

# America250 in Moab

## Moab Arts and Utah Humanities Partner to Open Voices & Votes: Democracy in America in Moab as Part of America250

### MOAB EXHIBITION KICKOFF CELEBRATION

Join Moab Arts this summer for one of many events related to this exhibition. Kicking off with an opening reception on June 8 at the MARC, special guests will be speaking from Utah Humanities and the City of Moab.

**Moab Opening of Voices & Votes: Democracy in America**  
Monday, June 8, 2026, 4:00-6:00pm  
Moab Arts Center, 111 East 100 North, Moab, UT 84532

The Moab Arts Center will be operating with modified hours while the Voices & Votes exhibition is on display. The exhibit will be open Mondays to Wednesdays 9am-4pm, Thursdays 9am-7pm, and Sundays 1pm-4pm. Staff and volunteer docents will be available during open hours to provide a guided tour of the exhibition. If you would like to schedule a tour outside of open hours you can request a time through the link on the Moab Arts website: <https://www.moabarts.org/voicesandvotes>.

### MOAB EVENT SCHEDULE:

A schedule of free public programming associated with the exhibition is included below. For more information, see the Moab Arts website: <https://www.moabarts.org/voicesandvotes>.

- **June 8: 4-6 p.m. Opening Reception** at the MARC Exhibit unveiling, remarks from community leaders, and a chance to add your voice to the exhibit by sharing what is important to you.
- **June 6: Story Telling Workshop** at the Grand County Library. Civic Voice: public speaking and advocacy skills for public comment, council meetings, and letters to the editor.
- **June 12: Arts & Ag Farmer's Market** at Swanny Park. Use your voice! Share a story at the exhibit's phone booth or share your experience with democracy via a poem or craft.
- **June 16: Story Slam** at the MARC. We provide the theme "Your Voice, Your Vote" and you tell a true, personal 5-8 minute story, no notes or props.
- **June 19: Free Movie Moab Screening of Hamilton** at Swanny Park. We provide the movie and popcorn, you bring a chair and a water bottle.
- **July 2 & 3: Grand County Fair** at the Old Spanish Trail Arena. The Grand County Fair will host a variety of events the first weekend of July. Come see our booth to Share your Voice! We will collect your stories and experiences, through craft, poem surveys, and games.
- **July 10: Arts & Ag Farmer's Market** at Swanny Park. Use your voice! Share a story at the exhibit's phone booth or share your experience with democracy via a poem or craft.
- **July 17: Free Movie Moab Screening of National Treasure** at Swanny Park. We provide the movie and popcorn, you bring a chair and a water bottle.
- **July 24: Pioneer Day Ice Cream Social** at the Center Street Ballfields. Evening of festivities with Moab Arts and the Moab Museum; crafts, games, ice cream, and pie!
- **July 30: Audience Guided Guest Lecture with Scholar Katherine Kitterman** at the MARC. Scholar for the Utah tour of Voices & Votes Katherine Kitterman will lead a lecture about her in-depth knowledge of Utah's history of democracy, followed by a Q&A.
- **August 7: ArtWalk: Voices & Votes Closing Reception.** See how the community portions of the exhibit have grown and what we have learned about our community voices.

**Christina Wightman, Associate Arts Director at the MARC,** is coordinating Voices & Votes in Moab. She says, "It is so exciting to have the opportunity to bring the Smithsonian to our region. We're looking forward to learning alongside our community, and learning about what's important to Moab. There's truly something for everyone in this exhibit. It feels like an important topic, albeit vulnerable for many, and our goal is to make sure people know how to make their voice heard in a way that works for them, to feel empowered and capable of participating in democracy. Our companion exhibit brings the local art and history element to the table as well as all the stories and experiences of our community. Come see! Add your voice to the story!"

**Megan van Frank, Director of Utah Humanities' Center for Community Heritage,** oversees the Utah tour of *Voices & Votes* to five host communities in 2026-2027. She says, "As we commemorate America's 250th anniversary, *Voices & Votes: Democracy in America* offers a powerful opportunity to honor the nation's history while elevating the voices, heritage, and lived experiences of Utah communities. Through strong local and national partnerships—between the Smithsonian Institution, Utah Humanities, and communities across the state—this tour invites Utahns to tell their own stories as part of the American democratic tradition. I hope that *Voices & Votes* will serve as a meeting place for conversations about democracy, the freedoms and responsibilities of citizens, and the many ways we have to participate in government. By connecting local history to a shared national narrative, we strengthen cultural ties, deepen civic understanding, and reaffirm the



Statue of Liberty, sketch, June 30, 1884. Courtesy of Library of Congress

and our contemporary strengths and challenges have been shaped by the voices and votes of the generations before us. We each have an opportunity to participate in the democratic process as we continue creating our country together through negotiation, adjustment, conflict, and compromise."

**Robbie Davis, Project Director at the Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street and liaison for the Utah tour,** indicates that "*Voices & Votes: Democracy in America* is part of the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street (MoMS) program, a unique collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES), state humanities councils, and local host institutions. MoMS provides a catalyst for host communities to collect, celebrate, and showcase their unique local history and traditions as part of the national exhibition theme. Local sites create their own companion exhibits, and host tours, workshops, speakers, as well as other public and school programming that showcase their local story. We are proud to be partnering with Utah Humanities to bring *Voices & Votes* to five communities across Utah throughout the next year."



Moab Printshop. Bish Taylor at Print Shop. Photo courtesy of the Moab Museum

**About Utah Humanities:** Utah Humanities (UH) cultivates connections, deepens understanding, and explores our complex human experience. UH is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the ESRR Foundations, Salt Lake County Zoo, Arts, and Parks Fund, the State of Utah, and through gifts from individuals, foundations, and corporations. Each year, Utah Humanities supports hundreds of educational and cultural programs throughout Utah. UH has been touring MoMS exhibitions in Utah since 1994. For more information, visit [www.utahhumanities.org](http://www.utahhumanities.org).

**About the Moab Arts Center:** The Moab Arts Center (MARC) provides arts opportunities and programming in Grand County, providing classes and art based activities to young people and adults. From summer art camp and community art exhibits to movement classes and public programming, the MARC is Moab City's community center for the arts. For more information visit [www.moabarts.org](http://www.moabarts.org).

**About Smithsonian Museum on Main Street:** Museum on Main Street (MoMS) is part of the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES). MoMS provides access to the Smithsonian for small-town America through museum exhibitions, research, educational resources, and programming. MoMS exhibitions have visited more than

role communities play in shaping a stronger nation."

**Kathrine Kitterman is the consulting state scholar for the *Voices & Votes* exhibition tour of Utah.** She is the Women's History Initiative Coordinator at the Utah Historical Society and Executive Director of Better Days, a nonprofit that shares stories of women who shaped Utah's history. In an essay written for the tour to connect Utah's history to the national story explored by the exhibition, Kitterman writes, "Our history of conflict and compromise gives Utahns a unique perspective as we look back on 250 years of American democracy. Our



Smithsonian



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2,200 communities across America since 1994. For more information visit [museumonmainstreet.org](http://museumonmainstreet.org).

*Voices & Votes:*

*Democracy in America* is brought to Utah by Utah Humanities. The exhibition is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and State Humanities Councils nationwide. The exhibition is based on an original exhibition by the National Museum of American History. Support for Museum on Main Street has been provided by the United States Congress.



Tabling for voter registration at City Market in 1987. Photo courtesy of the Moab Museum

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