

PROJECT Liberty

As a prelude to the Independence Day celebrations, the *Declaration Gala* will be held on Friday, June 29th 6-10pm, at The *Grand America Hotel* in Salt Lake City. The Gala is a \$500 plate black tie fundraising event for The Bray Conn Foundation. Proceeds will go to a number of worthy causes, namely: the University of Utah Department of Science and Engineering, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, Roundhouse Restoration Inc, and local museums. Hors d'Oeuvres will be served starting at 6 p.m., with dinner to be served at 7 p.m. R.S.V.P. information can be found on the Invitation. Please send checks in advance, payable to the *Bray-Conn Foundation*.

The Declaration Gala will be focused on the unveiling of an official William Stone copy of the Declaration of Independence that was recently purchased by Bray Conn Inc. In 1823 William Stone was commissioned by John Quincy Adams to make an exact replica of the Declaration of Independence printed on vellum. William Stone most likely used a wet ink transfer process to make the printing plate, which means that these prints are identical to the original Declaration. Congress authorized two hundred prints to be made and distributed to the remaining signers, Governors, the White House, Congress, the prestigious universities of the time, and other dignitaries. Of the original two hundred copies, only thirty five remain, located in the White House, Library of Congress, Smithsonian, various historical societies, libraries, and in the hands of a few private collectors. The print that will be shown at the Gala is considered to be one of the best preserved of any of the remaining documents.

Along with the Declaration, a number of other historical documents and artifacts will be shown including a lightning rod made by Benjamin Franklin, a copy of the Constitution printed in the Massachusetts Centinel on September 26th 1787, one of the first Diplomas of the Society of the Cincinnati signed by George Washington, and other artifacts and documents.

There will also be a documentary film premiere that gives a historical overview of the William Stone prints and the very unique story of the print that Bray Conn Inc. has acquired. The documentary also chronicles the ideas and events that led to the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The attendees of the Gala will be local and national politicians, prominent community leaders, local businessmen, and successful investors.

This event will be the premiere event in the Western United States for the celebration of the Principles of Liberty, and will be an excellent opportunity to meet and network with like-minded, freedom-loving people.