

# Millennium Alliance

---

*Year 2000 Events / By Region / By Country / By City / International / Special / Mega*

---

## Millennium Threshold Observance Plans in the U.S.A.

- Catalyst: Rethinking the Millennium (Washington, DC and international)
- Cincinnati 2000 (Cincinnati, OH and tristate region)
- Community Projects for Boston 2000 (Boston, MA)
- Drumming In The Year 2000: A Global Event (Taos, NM and the world)
- First Light 2000 (Boston, MA)
- First Night Boston (Boston, MA and others across the U.S. and Canada)
- Interfaith Meditation for World Peace (New York, NY)
- Millennium Day Broadcast (national)
- Millennium Festival, Hancher Auditorium (Iowa City, Iowa)
- Millennium Institute (Washington, DC, national, and world observances)
- Millennium Society (national and world observances)
- National Millennium Foundation (national legislation)
- Scottsdale, Arizona (community events)
- Times Square 2000 (New York, NY; mega event)
- USC School of Urban Planning and Development (state level: California)
- The White House Millennium Program (national activities)
- Year 2000 Group (Washington, DC, and national observances)

---

### Catalyst: Rethinking the Millennium

Washington, DC and around the world

"RETHINKING THE MILLENNIUM... is about youth, as the leaders of tomorrow, gathering our ideas and resources to decide what our world should look like in the 21st century. In June of 1999, we will gather in Washington, D.C. for one week as the culmination of a two year "Rethinking the Millennium" process.

Rethinking the Millennium has two focuses: NEW DIALOGUE and COORDINATED ACTION. Many of us are talking about the same things, but we're not talking to each other, and most of us aren't doing much about it. We believe that we can change all this through collective action.

We are now helping young people to start Catalyst groups in their communities, high schools, colleges, technical schools, and graduate schools. Through the Spring and fall of 1998, these Catalyst groups will organize volunteer projects and hold seminars, working groups, and symposiums to find practical solutions to the problems we face. In these groups we want to ask each other some fundamental questions such as:

- What do we want our families and communities to look like?
- How should our working lives be structured?
- What can we do to eliminate gender inequalities and systemic racism?
- How should our finite resources be distributed in our nation and world?
- What kinds of alternative energy sources can we turn to in order to reverse the harm we've done to our planet?
- What can we do, as individuals and as members of the global community, to make a real difference?"

For more information, contact:

**Christopher Murray**  
*"Rethinking the Millennium"*  
Catalyst - Office of Student Affairs  
600 New Jersey Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20001 USA  
tel: +1 (202) 662-9862  
e-mail: [catalyst@law.georgetown.edu](mailto:catalyst@law.georgetown.edu)  
Web site:

---

**Community Projects for Boston 2000**  
Boston, Massachusetts

Community based arts/humanities/internet projects where millennial themes are conveyed. The Website includes the "Millennium Mail Art Project" page, a time sensitive "1000 days 'til 2000" countdown idea, which can be replicated in any community, anywhere in the world.

For more information, contact:

**Patrice Keegan**  
Community Projects for Boston 2000  
Boston, Massachusetts USA  
Web site: <http://www.codman.org/boston2000>

---

**Cincinnati 2000**  
Cincinnati, Ohio

"The Tristate's countdown to the new millennium has begun, with initial plans under way for what is expected to be one of the area's largest celebrations.

Planners of the event -- knowing it'll be 1,000 years until the next millennium -- want to make it memorable.

The Cincinnati Recreation Commission and Covington's Recreation Department have separately started brainstorming about such things as the celebration's size, possible venues, sponsorships and entertainment for 2000."

For more information, see:

**Cincinnati Recreation Commission**  
Cincinnati, OH USA  
[http://enquirer.com:80/editions/1996/12/23/loc\\_millennium.html](http://enquirer.com:80/editions/1996/12/23/loc_millennium.html)

---

**Drumming In The Year 2000: A Global Event**  
Taos, NM and around the world

"Folks who haven't yet made plans for New Year's Eve 1999 may be interested to learn of a global party to which they're all invited. To affirm their visualization for the coming Millenium, people in cities and towns around the world will drum together in unison for the final hours of 1999. As they drum, an affirmation of their collective vision for the future will be read in every major language of the world, by the United Nations, a supporter of this event for world peace. "

"Organized by the Taos, New Mexico-based All One Tribe Foundation of Taos, New Mexico, in collaboration with other global-community networking organizations worldwide, the event will be

covered by satellite and broadcast live. People in centralized locations in major cities will be able to see their Earth neighbors in other countries joining in this collective, energetic, wordless prayer for world peace. People in these locations will drum in shifts to coincide with the midnight hour as it arrives in time zones around the world."

