



UNITED STATES MINT NEWS & VIEWS

HENRIETTA HOLSMAN FORE, DIRECTOR

WESTWARD JOURNEY NICKEL SERIES™ LAUNCHED IN ST. LOUIS

On March 14, 2004, ambassadors and American Indian Chiefs joined United States Mint Director Henrietta Holsman Fore under the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (Gateway Arch) to publicly launch the first nickel of the Westward Journey Nickel Series. The new nickel commemorates the bicentennial of the Louisiana Purchase.

Over 1,000 children received a free nickel from the United States Mint, and adults exchanged over \$50,000, or one million nickels, in less than three hours. The Three Flags Ceremony reenacted the transfer of the Upper Louisiana Territory from Spain to France to the United States.



To honor the 200th anniversaries of the Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the reverse of the Jefferson nickel will bear two new designs in 2004. The first new nickel, a rendition of the original Jefferson Peace Medal, was released to the Federal Reserve on March 1. This is the first new design for the Jefferson nickel since it was introduced in 1938.

The second nickel is scheduled for release in August 2004, and the reverse will depict the two explorers in a keelboat in full sail en route to the West Coast and will bear the inscription "Lewis & Clark."

FLORIDA QUARTERS IN CIRCULATION

On April 7, 2004, Florida Governor Jeb Bush joined Director Fore at the John F. Kennedy Space Center to launch the Florida



commemorative quarter-dollar coin. Florida is the 27th state to be honored in the 50 State Quarters® Program.

The design incorporates a 16th century Spanish galleon, a space shuttle and the inscription "Gateway to Discovery." A strip of land with sabal palm trees is also depicted. Florida, home to the Kennedy Space Center, has been the starting point for the modern era's most significant scientific space expeditions – from Man's first moon landing to the Voyager probe currently exploring deep space outside our solar system. From 16th century Spanish galleons to 21st century space exploration, Florida has been the stage for humanity's quest for knowledge and discovery.

LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE COIN AVAILABLE MAY 12!

To commemorate the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the United States Mint will release a commemorative silver dollar in May. Proceeds from the sale of the coins are authorized to go to the National Park Service and the National Council of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial.

Visit the United States Mint at www.usmint.gov or call us at
1-800-USA-MINT



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FLORIDA QUARTERS IN TWO-ROLL SETS AND BAGS

Two-roll sets of Florida quarters — featuring one roll of coins each from the United States Mint facilities at Philadelphia and Denver — became available on March 29, 2004. The two-roll set sells for \$32.00.



Bags of 100 and 1,000 Florida quarters are also on sale, each marked with the mint of origin. Bags of 100 coins sell for \$35.50, and bags of 1,000 coins sell for \$300.

THOMAS ALVA EDISON COMMEMORATIVE COIN EVENT



In honor of the 125th anniversary of Edison's invention of the incandescent light bulb, the United States Mint offers the Thomas Alva Edison Commemorative Coin. This silver dollar features one of America's greatest inventors and most significant scientific achievements.

Each coin contains 90 percent silver and 10 percent copper and is accompanied by a Certificate of Authenticity signed by the Director of the United States Mint. Portions of the proceeds are authorized to go to eight different organizations that promote Edison's life and works.

The coins went on sale February 11, 2004, and can be purchased online at www.usmint.gov, or by calling 1-800-USA-MINT.

ARTISTIC INFUSION PROGRAM SELECTIONS MADE

The United States Mint has chosen a pool of 24 American artists, ranging from a wildlife painter to a commercial graphic designer, to participate in the United States Mint's new Artistic Infusion Program. The artists will prepare original designs for the Nation's coins and medals.

The United States Mint issued a nationwide "Call for Artists" on November 20, 2003, with a deadline of January 9, 2004, for receiving applications from artists, both professional and student, interested in forming a pool of designers to submit original images for various coins and medals.

Thousands of applications were downloaded from the United States Mint's Web site. A panel composed of officials from the National Endowment for the Arts and the United States Mint evaluated the artists' applications and selected 24 program participants. The selected artists attended an orientation program at the United States Mint at Philadelphia on February 19 –20, 2004, to learn about the history of coin and medal design, the coin-making process and upcoming design opportunities.

FLORIDA FIRST DAY COIN COVERS AVAILABLE APRIL 26, 2004

The Florida First Day Coin Cover combines 50 State Quarters coins produced on the first day of mintage from the United States Mint facilities at Philadelphia and Denver in a handsome envelope bearing a cancellation mark on the day the coins are released to the Federal Reserve.

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