

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesman

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MEDIA NOTE

Exhibition of the Great Seal of the United States opens at Independence National Historical Park, Philadelphia

Independence National Historical Park is hosting the landmark exhibition *Celebrating the 225th Anniversary of the Great Seal: Past, Present and Future*. The exhibition was organized in 2007 by the United States Diplomacy Center (<http://diplomacy.state.gov>) to commemorate the anniversary of the creation of America's national symbol.

This exhibition looks back at the ancestors, origins and meanings of the modern seal, how and why it came to reside at the Department of State, and celebrates its significance in the United States today. Included in the exhibition is art work from Washington DC-area students reinterpreting the Great Seal with an eye toward the future.

The exhibition is on view until September 17, 2010 at the National Park Service, Independence Living History Center (<http://www.nps.gov/inde/ilhc.htm>). The Living History Center is just two blocks away from Independence Hall, where the Founding Fathers forged the Constitution and mandated the creation of a seal to represent the new nation.

Previously the *Great Seal* exhibition was on view at the following venues: Harriton House, Bryn Mawr, PA (March 17 – September 16, 2009); George C. Marshall Foundation, Lexington, VA (May 28, 2008 – March 1, 2009); and the Department of State Exhibit Hall, Washington, DC (December 20, 2007 – May 5, 2008).

For more information on U.S. Diplomacy Center exhibitions and educational programs, please call 202-736-9040, or email at usdc@state.gov.

About the United States Diplomacy Center:

The United States Diplomacy Center is dedicated to telling the story of American diplomacy and the Department of State through interactive exhibits and education programs. The Diplomacy Center is developing a state-of-the-art museum and education center which will welcome the American people and visitors from around the world to the Department of State, explain why diplomacy matters today and throughout history, and prepare future leaders for tomorrow's global challenges.

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