For more information, contact:

***SoulZone***

*P.O. Box 394*

*Taos, New Mexico 87571 USA*

*tel: 1-800-442-DRUM*

*e-mail: [beat@allonetribedrum.com](mailto:beat@allonetribedrum.com)*

*Web site: <http://www.soulzone.com/millenum/index.html>*

---

**First Light 2000**

Boston, Massachusetts

"First Light 2000 is a diverse group of people celebrating and inviting visions of the new Millennium."

***Jean Wright***

*First Light 2000*

*P.O. Box 15*

*Charlestown, MA 02129 USA*

*tel: +1 617 241-5433*

*e-mail: [GJWri@aol.com](mailto:GJWri@aol.com)*

*or [info@firstlight2000.com](mailto:info@firstlight2000.com)*

*Web site: <http://www.firstlight2000.com/>*

---

**First Night Boston**

Boston, Massachusetts

First Night Boston is how Boston celebrates New Year's Eve. First Night is a non-alcoholic, community-oriented festival which takes place on New Year's Eve (December 31st). It is a celebration of the arts on that every year transforms the city into a wonderland of artistic expression. There are performances, exhibitions and demonstrations by over 1,000 artists.

Boston was starting place for First Night celebrations; now there are more than 50 others across the United States and Canada. Follow the links from the First Night Boston Web site to find the others.

For more information, contact:

***First Night, Inc.***

*20 Park Plaza, Suite 927*

*Boston, MA 02116 USA*

*tel: +1 617 542-1399*

*fax: +1 617 426-9531*

*e-mail: [fnteam@firstnight.org](mailto:fnteam@firstnight.org)*

*Web site: <http://www.firstnight.org/>*

---

**Interfaith Meditation For World Peace**

New York, NY

Lois Nicolai is helping to organize an Interfaith Meditation for World Peace in New York City, to

be held at the United Nations.

For more information contact:

**Lois Nicolai**  
*Interfaith Meditation for World Peace*  
e-mail: [loispeace@aol.com](mailto:loispeace@aol.com)

---

### **Millennium Day Broadcast**

Nationally across the U.S.

A television station in Boston, WGBH, is working on a Millennium special for PBS. It will be a 24-hour television program, consisting of half-hour segments from different countries around the world -- starting on the international date line and moving west.

"A group of international broadcasters plan to collaborate on a 24-hour worldwide television event for the day in which the century and the millenium turn. Cultural differences and common humanity will be celebrated, and each participating country will produce a segment that is entertaining and inspirational."

**Carole Osterer**  
WGBH TV  
Boston, MA USA  
e-mail: [Carole\\_Osterer@wgbh.org](mailto:Carole_Osterer@wgbh.org)  
Web site: <http://www.current.org/pi2000.html>

---

### **Millennium Festival**

**Iowa City, Iowa**

Hancher Auditorium at the University of Iowa in Iowa City, IA, USA, is planning a Millennium Festival for the 1999-2000 performing arts season. The festival will include several major commissions in music and dance, and many of these works will have their world or US premieres in the auditorium during the 1999-2000 season. The festival will also include speeches, discussions, symposia and New Year's Eve performance/social events in several locations.

