



We The People Society

Celebrating...

... 231 years of America's signing of the Constitution on September 17, 2018 by establishing the Society as a Community of Practice to make a Collective Impact for Civility, Respect, Engagement, Cultural Leadership, and Spirituality

**“Creeds without deeds
of love for humanity
are worthless.”**

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The Official Declaration for We The People Society

- A Humanitarian Initiative of the National Leadership Center for Excellence and the American Civility Forum and Lyceum -

A Declaration for A More Perfect Union

to Insure Civility & Domestic Tranquility for the Blessings of Liberty



May 1, 2018

BE IT WRITTEN AND DECLARED that Mr. George Washington and thirty-eight other signers affixed their most important and sustaining signatures to the United States of America's Constitution on Day Seventeen, the Month of September, in 1787 the year of our Lord with the lead introductory Preamble . . .

The Preamble

"We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America"

The National Leadership Center for Excellence and our American Civility Forum & Lyceum, pledge to advance the emphasis of *A More Perfect Union* to insure Domestic Tranquility. To this end, we shall honor our Constitution in these most important pursuits and practices to promote the general welfare and to secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity. In this we shall honor our founding fathers sacred fire as our personal inheritance and promise to advance a more perfect union under all conditions of war and peace. In so practicing, let us join together as one national community of practicing leaders of cultural architects living to be an envoy for a more perfect union. In this we invite reflection regarding the set-forth nine Articles for 2018 commitment and future engagement.

Our Declaration's "Plan Civilitas" Cultural and Civility Leadership Articles of Engagement are . . .

Article I. Whereby, we agree to act for May 1 in America to be renamed and reframed *A National Day of Civility, Loyalty and Trust.*

Article II. Whereby, we agree to participate in the American Civility Tour II to be established in the great State of Alabama.

Article III. Whereby, we agree to be engaged as a member in the Society of 100 for *A More Perfect Union* and the NLCC General Assembly.

Article IV. Whereby, we agree to be good stewards by honoring our Constitution and its fundamental principles in our life's work.

Article V. Whereby, we agree to champion greater Civility, Respect, Engagement, Spirituality and Servant Leadership learning.

Article VI. Whereby, we agree to celebrate and honor recipients of *A More Perfect Union Lifetime Achievement Award.*

Article VII. Whereby, we agree to contribute to our Society quarterly review with leadership articles from our esteemed body of signatures.

Article VIII. Whereby, we agree to partner with national leaders as a constitutional-driven body of leaders as servants.

Article IX. Whereby, we agree to support another in this most important relationship Proverb – iron sharpeneth iron.

Be it resolved, that we the 100 undersigned wish to offer our very best of leadership for the merits of our Declaration for *A More Perfect Union*. We act upon this in truth to contribute our fullest self-realization of our purpose for the common good - as our capabilities make possible. All signatures are final and shall be complete on or before September 1, 2018. It shall be officially recorded that the General Assembly shall meet in Philadelphia, Constitution Day, September 17, 2018 and every year thereafter for the very purpose of honoring our Constitution's Preamble for *A More Perfect Union*.

With our very best of intentions we shall lead by example, as Servant Leaders and Cultural Architects in the flagship Community of Practice – *The American Civility Forum & Lyceum*. May we as citizens cultivate a higher endowment to make explicit the design and successful implementation of a learning and relationship system dedicated to a better and more caring culture.

May we the people ordain this Declaration by our signatures. To be ordained, each signature is invited to offer a 300-word written presentation - What is the meaning of *A More Perfect Union*, and what recommendation might be offered for America to act upon? Signatures will be officially authenticated by the National Leadership Center for Excellence Secretary-General and Secretariat.

As invited, we the undersigned ordain the Declaration for *A More Perfect Union* to insure Civility & Domestic Tranquility for the Blessings of Liberty. So be it.

WE THE PEOPLE SOCIETY

Leadership Rules of Engagement

**For Public Release:
Founder's Day, May 1, 2018
National Leadership Center for Excellence
Office of the Citizen**

A long, long time ago, in Philadelphia, Pa., thirty-nine leaders of the period came together to deliberate, to reflect, to compromise, to dream and to finally act as one --- for We The People. The date was September 17, 1787. They signed our Constitution. Two hundred and thirty-nine years ago, they believed in A More Perfect Union in the pursuit of Domestic Tranquility to ensure the Blessings of Liberty. We, the 100 signers of the Declaration for A More Perfect Union, dated May 1, 2018, as the cornerstone of our WE THE PEOPLE SOCIETY believe there is much yet to be done. There is unfinished business to take care of – such as the way we treat one another. The lack of Civility is at the crisis level, and America has a rich history in acting responsibly when there is a crisis-at-hand or of-the-heart. The leaders of yesteryear can no longer be called upon to lead us to a more perfect union through sacrificing their fortunes, lives and sacred honor.

