and events such as “National Night Out—America’s Night Out Against Crime” which has grown to involve more than 34 million people from more than 10,000 communities.
**Sylvester M. Johnson,** Police Commissioner, City of Philadelphia  

Sylvester Johnson became the 13th Police Commissioner of the City of Philadelphia on January 4, 2002. A 39-year veteran of the Philadelphia Police Department, Johnson has been awarded over thirty departmental commendations, including the prestigious Award of Valor. The Philadelphia Police Department has a long and distinguished history and today more than 6,600 police officers serve the citizens of Philadelphia.

**Matt Peskin,** Executive Director, National Association of Town Watch  

In 1981, Matt Peskin worked with community crime prevention leaders, law enforcement agencies and local officials to establish the National Association of Town Watch (NATW), a nonprofit, crime and drug prevention organization dedicated to the development, maintenance and promotion of community crime watch programs. In 1984, Peskin created NATW’s highly successful National Night Out (NNO) crime prevention program. NNO has grown to become a powerful effort of coalition and partnership-building among public and private agencies, businesses, community organizations and citizens.
MEDICINE In 1751 Franklin's friend Dr. Thomas Bond tried to raise funds for a public hospital in Philadelphia. To help, Franklin came up with the idea of the matching grant, persuading the Pennsylvania legislature to promise £2,000 if the same amount could be raised from private donors.

Franklin was the first scientist to realize the importance of fresh air in curing disease and aiding general health. He printed the first medical tract published in the American colonies, observed that prolonged exposure to lead would cause sickness, and used his press to promote smallpox inoculation.

The prospect of a match proved a powerful incentive to give generously: the Pennsylvania Hospital, America's first, still stands today. The hospital has more than 25,000 admissions each year, including more than 4,200 births.
Pennsylvania Hospital

Pennsylvania Hospital, the nation’s first hospital, provides a full range of diagnostic and therapeutic medical services and functions as a major teaching and clinical research institution. The hospital is now known for its general and specialty surgical services. U.S. News and World Report ranked Pennsylvania Hospital as one of the top orthopaedic hospitals in the nation.

The College of Physicians of Philadelphia

Founded in 1787 by the Quaker physician— and Franklin friend— Benjamin Rush, the College has a strong continuing commitment to public service. Early in its history, the College informed health policy, promoted the humane treatment of prisoners, and safe drinking water. Today, these values are reflected in the College’s current mission: “advancing the cause of health and upholding the ideals and heritage of medicine.”

Community outreach at the College takes many forms. Working with the College’s museum education program, the region’s students visit the Mütter Museum to learn about human biology, anatomy and medical history. Philly Health Info is a health literacy program with a presence on the Internet— and a growing number of Philadelphia neighborhoods. The College’s Humanism in Medicine initiative has been endorsed by the region’s six medical schools. The College is also the home of one of the nation’s best historical medical libraries.
Franklin discovered ways to keep streets cleaner and deal with waste management. He also sponsored legislation to provide street cleaning as a municipal service. He even led an environmental protest against polluting slaughter houses, tan yards and skinner lime pits on the public dock.

It's difficult to imagine the challenges of keeping colonial streets clean. Today, state of the art machinery enables municipalities to ensure streets are clean and free of debris. In Philadelphia alone, the streets system totals 2,393 miles!
Center City District, University City District and Old City District

All three of these organizations were created around the concept of “clean and safe.” While they all have uniformed personnel who operate specialized machinery and manually sweep sidewalks to keep their neighborhoods clean, each has been the catalyst for bringing businesses, residents, and organizations together to support unique and vital city neighborhoods.

Center City District

The Center City District was founded in 1990 when over 2,000 property owners, commercial tenants and employers in Center City Philadelphia, along with the City of Philadelphia, agreed to establish a private-sector business improvement district committed to keeping the downtown of America’s fourth largest city clean, safe and attractive. Center City Philadelphia is home to 88,000-plus residents who enjoy close-knit neighborhoods and an array of attractive housing styles, all within walking distance of the employment center, restaurants, cultural institutions and other amenities.