For more information, contact:

**Millennium Festival**  
Virgil M. Hancher Auditorium  
The University of Iowa  
231 Hancher Auditorium  
Iowa City, IA 52242-1794 USA  
tel: +1 319 335-1130  
fax: +1 319 335-1180  
Media contact: Winston Barclay, [winston-barclay@uiowa.edu](mailto:winston-barclay@uiowa.edu)  
Auditorium representative: Judith Hurtig, [judith-hurtig@uiowa.edu](mailto:judith-hurtig@uiowa.edu)  
Web site: <http://www.uiowa.edu/~hancher/>

---

### **Millennium Institute**

Washington, DC

The Millennium Institute is facilitating observances in cities, villages, and towns around the world during the "Millennial Moment", the period of 1999-2000-2001, including i) the Parliament of World Religions in Cape Town, South Africa in 1999 (confirmed), ii) a Gathering of World

Leaders in Thingvellir, Iceland in 2000 (probable), and iii) a series of Youth Conferences in 2001 beginning in Costa Rica (being planned).

For more information, contact:

***Philip Bogdonoff***

*Millennium Institute*

*1117 North 19th Street, Suite 900*

*Arlington, Virginia 22209-1708 USA*

*tel: +1 703 841-0048*

*fax: +1 703 841-0050*

*e-mail: [millennium@igc.apc.org](mailto:millennium@igc.apc.org), or [pbogdonoff@igc.apc.org](mailto:pbogdonoff@igc.apc.org) (preferred)*

*Web site: <http://www.igc.apc.org/millennium>*

---

**Millennium Society**

Washington, DC

"The Millennium Society, founded in 1979, is the oldest and largest organization established to celebrate the Year 2000 by organizing an international New Year's Eve 1999 Celebration. The purpose of this worldwide celebration is to commemorate the achievements of the current millennium and help pave the way for even greater achievements in the next millennium by giving the gift of education to young people around the world and promoting international understanding and cooperation among all nations."

The Millennium Society is planning World Millennium Balls and other celebrations at 23 sites around the world.

For more information, contact:

***Joyce Abbott Bailey***

*The Millennium Society*

*1250 24th St., N.W., Suite 350*

*Washington, DC 20037-1124 USA*

*tel: +1 202 332-1999*

*fax: +1 202 835-1618*

*e-mail: [info@millenniumsociety.com](mailto:info@millenniumsociety.com)*

*Web site: <http://www.millenniumsociety.org>*

---

**National Millennium Foundation**

Washington, DC

The National Millennium Foundation, among other activities, is proposing the establishment of a "National Millennium Commission".

For more information, contact:

***William Renfro***

*2040 National Press Building, N.W.*

*Washington, DC 20045 USA*

*tel: +1 500 776-2001*

*fax: +1 500 776-2020*

*e-mail: [rsrenfro@digex.net](mailto:rsrenfro@digex.net)*

*Web site: <http://www.tmn.com/~renfro/M3.htm>*

## **Scottsdale, Arizona**

Mark Boyer has been working for over a year to begin plans for millennium activities in Scottsdale, Arizona. He has met the School District supervisors, the city managers, the Art Museum, and many others. The millennium activities will be endeavors to mark the moment not only with celebration and observances but with programs that will be transformative for the Scottsdale community well into the next century.

For more information, contact:

**Mark Boyer**  
23825 N. 75th Place  
Scottsdale, AZ 85255 USA  
tel: +1 602 502-1298  
e-mail: [mrkboyer@aol.com](mailto:mrkboyer@aol.com)

---

## **USC School of Urban Planning and Development** Los Angeles, CA

Several people at the USC School of Urban Planning and Development are working on research for their own, state millennium celebration.

*[contact information will be available later]*

---

## **The White House Millennium Program** Washington, DC and around the nation

On Friday, 15 August 1997, the Hillary and Bill Clinton announced the White House Millennium Program, including plans for a range of commemorative activities to "honor the past and imagine the future", and an invitation for all Americans to "give our own gifts to the future" [see related item at Millennium Gifts].

For more information:

**Ellen McCulloch-Lovell, Director**  
White House Millennium Program Office  
Washington, DC USA  
e-mail: [Millennium@whitehouse.gov](mailto:Millennium@whitehouse.gov)  
Web site: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/Initiatives/Millennium>

---

## **"Year 2000 Group" of the Washington National Cathedral and the Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington**

The "Year 2000 Core Group", comprised of representatives from the Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington (representing the Jewish, Islamic, Protestant, Sikh, Hindu, Church of the Latter Day Saints, and Roman Catholic faiths), the Washington National Cathedral, and interested others, have been meeting regularly since August of 1995 to discuss ideas and plans for observing the year 2000 in Metropolitan Washington and across the nation.

