



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Make Your Mark Media, Inc. Receives Matching Grant for Star-Spangled 200 Bicentennial Project**

BROOKVILLE (October 21) - Today Secretary of Budget and Management Eloise Foster and Secretary of Business and Economic Development Dominick Murray presented Make Your Mark Media (MYM) with a \$30,000 matching grant in support of The Anthem Project ([www.theanthemproject.org](http://www.theanthemproject.org)). MYM joined 14 other non-profit and government organizations across Maryland which together are investing more than \$2.5 million in bicentennial projects that support programming, education, visitor experience and capital improvements and expand economic development and tourism-related job-creation throughout the State.



“The War of 1812 in the Chesapeake and the writing of The Star-Spangled Banner are important chapters in our history as a State and as a Nation,” said Secretary Murray. “I want to thank the grant recipient organizations for their commitment to telling this story and the important contributions of our Star-Spangled State.”



“The award of a Star-Spangled grant today is an enormous help,” said Mark Hildebrand, executive director of MYM. “The Anthem Project is an online resource for teachers with lesson plans and activities based on our documentary *Anthem: The Story of The Star-Spangled Banner*. Teaching through the music and rich imagery of this era is a perfect fit with the Common Core standards and arts integration goals of Maryland educators.” An independent production of MYM, *Anthem* was broadcast on PBS this summer and features musical performances and interviews with historians and music experts from the United States and Great Britain.

“From the production of a Star-Spangled Banner IMAX 3D film that will be screened nationwide to the battlefield reenactment at Caulk’s Field in Kent County, these grants bring the bicentennial to life in 2014,” said Bill Pencek, executive director, Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission.

The Star-Spangled 200 (SS200) Grant program stimulates investment in the commemoration of the bicentennial of the War of 1812 for maximum benefit to Marylanders. The Grant program will operate for the three-year commemoration and is funded through Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative Coin surcharge proceeds, corporate sponsorships and state appropriations.

There are a total of six grant application rounds during the three-year commemoration. The fifth round is currently open and will close on November 1, 2013. Eligible organizations can learn more about the grant program at [www.StarSpangled200.org](http://www.StarSpangled200.org).

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#### About Make Your Mark Media (MYM)

Make Your Mark Media, Inc. is dedicated to changing current social, educational and environmental perspectives through independent filmmaking. Our mission is to empower ideas that will have a positive impact on our world, our minds and our relationships, and use film to bring these ideas to a broader audience.

#### About Star-Spangled 200

Star-Spangled 200, a national bicentennial in Maryland, commemorates the writing of the Star-Spangled Banner and the War of 1812. Star-Spangled Sailabration in Baltimore’s Inner Harbor and the Chesapeake Bay launched the multi-year commemoration in June 2012. Sailabration included a maritime festival with 45 vessels from a dozen nations and an airshow featuring the Blue Angels, and drew more than 1.5 million visitors. Star-Spangled 200 continued Spring 2013 through Summer 2014 with the Chesapeake Campaign, a series of more than a dozen festivals in waterfront communities around the Bay. Two conferences were held at the U.S. Naval Academy in 2013 - Cross Tech, June 10-11 and From Enemies to Allies, June 12-15 – bringing together leaders in cyber security and scholars from the U.K, Canada and the U.S. Events will culminate with Star-Spangled Spectacular, September 6-16, 2014, celebrating the 200th birthday of the National Anthem. Star-Spangled 200 is supported by its Presenting Sponsor AT&T with Founding Partner support from Constellation and Papa John’s. For more information, please visit [www.StarSpangled200.com](http://www.StarSpangled200.com) or [www.StarSpangled200.org](http://www.StarSpangled200.org).