

147TH
George Washington
BIRTHDAY BALL

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*In honor of George Washington
and to benefit Fraunces Tavern[®] Museum*

Each year, Sons of the RevolutionSM in the State of New York, Inc. hosts the George Washington Birthday Ball in honor of George Washington and to benefit our Fraunces Tavern[®] Museum. The 2024 Ball will be held at the Metropolitan Club, located at One East 60th Street (at Fifth Avenue) in New York City on Friday, February 23, 2024. We will honor United States Coast Guard Captain Zeita Merchant, Commander of Sector New York, the largest Coast Guard operational field command on the East Coast. The USCG was established in 1790 by Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton as the Revenue Marine Service. We are pleased not only to honor Captain Merchant, but also to recognize this branch of our country's Armed Forces.

Fraunces Tavern Museum keeps Revolutionary War history alive in the New York City area. In the past year, there have been two important additions to our exhibits: *The Birch Trials at Fraunces Tavern* and *Private Dining at Fraunces Tavern*. The first describes the proceedings of a joint British and American commission that met at Fraunces Tavern in 1783 to review and deliberate upon the eligibility of some Black Loyalists to evacuate with the British Army, and also recognizes the thousands of Black Patriots who fought for American Independence. The second portrays one of Fraunces Tavern's private dining rooms from the late 18th century, and recognizes that many notable Revolutionary War era figures - including Washington, Hamilton, Revere, Adams and Hancock - dined at the Tavern. A third recent installation, *Governing the Nation from Fraunces Tavern*, commemorates the use of Fraunces Tavern from 1785 to 1788 as the Nation's first executive office building, housing offices of the Departments of Foreign Affairs and War, as well as the Board of Treasury.

We continue to face significant challenges, including expensive capital projects to maintain our five historic buildings (over 300 years old, in the case of Fraunces Tavern). We very much need your support to continue the work of our Museum and maintain our historic structures.

Your attendance at the upcoming Ball will support the Museum and our work to perpetuate the memory of those who achieved American Independence. For those who cannot attend, we hope you will consider making a contribution to help us continue our mission. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Peter C. Hein
President