For more information, contact:

**Clark Lobenstine**  
Interfaith Conference  
1419 V Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20009 USA  
tel: +1 202 234-6300  
fax: +1 202 234-6303  
e-mail: [ClarkatIFC@aol.com](mailto:ClarkatIFC@aol.com)  
Web site: <http://www.interfaith-metrodc.org/>

**Sanford Jewett**  
tel: +1 202 336-5211  
fax: +1 202 414-5470  
e-mail: [sjewett@mtel.com](mailto:sjewett@mtel.com), [tsj109@aol.com](mailto:tsj109@aol.com)

---

Millennium Alliance / Millennium Institute

---

Copyright © by the Millennium Institute, 1996-1997  
<http://www.igc.apc.org/millennium/events/usa.html>  
15 September 1997

Millennium

—

3RD STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1998 Sun-Sentinel Company  
Sun-Sentinel (Fort Lauderdale, FL)

January 1, 1998, Thursday, FINAL EDITION

SECTION: LIFESTYLE, Pg. 1E

LENGTH: 1970 words

HEADLINE: GREAT DATES IN '98;  
GET READY. AS 1998 DAWNS, A WHOLE SLEW OF ANNIVERSARIES APPEAR ON THE HORIZON.

BYLINE: MARGO HARAKAS; Staff Writer

BODY:

We're not going to bore you with historic births and deaths and battles. What we're offering is an arbitrary listing of offbeat or whimsical milestones that may take you by surprise. So grab a pencil and calendar and prepare to celebrate and prepare to celebrate the following anniversaries.

200th. First encyclopedia published in United States. It took Thomas Dobson of Philadelphia eight years to reprint the third edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica. His copy of the Edinburgh original carried the laborious title Encyclopaedia: Or a Dictionary of Arts, Sciences, and Miscellaneous Literature. Issued one volume at a time, the first of the 18 volumes came off the presses in 1790, the last in 1798.

150th. Woman's suffrage convention. The call went out from Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and the women showed up at Seneca Falls, N.Y. It was July 1848, and the Declaration of Sentiments and resolutions adopted included a woman's right to vote. It would take 71 years for Congress to pass the 19th Amendment and another year for the required states to ratify it.

Far less important, but nevertheless interesting, bloomers appeared for the first time at the convention. It is said this article of feminine clothing was the brainchild of Elizabeth Smith Miller.

120th. Electric Light. Although Thomas Edison is far better known than Joseph Swan, of England, Swan patented his carbon-filament lamp in 1878, a year before Edison patented his bulb. Edison's first incandescent lamp used burned thread as a filament. A year later, he switched to longer-lasting bamboo filament. But Edison trumped Swan by eventually going a step further. He provided an electrical distribution system that made the incandescent bulb something other than an oddity. His Pearl Street Power Station, opened in New York City in 1882, was the first to funnel electricity to the populace.

100th. Auto Insurance. No one quite knows why Dr. Truman Martin of Buffalo, N.Y., thought he needed it. But his name is forever recorded as the first to buy an auto insurance policy. What he began, and so many now bemoan, cost him \$ 11.25, for \$ 10,000 in liability coverage. The policy was sold by Travelers Insurance Co. of Hartford, Conn.

100th. First woman to grab the wheel. Genevra Delphine Mudge raised a few eyebrows when she decided to drive a car along the streets of New York City in 1898. Her wheels of choice: a Waverly Electric. The following year, Mudge

Sun-Sentinel (Fort Lauderdale), January 1, 1998

boldly entered an auto race. Unfortunately, her car slid off the snow-covered roadway and plowed into five spectators. None apparently was seriously injured.

100th. First single-handed around-the-world sail. Capt. Joshua Slocum had been more than three years at sea when he finally tied up at Fairhaven, Mass., in July 1898. He had sailed more than 46,000 miles around the world in a 36-foot 9-inch sloop named The Spray.

