

# COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL STATUES IN THE U.S. CAPITOL MONUMENT SUGGESTION APPLICATION

Virginia's Commission for Historical Statues in the U.S. Capitol is inviting students to submit suggestions for a historical person to represent Virginia in a new statue for placement in the Capitol's National Statuary Hall. The new statue will eventually join one of George Washington and take the place of a statue of Robert E. Lee that the commission recommended removing during a public hearing in August.

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT IS NOVEMBER 27, 2020.**

## The replacement statue must:

- be a deceased person.
- have been a citizen of the United States (indigenous peoples who predate US qualify).
- be illustrious for historic renown or for distinguished civic or military service.
- represent only one individual.

## In addition, the person should possess one or more of the following values and/or attributes:

- association with significant events that changed the course of history.
- association with significant ideals, writings, and/or intellectual thought.
- exemplification of valor, patriotism, bravery.
- the subject's primary historical significance should be tied to Virginia directly or they should have spent the majority of their life in the state.
- the person should not be in conflict with current prevailing values.

## Nomination Process:

Nominations may be made via email to: [uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:uscapitolcommission@dhr.virginia.gov) or by mail to: US Capitol Commission, DHR, 2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221 or verbally at a virtual public hearing on November 17th.



For additional information, contact Julie Langan at [Julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:Julie.langan@dhr.virginia.gov) or (804) 385-6936 or visit <https://www.dhr.virginia.gov>

Your Name: Nick Coleman

Your Email: [n.m.coleman08@gmail.com](mailto:n.m.coleman08@gmail.com)

Your Phone: 703-878-7320

Your School: Lake Ridge Middle School

Your County you live in: Prince William County

## MY SUGGESTION FOR THE NEW MONUMENT

Meriwether Lewis

## HOW DOES THIS PERSON FIT THE CRITERIA?

Meriwether Lewis embodies one of the centerpieces of American culture: curiosity. Lewis bravely explored the then newly purchased Louisiana Territory with William Clark. He fearlessly went where no one went before, trailblazing the way for industrialization and settlement in the west. He put aside his own safety time after time for this country, thinking not of himself, but about the opportunities he was creating for the people that came after him. Even before his famous expedition, he served in the Army, protecting the great country that we call home. Meriwether Lewis is the embodiment of a true American hero, and thus should be recognized as one.

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