University City District

University City District was established in 1997 to improve the quality of life of this 2.2 square mile area of West Philadelphia. With its funky vibe and unique spirit, University City is one of Philadelphia’s most vibrant and diverse neighborhoods. Located on the west side of downtown Philadelphia, the area is a hotbed of education, science, medicine and research. This dynamic, close-knit community is home to college students, artists, and families who coexist amid world-class universities, dining, nightlife and cultural offerings.
Old City District

The Old City District’s (OCD) 22-block area comprises much of our nation’s most historic square mile including all of the Independence National Historical Park. The Hipstoric™ Old City District is a place of unique people, significant history, charming shops, intriguing night life, and just loads of entertainment. Due to the 24/7 use of the neighborhood the OCD was started in 1998 to address “clean and safe” issues in Old City. The OCD supplements municipal services by providing maintenance, public safety, hospitality, and promotional programs.
Franklin was endlessly curious about the world around him; he approached his surroundings actively, learning about them through direct engagement. Curiosity combined with a great sense of adventure guided his interests and ultimately his discoveries.
AGRICULTURE Franklin organized a fundraising drive to support plant collecting trips by renowned Philadelphia botanist John Bartram. Franklin introduced several crops to the colonies, including Scotch kale, Swiss barley, Chinese rhubarb and kohlrabi.

FRANKLIN TODAY The exquisite Frankinia alatamaha tree is the most famous discovery of American botanists John and William Bartram. Today, gardening enthusiasts, history buffs, scholars and children enjoy John Bartram's legacy, now called Bartram's Garden.
Historic Bartram’s Garden

Historic Bartram’s Garden today is America’s oldest botanical garden. Located on the Schuylkill River in Southwest Philadelphia, the 45-acre site includes Bartram’s 18th century home and farm buildings, historical botanical garden, wildflower meadow, water garden, freshwater wetland, parkland, and river trail. Operated by the John Bartram Association, in coordination with the Fairmount Park Commission, Historic Bartram’s Garden welcomes 25,000 visitors each year.

Mrs. Pierre S. du Pont

Elise du Pont, descendant of Benjamin Franklin, is and has been involved in many board and community activities. She is an attorney and member of the Bar and is a member of the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Commission. She sits on the Board of the Bank of America, the Philadelphia Orchestra and is a member of the Garden Club of America. She is an active competitor in the Philadelphia Flower Show and has collected rare and unusual plant material on three continents.
INVENTOR When Franklin saw an unmet need, he often created or adapted a device to satisfy it. It was this aspect of Franklin’s character, his tireless sense of curiosity and wonder, which led to many of the inventions for which he is credited.

Franklin Today
While Franklin chose not to patent any of his inventions, the number of inventors—creating new devices or improving on existing ones—can be illustrated by the number of patent requests. In fiscal year 2005, the Department of Commerce’s United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) received 406,302 patent applications. Since 1790, more than seven million U.S. patents have been granted.
Delaware Valley Science Fairs

Delaware Valley Science Fairs’ (DVSF) mission is to encourage students in the tri-state area to pursue science and engineering through an “inquiry-based/hands-on” approach in hopes that they will grow and develop into contributing members of the community. DVSF provides our future scientists and engineers the opportunity to discover and excel. Many of the students who participate hold the key to tomorrow’s innovations. Of the 15 top winners at last year’s Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, two were from DVSF.

Joe Torsella

Joe Torsella is known for many things—as the first leader of the National Constitution Center, as a congressional candidate, as a member of the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary Commission, and currently as the leader of the Philadelphia 2016 Working Group working to bring the Olympic Games to Philadelphia. He’s also an inventor. Noting that a good spaghetti sauce could ruin a favorite dress shirt, Torsella invented the Spaghetti Smock. In 1995 QVC sold 12,000 in under two and a half minutes.