85th. Cracker Jack trinket. The molasses-coated, popcorn-and-peanut combination sprang to life in the vat of F.W. Rueckheim, a German immigrant who worked as a farmhand till he had saved enough money to open a popcorn stand in Chicago. He peddled his sticky concoction with great success at the 1893 Chicago's World Fair. Not till 1913, however, sometime after the stuff was boxed and named Cracker Jack, did the idea arise to put a prize in every box.

85th. The modern bra. Believe it or not, it was socialite Mary Phelps Jacobs who conceived the modern bra. It was more or less a spur-of-the-moment invention - constructed of handkerchiefs, cord and ribbon - to conceal the outlines of the bulky corset she wore beneath an evening gown. When women began pestering her to make them copies of this uplifting contraption, she took out a patent and began producing the intimate apparel on a small scale. She soon sold her patent to a corset company in Connecticut.

75th. First American to swim the English Channel. Henry F. Sullivan was the fourth man to splash 56 miles across the channel. On Aug. 5, 1923, he left Dover to arrive 27 hours and 23 minutes later - cold and wet - in Cape Gris-Nez, France.

75th. Time magazine. Started by college buds Briton Hadden and Henry Luce, the premiere issue, published in March 1923, bore little resemblance to the magazine we know today. The 32-page publication, with a charcoal rendering on the cover, consisted of 200 mostly brief articles, culled and reworked from newspaper clippings. The two men quickly realized something more was required and assembled a reporting staff. The weekly news magazine became an enormous success, invigorating magazine publishing with a new writing style, plus some newly coined words. It was just the beginning of Luce's publishing empire, which would expand in 1936 to include the pictorial Life magazine, and in '54, Sports Illustrated.

75th. First presidential message carried over radio. On Dec. 6, 1923, Americans for the first time tuned in a presidential address. In the comfort of their living rooms, they heard Calvin Coolidge address a joint session of Congress. History confirmed in this case, the medium, indeed, was the message.

70th. Bubble gum. The Fleer brothers, Frank and Henry, literally chewed their way into history by stretching gum in new directions. Frank came up with the idea of candy-coated Chiclets. Henry had a far grander dream, to make a chewing gum that could be blown into large and wondrous bubbles. You better believe it was no snap. Henry's first effort, called Blibber-Blubber Bubble, was a sloppy chew that produced a puny bubble at best. But persistence paid off, and in 1928 came Henry's grand achievement - Double Bubble, the delight of generations of children. And the bane of mothers who found the stuff stuck in children's hair or pockets.

Sun-Sentinel (Fort Lauderdale), January 1, 1998

50th. Scrabble. Alfred Butts had no illusions of fame or fortune when he began amusing himself with a tactile crossword puzzle. It was the Depression, he was unemployed, and what better to do in 1931 than to wile away the empty days inventing a board game. The wooden alphabet tiles were easy. However, working out the scoring and a set of rules would consume another 10 years. Still, it was all only child's play, meant for the amusement of his family and friends. It was a friend, James Brunot, who recognized the possible marketability of the board game. Brunot also suggested Butts change the name from Criss Cross to Scrabble. The year was 1948, the game company that bit was Selchow & Righter, and the rest is megabuck history.

50th. Duncan Hines cake mixes. What Duncan Hines didn't know about baking cakes could probably fill volumes. His real claim to fame was as a peripatetic diner who wrote about the places in which he chowed down. In the early 1930s, he wisely realized that people were getting in their cars and road tripping. They had to eat, he figured. So in 1936 he published a guide to the best eating along America's highways and byways. The book was called Adventures in Good Eating. It was a success in overdrive, with Hines periodically issuing updated versions. When Roy Park went looking for a name to put on his new line of food products, he discovered none was more trusted or better known than that of Duncan Hines. In '48, Park and Hines formed Hines-Park Foods Inc.

50th. Velcro. In 1948 George de Mestral of Switzerland proved with enough curiosity and imagination an annoyance can be transformed into gold. Invariably when George went hiking, his pants and socks would harvest a ton of tenacious burs from the cocklebur bushes. If he could duplicate the clinginess of this pesky hitchhiker, he figured, he could give the world a new fastening device. It would take years for his idea to come to fruition. First, he tried to duplicate the minute hooks and eyes in cotton. Which worked - for a while. But real success came in the mid-1950s, after he switched to nylon.

