

Dear Prospective Ambassador,

In 1961 John F. Kennedy boldly said, during his inaugural speech, "ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." This is my sentiment exactly. Stated over fifty years ago, this message still holds true. This is the "pay it forward" attitude that motivated my mission to have Patriots' Day marked as an official state holiday.

The idea for Patriots' Day in Connecticut was suggested by Senator Joe Markley and Representative Rob Sampson while we sipped coffee at a local diner. Then, Mrs. Wolcott America 2016, I had the goal to spark more patriotism in the hearts of local citizens while embracing our American Heritage. Bill-1002 was presented at the Hartford Capitol in fall of 2016 and by July 10, 2017 Patriots' Day became an official (unpaid) holiday in the state of Connecticut. We now join four other states Maine, Massachusetts, Wisconsin and North Dakota who already celebrate with pride.

Patriots' Day is to be observed the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in April and marks the historic Battles of Lexington and Concord. April 19, 1775. Poet Ralph Waldo Emerson describes the first shot fired by Patriots at the North Bridge in his "Concord Hymn" historically known as the "shot heard around the world." It was the first battle that started the American Revolutionary War, paving our path to freedom.

This is your opportunity to help unite young people within our area and to spark more patriotism in the hearts of all citizens. The Patriots' Day Initiative is reaching out to Connecticut's youth to appoint new ambassadors to help with our ceremony each April and other patriotic events throughout the year. I am asking all prospective *Patriot Youth Ambassadors* to put in writing their wishes to join our team and also tell us about one person throughout history you feel has been a true patriot. It can be a historic figure or a family member. Someone in your opinion that has embraced our American Heritage and helped to perpetuate our freedoms.

Please submit in writing, preferably typed, and email to <u>patriotsdayct@aol.com</u> or mail to Patriots' Day Initiative c/o Stacy Perrone-Petta 265 Lyman Rd. Wolcott, CT 06716. If you have any questions feel free to contact me at the email provided or call me directly at 203.228.7305.

All new Patriot Youth Ambassadors will be formally welcomed and pinned during our annual Patriots' Day Ceremony. We look forward to hearing from you soon .

Thanks a Million,

Stacy Perrone-Petta

Patriots' Day Ambassador











