

PURPOSE

The Honorary Colonels Corps is an incorporated, non-profit organization whose charter continues to promote the objectives of the Utah Air and Army National Guard while creating social welfare and good will for the state. The Honorary Colonels Corps is not affiliated with any political party and care is taken to ensure that the Corps remains apolitical. We stand for the freedoms that our country enjoys and defends.

We support patriotic programs including the Freedom Academy, which enriches our youth; the annual Bronze Minuteman Awards dinner, which recognizes community service in our state; the Veterans Day Concert, which celebrates our military members and Veterans and entertains the public with a free annual concert showcasing patriotic vocal and instrumental music; and the annual Governor's/Family Day held at Camp Williams, which celebrates Utah's National Guard and their families in the time-honored tradition of the military review.

One of the functions of the Corps is to educate the public on the Utah National Guard. Thus Corps members are invited to view and participate in various military training events to facilitate understanding of the vast and varied capabilities of our Guard and its support of our community.

The Honorary Colonels' room, located at the Utah National Guard headquarters building in Draper, was completed in 1987 and donated to the Guard in April 1997. This room is used for board meetings and other special events.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Corps was formerly limited to CEOs, or their equivalent, of significant organizations within the state and military general officers. However, membership criteria was expanded in 2015 to additionally include other civic leaders who significantly contribute to the growth and welfare of the state, and also include all retired military members, to broaden the opportunity for more to contribute to the future and welfare of Utah. Any member of the Corps can nominate other members, who are reviewed for their ability to meet the qualifications above.

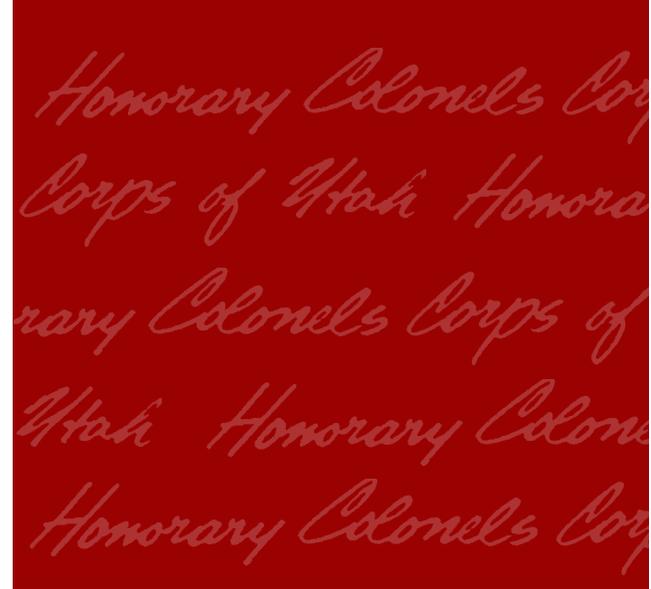
Current governors are automatically inducted into the Corps, and remain members after they leave office.

Corps members purchase a uniform which consists of a red blazer with a National Guard minuteman emblem, white tuxedo shirt/blouse, gray trousers/skirt, a black tie and a bow tie, and a nameplate.

At the present time, the dues for the Honorary Colonels Corps are \$200 per year. There is also a one-time uniform charge of \$310.

Honorary Colonels Corps of Utah
of the Utah National Guard

**12953 S. Minuteman Drive
Draper, Utah 84020
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www.honorarycolonelsutah.org**



HISTORY

The Honorary Colonels Corps was organized by honorary Brig. Gen. Lewis T. Ellsworth, president of Surety Life Insurance Company, who donated personal funds to create the organization in 1958. Maj. Gen. Maxwell E. Rich was the adjutant general of the Utah National Guard at the time. Original membership consisted of 17 individuals. Ellsworth remained the commander of the Corps for approximately 25 years.

Ellsworth was succeeded as commander by Mitchell Melich, Chris Johnson, and the present commander, retired Brig. Gen. E. J. "Jake" Garn. Maj. Gen. Jefferson S. Burton is presently the adjutant general of the Utah National Guard, and acts as the chairperson of the Corps when necessary.

The Corps was created as a civic organization for the purpose of creating good will and social welfare for Utah and promoting the interests of the Utah National Guard. It supports the objectives and actions of the National Guard to help further the best interests of the state. The Corps also works with the governor of the state of Utah on such affairs and projects as appropriate.

The Honorary Colonels Corps is a non-profit organization, and no part of the net earnings goes to benefit any individual. The Corps does not attempt to influence legislation nor participate in any political activities.

Members include individuals who have distinguished themselves in the fields of government services, military affairs, business, the arts, the sciences, or other worthwhile fields of endeavor. At the present time, we have 26 current and retired general officers of the Utah National Guard as Corps members, and three mayors.



FREEDOM ACADEMY

The Corps provides financial support to Freedom Academy, held at Camp Williams in August of each year. Freedom Academy is designed to instill patriotism and democratic principles in student-body officers and other selected students from high schools throughout the state. After a week with their peers, students are encouraged to return to their respective schools and organize Freedom-Week activities for the benefit of their student bodies.

Starting in 1961, Freedom Academy was organized under the auspices of the Freedom Foundation, Inc., a non-profit foundation established to provide financial support to the Freedom Academy. This trust was established by the Honorary Colonels Corps. Additional contributions have been made to this trust by other individuals who are committed to the Academy's continued success. In addition, each year numerous businesses have provided valuable donations of goods and services which literally keep the Freedom Academy program running.



BRONZE MINUTEMAN AWARDS BANQUET

The Honorary Colonels sponsor an annual Bronze Minuteman Awards dinner to recognize

community members who have supported the National Guard or who have been active in promoting programs in the public interest throughout the state and nation.



VETERANS DAY CONCERT

The Honorary Colonels Corps of Utah provides assistance for the annual Veterans Day Concert. The concert features the Utah National Guard's 23rd Army Band along with a combined

student chorus from the Granite School District. For more than 60 years, Veterans of all branches of service, family members and friends alike, have joined together for a night of music currently being held at the University of Utah Jon M. Huntsman Center.