Dean Shostak

In 1991, Dean Shostak became involved in the revival of the rare and beautiful glass armonica, invented by Benjamin Franklin in 1761. Today, there are only eight glass armonica players in the world. Shostak is credited with bringing the glass armonica to Williamsburg, where it was performed on many occasions more than 200 years ago. Instead of using an electric motor to spin the glasses, he is the only glass armonica player since the 18th century to use a flywheel and foot treadle as Franklin originally designed. It is Shostak you hear on the glass armonica in the exhibition Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World.
Thomas Fetterman, Thomas Fetterman, Inc.

Thomas Fetterman has been using crutches since he had polio 51 years ago. Through his own use of crutches, Fetterman discovered their design limitations—and then invented a patented crutch tip with a built-in shock absorbing gel system to eliminate the pain that comes with long-term use of crutches. Since 1988, Fetterman has provided enhancements to crutches such as his Tornado or Performance gel-filled tips, Performance handgrips, Padded Leather Cuff Inserts and Spats Door Guards. He continues to explore and create new options to help people with disabilities.
Franklin not only included meteorological information in his Poor Richard’s Almanack, but also conducted a series of experiments to satisfy his curiosity about weather and its impact on the environment. He observed that storms can move in an opposite direction from the direction of the wind and proposed one of the first correct explanations for storm movement in the Northern Hemisphere.

Franklin would be fascinated with the tools available to today’s meteorologists. A new supercomputer, nicknamed “Blue Vista,” at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) will tackle the question of whether global climate change is helping produce more Category 4 and 5 hurricanes (the most powerful).
Kathy Orr, Meteorologist, CBS 3 Eyewitness News

Kathy Orr, the first female meteorologist in the Philadelphia television market, provides forecasts weekdays on Eyewitness News at 4, 6, and 11 p.m. As a member of the American Meteorological Society's (AMS) Board of Broadcast Meteorology, Orr serves as one of 11 board members who select candidates to receive the coveted AMS Seal of Approval. Orr has held the AMS Seal of Approval since 1994. In addition, Orr is a mentor for the American Meteorological Society's DataStream Project in the Delaware Valley, educating teachers in the field of Meteorology so that it can be added to the curriculum in local schools.

Elliot Abrams, Senior Vice-President and Chief Forecaster, AccuWeather

Elliot Abrams became interested in weather at age 5 when his father, a research chemist, built a barometer for him. Abrams was a weatherman in his second grade class play and was blamed for rainy weekends in fourth grade. He joined AccuWeather in 1967, and was a co-founder of AccuWeather's radio service in 1971. In addition to serving as Senior Vice-President and Chief Forecaster for AccuWeather, Abrams is co-author of AccuWeather's award-winning On-Line With AccuWeather instructional program for junior and senior high school classes. Abrams is one of two people in the world who has earned the accredited status of Certified Consulting Meteorologist along with the American Meteorological Society (AMS) Seal of Approval for both radio and television.
ELECTRICITY Franklin rose rapidly to prominence in the scientific world with the London publication of his Experiments and Observations on Electricity, which included his innovative single-fluid theory of electricity, as well as details of his proposed experiment to test the hypothesis that lightning was electrical. Franklin’s best known scientific insight was that lightning is, in fact, a large electric spark—an observation that he immediately put to practical use by devising a lightning rod system to protect buildings from electrical damage.

Benjamin Franklin was responsible for introducing several new words into our scientific vocabulary, including battery, positive and negative, conductor, and discharge. Scientists around the world adopted these terms—and they are still used today.
Dr. E. Philip Krider, Professor of Atmospheric Sciences, University of Arizona

Dr. E. Philip Krider shares Franklin's curiosity about electricity. Dr. Krider is known world-wide for his work on lightning and thunderstorm electricity. He led the group that developed the first gated, wideband magnetic direction-finders that are now the basis of the U.S. National Lightning Detection Network. Dr. Krider is a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union and the American Meteorological Society and a former Co-Chief Editor and Editor of the Journal of the Atmospheric Sciences; he is also past President of the International Commission on Atmospheric Electricity.

