FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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War of 1812 is the topic of David Library Lecture

(Special Events/Calendar Listing: Lectures)

On Sunday, September 30 at 3:30, the David Library of the American Revolution will present a lecture, “Love and Honor: American Patriotism and Popular Culture in the War of 1812” by Nicole Eustace, an Associate Professor of History at New York University, the author of 1812: War and the Passions of Patriotism.

David Library Lectures are admission-free and open to the public. They are held in the Feinstone Conference Center adjacent to the Library at 1201 River Road, Washington Crossing. Reservations are required, and can be made by calling (215)493-6776 ext 100.
Published in this bicentennial year of the War of 1812, Professor Eustace’s book, *1812: War and the Passions of Patriotism*, has been highly praised. David Waldstreicher, Professor of History at Temple University, has called it, “Far and away the most important book written on the War of 1812 in several decades.”

As military campaigns go, the War of 1812 was a disaster. By the time it ended in 1815, Washington, D.C., had been burned to the ground, the national debt had nearly tripled, and territorial gains were negligible. Yet the war gained so much popular support that it ushered in what is known as the "era of good feelings," a period of relative partisan harmony and strengthened national identity. Historian Nicole Eustace's cultural history of the war tells the story of how an expensive, unproductive campaign won over a young nation—largely by appealing to the heart. She says her talk at the David Library will examine what it meant to love country in the new United States. “How did collective emotions function to promote action in a democracy? How did debates about the meaning of patriotism shape arguments about the War of 1812? Regardless of their views of events, Americans of the era agreed unequivocally on the links
between love and war and they took to print to proclaim their feelings in novels, poems and plays as well as in official political speeches and diplomatic correspondence.”


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