45th. First televised Academy Awards. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences went live on TV with its annual presentation on March 19, 1953. Best actor and actress awards went to Gary Cooper for High Noon and to Shirley Booth for Come Back, Little Sheba. The Greatest Show on Earth was chosen best picture of the year.

40th. America into space. Explorer I wasn't much of a satellite by today's standards. But when the 31-pound satellite soared into space on Jan. 31, 1958, it put the United States in the space game and made the heavens the new frontier.

30th. First woman to make the FBI's 10 Most Wanted List. If it's a crime, there must be a Florida connection. On Dec. 17, 1968, Barbara Jane Mackle, an Emory University coed and the daughter of a wealthy Key Biscayne developer, was kidnapped from a Decatur, Ga., motel. Four days later, Mackle was found alive, buried outside Atlanta in a box with food, water and a ventilation system.

Ruth Eisemann-Schier was put on the Most Wanted List and was arrested 21/2 months later in Norman, Okla. She was convicted and sentenced to 7 years in prison. Her accomplice, Gary Krist, an escaped convict, was arrested Dec. 22. He was hiding out on a remote island in Southwest Florida. The \$ 500,000 ransom was found nearby. (By the way, Krist served nearly 10 years of a life sentence before being paroled. He later enrolled in medical school in Mexico.)

Sun-Sentinel (Fort Lauderdale), January 1, 1998

25th. First college to offer sports scholarships to women. The University of Miami led the way in 1973 by offering 15 female athletes full-tuition scholarships.

20th. Referees ask for replays. July 29, 1978, was not a good day for the Dolphins. Nevertheless, the Hall of Fame Game against the Philadelphia Eagles in Canton, Ohio, is remembered, if not for the Dolphins' 17-3 loss, for the history in the making. For the first time, refs could second-guess themselves via instant replays.

15th. IBM's 512K memory chip. Might sound piddly in these days of multimegabyte memory, but in September 1983, IBM's announcement was very big news. The experimental computer memory chip, capable of storing 524,288 bits of information on a surface measuring 2.42 centimeters had twice the memory capacity of any microchip of the day.

15th. NHTSA calls for third brake light. A rear brake light at eye level would prevent 9,000 rear-end auto collisions, 40,000 injuries and \$ 434 million in repairs, said the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The announcement, made in November of 1983, mandated the new safety feature on all passengers cars manufactured after Sept. 1, 1985.

10th. Aspirin cuts heart attacks. In January 1988 researchers declared an aspirin a day would cut the risk of heart attack in men by nearly 50 percent. Although earlier studies found aspirin helpful in preventing recurrence in patients who already had heart attacks, the new study showed overwhelmingly the beneficial effects of aspirin on healthy men.

5th. Steven Spielberg dino-mites Jurassic Park. In less than four months, the \$ 60 million blockbuster, with its computer-enhanced reptiles, earned a record \$ 704 million.

5th. Anniversary of the final episode of Cheers. An estimated 94 million people tuned in as the Cheers crowd hoisted one for the last time, after 11 seasons and an astounding 111 Emmy nominations.

5th. David Letterman with CBS. Late Night with David Letterman hit the airwaves in February '82. From the beginning, Letterman stood out with such zany offerings as Stupid Pet Tricks and the ever popular Top Ten List. In '93 Letterman defected to CBS and The Late Show.

2nd. Madonna's child will mark her second birthday in October. Scratch this one. We promised not to bore you, didn't we?

Sources: Extraordinary Origins of Everyday Things, by Charles Panati; Famous First Facts, by Joseph Nathan Kane, Facts on File Yearbook 1948, The World Almanac, Chase's Calendar of Events, and Facts on File Yearbook.

GRAPHIC: PHOTOS 8, (color) A is for animal, and anniversary of the encyclopedia.; (color) Women celebrate gaining the right to vote in 1920, 71 years after resolution was adopted by females suffragettes.; (color) 120 years ago, Joseph Swan had a bright idea.; (color) B-U-T-T-S spells the inventor of Scrabble.; (color) Everyone makes bubble gum these days, but the Fleer brothers were first.; (color) Auto insurance shares an anniversary with women drivers. No, these two events were not related.; (color) Candy-coated popcorn peanuts and .