Brent Alderfer, President & Chief Executive Officer, Community Energy, Inc.

Community Energy, Inc. was founded in 1999 to ignite the market and supply the demand for wind-generated electricity. Today, Community Energy, Inc. leads the market in development of wind-generated power. President and CEO Brent Alderfer brings vision and leadership to the venture from his national role in opening new energy markets. As a former public utility commissioner, Alderfer led efforts to introduce wind and other new generation technologies at utility scale.
In 1743 Franklin drew up a proposal to create an inter-colonial Junto of sorts: a network of scientists and philosophers who would share news of their discoveries by post. This idea became the American Philosophical Society, the oldest learned society in America.

For more than 250 years, the American Philosophical Society (APS) has played an important role in American cultural and intellectual life. As a scholarly organization of international reputation, APS promotes useful knowledge in the sciences and humanities through excellence in scholarly research, professional meetings, publications, library resources, and community outreach.
Election to the American Philosophical Society (APS) honors extraordinary accomplishments in all fields. The APS is unusual among learned societies because its membership is comprised of top scholars from a wide variety of academic disciplines. Members are organized into five classes: Mathematical and Physical Sciences; Biological Sciences; Social Sciences; Humanities; and, the Arts, Professions, and Leaders in Public & Private Affairs. There currently are 920 members of the APS, 772 of which reside in the United States and 148 members representing more than two dozen countries. Over the course of the 20th century, more than 200 members of the Society have received the Nobel Prize.
CHARTING THE GULF STREAM  On his transatlantic voyages, Franklin noted changes in water temperature and atmospheric conditions, and the presence of whales feeding on plankton in the warmer waters. He also noticed that similar ships taking different routes across the Atlantic made the crossing at different speeds—and that the shortest course was not necessarily the fastest. This all made sense when his cousin Timothy Folger, a Nantucket sea captain, told him about the Gulf Stream and drew its location on a chart of the Atlantic, which Franklin then had published.

The Franklin/Folger chart of the Gulf Stream was amazingly accurate. It has been widely used by seamen of many nations, reducing the lengthy ocean crossing and spurring interest in the mysteries of the Atlantic.
Independence Seaport Museum

Independence Seaport Museum, located on Philadelphia’s waterfront, is dedicated to preserving America’s maritime history. Independence Seaport Museum’s Library is one of the nation’s premier regional maritime research centers, offering an impressive range of materials widely used by historians, authors, sailors, maritime enthusiasts and students. The library houses more than 12,000 volumes, 9,000 ship plans and a significant collection of rare books, manuscripts, photographs, maps and charts.
Franklin was an expert swimmer. He invented swim paddles and fins and is a member of the United States Swim Schools Association Hall of Fame and International Swimming Hall of Fame.

Franklin's flair for technical ingenuity combined with his youthful love for swimming to produce "a method in which a swimmer may pass to great distances with much facility, by means of a sail."

Swim paddles and fins are valuable tools for training and perfecting swim stroke mechanics. Predating windsurfing by centuries, Franklin discovered he could harness the power of the wind with his kite and was pulled effortlessly across a mile-wide pond.
In 2005, Swimming World awarded the Germantown Academy (GA) Girls Swimming Team the National High School Team Championship. The GA Patriots are the fastest girls team in the country based on fastest times swum that year. Dick Shoulberg is the Head Coach and Aquatics Director at Germantown Academy. He has represented the United States as coach in international competitions including the World and Pan Pacific Championships and the Pan American and Olympic Games. Shoulberg has coached eleven Olympians: Maddy Crippen, Alex Fung, Guy Yimsomruay, Dave W. Harton, Dave Berkoff, Sean Killion, Karin LaBerge, Dan Jorgenson, Trina Radke, Erika Hansen and Sue Heon.
MAGIC SQUARES In school, Franklin had “twice fail’d” mathematics, but as a young man he enjoyed “magic squares”—brainteasers in which every horizontal row or, vertical row, adds up to the same number. He built them to pass the time while listening to debates in the Pennsylvania Assembly, creating a square of 16 by 16 and even a magic circle.

