

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Governor Lamont & Mayor Cantor Celebrate West Hartford's Noah Webster House Restoration Project

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Marked Completion of Visitor Center Roof Replacement and Exterior Improvements at Historic National Landmark

WEST HARTFORD, CT – October 16, 2025 – Governor Ned Lamont and West Hartford Mayor Shari Cantor joined community leaders and officials today for a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of significant exterior restoration work and the Visitor Center roof replacement at the Noah Webster House & West Hartford Historical Society.

The ceremony, held on what would have been Noah Webster's 267th birthday, marked the closure of several years of planning to execute the critical preservation work at the historic site located at 227 South Main Street in West Hartford.

The renovation project was made possible through funding support from the State of Connecticut's Department of Economic & Community Development and the Town of West Hartford.

“The Webster House is more than a museum. It's a reminder that Connecticut has always been at the heart of the American story—from the Fundamental Orders to the Revolutionary War, from Noah Webster's dictionary to the innovations happening in our state right now,” stated Governor Lamont. “We're investing in the cultural assets that make Connecticut special and ensuring that the birthplace of the man who gave us our words continues to stand strong.”

“We're not just celebrating a renovation—we're celebrating resilience, commitment, and the belief that our history matters,” stated West Hartford Mayor Shari Cantor. “We're honoring Noah Webster's legacy and ensuring that this house continues to educate, inspire, and welcome all who seek to understand where we came from and who we aspire to be.”

“The Noah Webster House & West Hartford Historical Society is supremely grateful to the State of Connecticut's Department of Economic & Community Development and the Town of West Hartford for this transformational support,” said Jeffrey Mainville, Executive Director. “This is an investment in local & national history, regional tourism and the museum's role as a resource for teachers. This is a small house with a really big story.”

Built in 1747, the Noah Webster House is the birthplace and childhood home of Noah Webster, born on October 16, 1758. Webster was a foundational figure in American history—author of the first American dictionary and the influential "Blue-Backed Speller," as well as a teacher, lawyer, political writer, editor, member of the Connecticut House of Representatives, and early abolitionist. A strong supporter of the American Revolution and the U.S. Constitution, Webster's legacy continues to shape American language and education.

“I’m glad we could help deliver this critical funding to the Noah Webster House, a cultural and historic treasure not only for West Hartford but the state of CT and entire nation,” stated State Senator Derek Slap. “Webster was a revolutionary, a patriot, and an abolitionist. He believed education and reading were keys to a better society”

“DECD continues to invest in cultural and historical assets because we understand the far-reaching impacts they have on our communities,” stated Matt Pugliese, Deputy Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Economic & Community Development. “They promote education, understanding, and civic pride, while also boosting tourism and commerce.”

"The Noah Webster House & West Hartford Historical Society is a valued member of the West Hartford Chamber of Commerce and an active partner in our community," said Chris Conway, President & CEO of the West Hartford Chamber of Commerce. "This historic landmark not only preserves an important piece of American history, but also contributes to the cultural and educational vitality of West Hartford. We're proud to celebrate this significant milestone in preserving Noah Webster's legacy for future generations."

The Noah Webster House has been designated a National Historic Landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The museum preserves and shares Webster's remarkable legacy and the history of West Hartford through educational programs, exhibitions, and community engagement.

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MEDIA CONTACT: Chuck Coursey – 860-305-0055 – chuck@courseyco.com