



TWO LIGHTS FOR TOMORROW

Sample Plan

Connecting Then to Now

The events that sparked the War for Independence outside Boston in April of 1775 are immortalized in Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's famous poem, "Paul Revere's Ride" with the famous line about "1 if by land, 2 if by sea."

Today, 250 years later, we gather as state commissions to plan ways to ensure that not only are those events remembered, but they are also connected to today.

The famous signal from the North Church's steeple that night in '75, 1 if by land, 2 if by sea, was a signal meant to shine across the water to others on the opposite shore so that they could carry the message forward not just as a back-up for Paul Revere, but to make sure that the message got spread as far and as wide as possible.

And just like then, we have that same calling now, to spread a message asking everyone in the country to join together in support and service to our communities.

Two spotlights, placed atop the House and Senate, will be ceremonially lit to commemorate the 250th anniversary of Paul Revere's ride on Friday, April 18, 2025. The program will highlight unity and the American experience.

Date: Friday, April 18, 2025

Time: 6:30pm-7:30pm (sunset will be at approximately 7pm)

Program to Include:

- Daughters and Sons of the American Revolution participation (potentially a color guard or brief remarks)
- Musical performance from a school band/choir
- Guest speaker remarks from the Governor, the Chair of the Arizona America250 Commission, and the Speaker of the House or President of the Senate
- Guests of Honor: America's Field Trip recipients from Arizona, logo contest winner, commanders from the National Guard, Veterans organizations, and community service organization leaders (i.e. Boys and Girls Club, Scouts, Kiwanis, etc.), local elected leaders
- Program concludes with two VIP selectees (potentially a descendant of Paul Revere and Arizona's oldest resident) "flipping a switch" to turn on the lights
- Possible equestrian participation to launch the lighting

- Lights will be illuminated for at least the next two nights

Communications/PR:

- Invitations to the media
- PR push for the media to interview VIPs afterward regarding the 250th and the importance of giving back to your community in many forms

Corporate Sponsorship and Attendance

- Sponsorship available, including logo placement on digital screens, signage, and a “presented by” top-level package
- Business leaders invited to attend in a VIP seating area

Additional Options for the Governor:

- Official proclamations from the Governor and the Legislature (sample provided from Alabama)
- An executive order encouraging government departments, municipalities, and citizens to participate by displaying their own candles, lights, or lanterns.

To Consider:

- Pairing the event (either before or after) with a free concert featuring an orchestra, possibly the Phoenix Symphony
- Food trucks

Logistics:

- Practical considerations with ADOA, including spotlight placement, seating, and a stage
- Security