Let us now in the year of 2018, become a Society Community of Practice for A More Perfect Union:

WHY?

We believe there is a humanitarian crisis in our nation! The “We The People Society” is an action-driven body of 100 charter leaders wishing to contribute to a better and kinder society for the purpose of increased Civility, Respect, Engagement, Leadership and Spirituality.

WHO?

The 100 Declaration Signers are to be led by our 12 servant -leader Circle of Ambassadors and other charter leaders. We shall be engaged in carrying on the legacy of our Founder, Melvin G. Cooper.

WHAT?

The Society may wish to consider and act upon programs and activities to be suggested from the charter leaders of the Society in 2018. All Civility considerations are open for dialogue. What you are about to peruse is ongoing research opportunities for dialogue and possible action initiatives.

- **To present a new May 1 Day – A National Day for Loyalty, Civility & Trust** – replacing the existing National Loyalty Day approved by Congress in 1957.
- **To lead the American Civility Tour Challenge** – To build off the National Endowment for the Humanities 2010 American Civility Tour by making this a Civility Challenge in America by visiting all states from 2018 to 2020... starting in Alabama first in 2018.
- **To champion George Washington's book “Rules of Civility and Decent Behavior”** to all of America's elementary school students by distributing to all libraries for reading, and May 1 programs of each year and for greater advocacy through school leadership.
- **To thoroughly understand and measure the role of Cultural Architecture** in the Society and to consider such becoming a course of study and training for We The People Society charter leaders and external leaders in America.

- **To implement the 1730 Benjamin Franklin “Junto” (meaning to join) community of practice leadership model.** Our Society may wish to adopt the original thinking with our 100 acting-in-concert in a similar way to “to share a spirit of inquiry and a desire to improve themselves, their community and to help others.”
- **To revisit and discuss Eleanor Roosevelt’s American Youth Congress** from the late 1930’s, its purpose and impact on our youth. More than 3 million youth traveled to Washington DC to be an early voice to discuss the problems facing youth as a whole. Perhaps, acting on the Pledge of Allegiance as a national act of patriotism may warrant a renewed major youth movement. It is thought that perhaps there may be a reframing and renaming for such an important body --- **We The Youth** --- a division of the Society.
- **To measure America’s past with the Great Awakening** in terms of the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Great Awakenings. For the purpose of considering there to be a future Fifth Great Awakening needed in America for the All – for Civility, Respect, Engagement, Leadership and Spirituality.
- **To appreciate and value the history of our flag** and its highest and best presentation through understanding its representation for all of America.
- **To research and implement opportunities for Social Impact Bonds** for very special projects in America, with emphasis initially in Alabama.
- **To join forces with America’s Freedom Train** from 2018 to 2020 through music in this being associated with the American Civility Challenge.

Please note that the 100 essays for a more perfect union shall include any and all possible offerings for the Society to review. We welcome what may be best for – We The People.

WHEN?

The Society is to be engaged in final decision-making for 2018-2020 on Constitution Day, September 17-18, 2018 in Philadelphia. Prior to this date, we wish to convene on June 18-19, 2018 in Alabama to share our three-year plan and programming for conversation. On May 1-2, 2018 – Founder’s Day - we wish to celebrate our official launching of the We The People Society in Auburn/Opelika, Al. and to publish the A More Perfect Union 100 Essays for distribution to the 100 for study in preparation for the June Society gathering.

WHERE?

The Society shall select a home base in 2018 as part of the NLCX national plan. There are several under consideration. Each shall be experienced during the year, with a decision made in Philadelphia in September. Under current consideration are Alabama locations – Montgomery, Troy, Auburn/Opelika and Tuskegee.

SUMMATION: Please know that there are no expectations of the Society or from each charter leader. Your combined essays for a more perfect union are our infrastructure and roadmap. Should we as a body of charter leaders agree to act upon one or more opportunities in Philadelphia on September 18, 2018, we will act. If not, we shall drive on for a more perfect union. This we know. There is to be a freedom in our one voice. There is to be an emphasis on Domestic Tranquility for the Blessings of Liberty. There is to be no one agenda by any charter leader. Disagree we may. We convene to listen, respect and to share. If you will carefully view all charter leaders, you will sense a one common good – each of you lead self and others with great respect. Your goodness matters at all times in the Society. May you know how deeply we value your signature, your love of nation and the pursuit of happiness. May we always lead with and for – WE THE PEOPLE.

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