Today, playing magic squares is making a strong comeback, led by their Japanese cousin, sudoku.
For the past six years, Dr. Paul Pasles has studied Franklin's life and work as it relates to mathematics. Pasles's articles and lectures on the subject have reached a varied audience: historians, mathematicians, teachers, elementary school students, and puzzle enthusiasts. Last summer, he organized a Franklin-themed course for the national mathematics conference. His book on Franklin and mathematics will be published in 2006.
Franklin was a master diplomat and negotiator, exercising restraint, flexibility, and compromise to bring opposing visions into accord. Whether negotiating with Native Americans in western Pennsylvania or with the great powers of England and France, Franklin drew on strategies of collaboration and mutual self-interest to forge alliances that shaped the future of America.
DIPLOMAT Franklin became a powerful force in the fight for independence, traveling to France to seek aid for America’s struggle against Britain. In Paris, Franklin capitalized on his brilliant reputation and charm; his humble demeanor and natural wit served the American cause well, and he forged strong transatlantic ties. In the end, this international alliance resulted in victory after a long Revolutionary War.

The American tradition of citizen diplomacy began in the 18th century when the Second Continental Congress appointed Benjamin Franklin as Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of France. The Bureau of Consular Affairs sees its history tied to Franklin’s time in France, where he performed many of the functions of a U.S. consulate, including issuing—and even printing—passports.
Michael E. Scullin, Esq., Honorary Consul of France in Philadelphia

Michael Scullin is an international lawyer and consultant. He is of counsel to the law firm of Monteverde, McAlee & Hurd. He is co-chair of the International Law Committee of the Philadelphia Bar Association and established a sister relationship and exchange program with the bar association of Lyon, France. Scullin is a member of the Boards of the French American Chamber of Commerce in Philadelphia and the Alliance Française. His diverse experience includes service as Executive Director of a global consortium of law firms, as an international legal advisor in Geneva and as Chief Executive Officer of a foundation supporting cancer research and treatment. He also is an Adjunct Professor at Temple University.

Stacy Schiff, Author, A Great Improvisation: Franklin, France, and the birth of America

Stacy Schiff chronicles Franklin’s days in Paris and negotiations for French support of America’s independence in A Great Improvisation: Franklin, France, and the birth of America. She also is the author of Vera (Mrs. Vladimir Nabokov), which won the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for biography and Saint-Exupéry: A Biography, which was a finalist for the 1995 Pulitzer Prize. She has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities and was a Director’s Fellow at the Center for Scholars and Writers at the New York Public Library.
STATESMAN Benjamin Franklin is the only person to have signed five of the key documents which helped to create the United States: the Albany Plan of Union, the Declaration of Independence, the Treaties of Amity, and Commerce with France, the Treaty of Paris (formalizing the terms of the peace between England, France, and the United States), and the U.S. Constitution.

FRANKLIN TODAY Franklin's life and accomplishments defined, in so many ways, what it means to be an American. Today, biographers and scholars continue to share aspects of his life and work enabling us all to benefit from the lessons he learned and shared.
Richard Stengel, President and CEO, National Constitution Center

The National Constitution Center is an independent, non-partisan, and non-profit organization dedicated to increasing public understanding of, and appreciation for, the Constitution, its history, and its contemporary relevance, through an interactive, interpretive facility within Independence National Historical Park and a program of national educational outreach. Richard Stengel joined the National Constitution Center as President and CEO in March 2004. Prior to his work at the Constitution Center, he served as the national editor for Time Magazine.