Sun-Sentinel (Fort Lauderdale), January 1, 1998

. . nothing until 1913.; Velcro jumpsuit: one of the fastener's many uses in 50 years.; David Letterman celebrates five years with CBS.

LOAD-DATE: January 1, 1998

Godspeed, John Glenn.

But even as we imagine the future, as time and technology propel us into a new millennium, in the coming years let us commit ourselves to honoring the past.

Nearly two hundred years ago, a tattered, battle-worn flag, its broad stripes and bright stars still flying at the top of a Maryland fort after a fierce battle, inspired Francis Scott Key to scribble a few words on the back of an envelope -- words that would become our national anthem. Today that Star Spangled Banner, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, are on display just a mile from here for all the world to see. They are America's crown jewels. We must preserve them for the ages. This year, we will launch a state-of-the-art effort to restore them, so that future generations can see for themselves the very words that launched our revolution. [*Note: we hope to persuade the networks to fade to the flag during this passage*]

Even as we commit to [strengthening the tattered threads of the Star Spangled banner, darkening the ink of the Declaration, reinforcing the parchment of the Constitution,] we must also renew the enduring values and powerful ideals they represent for the new millennium.

This long quest to renew our values, to live up to them, and to give them new life -- that

is the American idea -- and it will keep us the last best hope of humanity in the next millennium.

Looking forward to our first century, our first President told his fellow citizens that their new country “seems to be peculiarly designated by Providence for the display of human greatness.” Our new nation, little more than a string of outposts along one coast, even then was struggling to live up to its proclaimed ideals. But George Washington saw that the “great experiment” launched by his generation would endure if the revolutionary values and timeless virtues of our founding were given new life through new means and methods in each new era.

And so, my fellow Americans, it falls to us to ensure that the miracle of America endures. To guarantee that our ideals are more than faded words on parchment; that they are still the most profound force for human greatness in human history. We have 700 days left before the dawn’s early light shines on a new millennium. Let us come together each moment of each day to imagine the future, and make America anew.

God Bless You, and God Bless the United States of America.

Millennium

Speech File

Saving Our Treasures

~~20<sup>th</sup>~~  
↓  
29<sup>th</sup>

White House

- how to use house

- lecture series ⇒ Feb 11

- cultural showcase

New Master for the New Millennium

- 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of White House

- needs plan

Great People to  
Invite

Thomas Edison  
House

West Orange  
New Jersey

Non-Profit Organizations

- award logos

Foundation

- Preservation \$5 m

Brown v. Board of  
Education

Public Education

- State of Our Parks NPR

Specialty Press ⇒ Julie Mason

Media ⇒

Intergovernmental/Community

- US Conference of Mayors

My History in America's History / Local Legacies  
- Americans telling stories

January 26, 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

FROM: ELLEN McCULLOCH-LOVELL, Deputy Assistant to the President and  
Advisor to the First Lady on the Millennium

SUBJECT: Talking Points for Television Interviews

- We stand at the convergence of a new century and the next millennium -- a milestone in human history. Five months ago the President and I created the White House Millennium Council, to set some themes, engage the federal agencies and invite all Americans to participate in meaningful activities through the year 2000.
- The overall theme of the White House millennium programs is "Honor the past; imagine the future." The President and I are inviting all Americans to "give gifts to the future," to participate in projects that will enhance future generations.
- At the White House, we will begin a series of Millennium Evenings, to present our most visionary thinkers through a lecture series and highlight our great American talent through a Cultural Showcase.
- One of the best ways to imagine the future is to preserve what we value of our past for the new millennium. Our history and culture are literally disintegrating in our libraries, museums, archives, and at our historic sites and monuments.
- That is why our Fiscal '99 Budget includes funds for some urgent preservation needs: for the Smithsonian Institution to restore the Star Spangled Banner -- the flag that flew over Fort McHenry and inspired Francis Scott Key's poem -- and for the National Archives to re-encase the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights before those precious founding documents are endangered.
- But all over the Nation, in states and communities, there is a pending loss -- from Revolutionary War monuments, to the papers and laboratory of Thomas Edison (in West Orange, New Jersey) to other artifacts and sites that comprise our heritage.
- The President is proposing a Millennium fund -- \$50 million in each of the next three fiscal years -- to stimulate a national effort to "Save America's Treasures." The fund would be administered through the Department of Interior. Half would be allocated

for the most urgent preservation projects of regional and national significance, identified by the federal agencies and institutions. Half would go to the states, through the Divisions of Historic Preservation.

