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Dumbarton House to Host First Citizenship Ceremony



Dumbarton House is pleased to be the host site for a citizenship ceremony for twenty-five children on August 1, 2014. This will be the first time Dumbarton House has hosted this type of event, and the museum hopes to make it an annual occurrence. Registration opens at 1pm, and the ceremony begins at 2pm in the North Garden, weather permitting. After the opening remarks from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services staff, a representative from Dumbarton House will speak. Afterwards, there will be an Honor Guard presentation, and a singing of the National Anthem. There will also be a presentation about each country represented at the ceremony. Finally, children will recite their oath and the Pledge of Allegiance. The museum will be open for tours and refreshments will be provided.

The ceremony will be hosted in conjunction with the Washington, DC region's *Star-Spangled Summer War of 1812* bicentennial commemorative programming, and is scheduled for August 1, the birthday of Francis Scott Key. Key is best known for penning the text used for our national anthem after witnessing the Battle of Baltimore in September of 1814. With this week's ceremony, Dumbarton House seeks to commemorate and continue this legacy of patriotism by celebrating and welcoming our country's newest citizens.

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Dumbarton House is a Federal period historic house museum, ca. 1800, whose preserved historic structure and collection serve to educate the public about life in Washington, D.C, during the early years of the Republic. The museum features an extensive collection of Federal-era decorative arts, paintings and furniture, and is the only fully-furnished Federal house museum open to the public in Washington. Dumbarton House serves as the headquarters of *The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America* ([www.nscda.org](http://www.nscda.org)), a women's organization that actively promotes our national heritage through historic preservation, patriotic service and educational projects. The life and times of Dumbarton House resident (1804-1813), Joseph Nourse, is the interpretive focus; Nourse served as first Register of the U.S. Treasury under six U.S. presidents and is known as "America's First Civil Servant." Dumbarton House is accredited by the *American Association of Museums*. The museum hosts a variety of public events and programs, as well as private rental events. [www.DumbartonHouse.org](http://www.DumbartonHouse.org)

**DUMBARTON HOUSE**

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