Dr. Richard R. Beeman, Professor of History, University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Richard R. Beeman is an historian of the American Revolutionary era, and has written five books and several dozen articles on aspects of America's political and constitutional history in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. He serves as Vice-Chair of the Academic Advisory Board and as Chair of the Program and Exhibits Committee of the Board of Trustees of the National Constitution Center. He is currently writing a history of the Constitutional Convention of 1787.
COLLABORATION  Franklin valued working collaboratively as part of a team or a community. In science, politics and civic life, he believed that alliances and partnerships were the best way to make good things happen. Franklin was inducted into the Cooperative Hall of Fame in 1987.

It's all about teamwork! Every coach will tell you that as will every successful business or nonprofit leader.
Meryl Levitz, President & Chief Executive Officer, Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corporation

As President and CEO of the Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corporation (GPTMC), Meryl Levitz is responsible for expanding Philadelphia’s regional tourism, worth $6.8 billion in direct visitor spending and accounting for more than 177,000 regional jobs. For Levitz, the key to increasing visitorship is effective partnerships that bring together groups with similar interests to develop promotional programs to reach high-yield markets.

Michael Colleran, President and General Manager, CBS 3 and UPN 57

Michael Colleran has been President and General Manager of Viacom’s CBS 3 (KYW-TV) and UPN 57 (WPSG-TV) since March 2005. A hallmark of Colleran’s career in each community where he has lived and worked has been community service. With the collaborative spirit of Benjamin Franklin, CBS 3 is the official media sponsor of the exhibition, Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World. To share Franklin’s story with the nation, CBS has produced a special on Franklin that will air in 23 television markets, showcasing the exhibition to television viewers in nearly 51 million homes.

Mary A. Bomar, Northeast Regional Director, National Park Service

Mary A. Bomar was named Northeast Regional Director for the National Park Service (NPS) in July 2005. Headquartered in Philadelphia, the Northeast Region is home to one third of all NPS museum collections, a quarter of all historic structures, almost half of the country’s National Historic Landmarks and more than half of the National Heritage Areas. Bomar’s leadership is characterized by her ability to achieve consensus among diverse groups.
Franklin consistently employed a range of skillful tactics in his role as diplomat. Restraint, compromise, cunning, and vision were among the qualities Franklin brought to the table. In 1786, Franklin published an essay, *The Morals of Chess*, in which he argued that chess strengthens the qualities of foresight, circumspection, and caution. He traced his diplomatic strategy back to his understanding of the game of chess. Franklin was inducted into the US Chess Hall of Fame in 1999.

Today, chess is recognized as a vehicle for teaching problem-solving, decision-making, and critical-thinking skills. Young and old, novices and experts play it all over the world.
Dr. John McCrary, Past President of the United States Chess Federation and the United States Chess Trust

Dr. John McCrary served as president of the United States Chess Federation (USCF), the governing organization for chess in America. A not-for-profit corporation, it has approximately 90,000 paid members. Its membership spans every state and territory of the U.S and beyond. There are nearly 2,200 USCF-affiliated chess clubs, and more than 100,000 chess players participate in USCF events every year. Dr. McCrary is an active chess historian, writing a regular column in the USCF's official publication, Chess Life. Created in 1967, the United States Chess Trust was organized to promote, stimulate and encourage the study and play of the game of chess as a means of intellectual development.

Marciene S. Mattleman, Ed.D., President, After School Activities Partnership, Philadelphia Youth Chess Challenge

A SAP, After School Activities Partnerships, was founded by Marciene Mattleman, and is affiliated with the Greater Philadelphia Urban Affairs Coalition (GPUAC). A SAP's goals are to increase the public's awareness of the importance of after school programs and move individuals and institutions to action, and to increase the number of after school activities available to Philadelphia's school age children. One of its increasingly popular programs is the Philadelphia Youth Chess Challenge. During the 2004-2005 school year A SAP coordinated 154 chess clubs, 99 of which were new. So far this year (2005-2006), they have started 51 new clubs. The 2005-2006 Philadelphia Interscholastic Chess League has 34 participating teams in divisions for elementary, middle, and high schools. Overall, approximately 2,700 children participate in the Chess Challenge.
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