- The federal program should stimulate private efforts to raise money from corporations, foundations and individuals. The National Trust for Historic Preservation will create a high-level advisory committee that will direct funds to the urgent preservation needs identified at the national level and by the states.
- The "Save America's Treasures" program should be a bipartisan effort, to come together on something that will be good for the country -- and truly give a gift to the future.
- The highest priority millennium project at the Smithsonian Institution is to restore the Star Spangled Banner, the flag that flew over Fort McHenry and inspired Francis Scott Key's poem;
- The Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, must be re-encased within the next three years or be seriously at risk.
- Large numbers of artifacts at the Gettysburg Battlefield are undocumented and disintegrating for lack of proper storage. At Gettysburg, twenty-nine monuments and sculptures are deteriorating or toppled;
- Thomas Edison's laboratory and house in New Jersey are in "dire" condition, according to the National Park Service; the papers of the father of modern science are in need of cataloguing and proper storage.
- Even America's prehistoric sites are at risk; treasured places such as Mesa Verde in Colorado and Chaco Canyon in New Mexico need preservation to stabilize ancient structures.
- Many of the films, photographs and historic recordings that document the 20th century, held by federal agencies and other institutions, are deteriorating and must be transferred to more stable media.
- Some 80 million brittle books in libraries and other collections, need to be preserved through repair and microfilming, according to the National Endowment for the Humanities, including twelve million that are "unique and endangered."
- In states and communities, there is a pending loss all over the country -- from outdoor monuments that commemorate important events and people, to the papers and journals that form our intellectual heritage.

File

—

TALKING IT OVER  
BY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

As I write this, my husband is working hard on the State of the Union message that he will deliver tonight. Yesterday, we both attended a child-care event here at the White House, after which I flew to New York to visit a wonderful after-school program and speak at a dinner honoring the U.S. Committee for UNICEF.

People ask me how we've managed to stay focused on our work this week while the White House grounds have been overrun by members of the press chasing one rumor after another. Let me try to explain.

First, we've been here before. Political opponents of my husband have tried, since the day he announced his candidacy for President, to defeat him with false accusations, rumor and innuendo. Experience has taught us both that with patience and faith, the truth will prevail.

Second, the White House has been overwhelmed by expressions of encouragement and support, each of which makes it easier to persevere.

And, finally, my husband was elected to be President of the United States. That's more than a full-time job, one which takes every ounce of concentration and energy he has to give. He cannot afford to be distracted by constant firestorms of allegations if he is to do the job he was sent to do.

The State of the Union address is one of the most important of the year, laying out, as it does, the President's vision for the direction of the nation. Contained in his speech are ideas and programs that will serve this country well into the next century. I was so pleased that the President chose this important address to highlight a project that's very important to me -- Saving America's Treasures. That is what I had planned to write about this week and what I want to turn my attention to now.

Have you ever thought about what you'd grab first if your house were on fire? After making sure your family and pets were safe, most of you would probably want to save those items that are irreplaceable symbols of your family's history: photographs and old movies, yearbooks, precious nursery-school era artwork, baseball cards, your grandmother's love letters.

As I walk through the East Room of the White House, I often remember First Lady Dolly Madison, who, when the British burned the White House in 1814, rolled up the original Declaration of Independence and Gilbert Stuart's portrait of George Washington, saving them both for posterity.

Unlike Dolly Madison, this country isn't faced with a fire that could destroy the precious symbols of our past -- instead, our past is literally crumbling, chipping and disintegrating away in our libraries, museums, archives, historic sites and private holdings. We are confronted by a truly urgent need to save the documents, artifacts, buildings and sites that tell our history and preserve our identity as Americans.

The Star Spangled Banner, the flag that flew over Fort McHenry and inspired Francis Scott Key to write the poem that would become our National Anthem, is in serious need of restoration.