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**VIRGINIA'S 2019 COMMEMORATION, AMERICAN EVOLUTION ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THE
"AMERICAN EVOLUTION 2019 REFLECTIONS" PHOTO CONTEST**

Jamestown, VA (January 29, 2019) – The [2019 Commemoration, American Evolution](#), has announced the winners of the ["American Evolution 2019 Reflections" Photo Contest](#). The winners in the three categories: Professional, Organization and Amateur will receive \$3,000 each.

The goals of the photo contest included collecting photographs and their background stories documenting the important and historic impact of the 2019 Commemorative year, sharing real-life images of participants engaging in the 2019 Commemoration events and initiatives, and expressing what the 2019 Commemoration meant to individuals.

The winners are:

Professional

- Stephen Wozny of Norfolk captured a photograph of two women and one man in the water on Buckroe Beach during the African Naming and Cleansing Ceremony at the First African Landing Commemorative Weekend.

Organization

- A representative of Pulaski County captured a photograph of the local Black History Month display at Pulaski County Library that illustrates the 2019 Commemoration themes: Democracy, Diversity and Opportunity.

Amateur

- Robert K. Van Ness of Norfolk captured a photograph of the reenactment of the first Thanksgiving in 1619 at Berkeley Plantation in Charles City County during the Virginia Thanksgiving Festival.

"One of our goals of this contest was to have participants show us what the commemoration meant to them," said Kathy Spangler, Executive Director of the 2019 Commemoration. "These winning

photographs illustrated how much the events and initiatives of the commemoration impacted the people in Virginia.”

The photo contest was held from October 17, 2019 to January 5, 2020 and encouraged the public to submit photographs taken during the commemorative year. American Evolution asked for images captured during 2019 Commemoration events and partner events, images captured at official Virginia History Trail sites from the [Virginia History Trails](#) award-winning app and images that reflected the three key ideals of the commemoration: democracy, diversity and opportunity.

All images and accompanying stories collected in the contest will be housed permanently in the 2019 Commemoration library, which will be available for public consultation as a legacy of the 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution. A collective record of this historical year from a multitude of perspectives, these photographs will serve as invaluable primary source material for future research by scholars and others.

To view the winning photos, please visit <https://www.americanevolution2019.com/photocontestwinners/>.

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About the 2019 Commemoration

The 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution, highlighted events that occurred in Virginia in 1619 that continue to influence America today. Featured programs, events and legacy projects positioned Virginia as a leader in education, tourism and economic development. American Evolution commemorated the ongoing journey toward the key ideals of democracy, diversity and opportunity. Dominion Energy is an American Evolution Founding Partner, and Altria Group and TowneBank are Virginia Colony Partners.