

From: Independence Hall Foundation  
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## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Group Proposes Renaming Philly Airport After Ben Franklin; Mounts Educational Campaign on 225th Anniversary of Franklin's Death**

Philadelphia, PA (April 21, 2015) -- Exactly 225 years ago, today, a record-setting crowd of 20,000 mourners gathered at Christ Church Cemetery (5th and Arch Streets), in Philadelphia, to bury its leading citizen, Dr. Benjamin Franklin.

"In honor of one the greatest men that ever lived, the Independence Hall Foundation is mounting an educational campaign to revive the memory of Dr. Franklin with the goal of renaming Philadelphia International Airport in his honor," said Foundation spokeswoman, Teri Adams.

This past Friday (April 17), the 225th Anniversary of Dr. Franklin's death, Philadelphia Magazine printed an op-ed written by Foundation members Don Adams and Michael Johns which proposed the name change.

<http://www.phillymag.com/news/2015/04/17/ben-franklin-died-225-years-rename-phl-philadelphia-international-airport/#more-2941031>

"The Ben Franklin International Airport would be a fitting tribute to a cutting-edge man like Dr. Franklin, who not only predicted spaceflight, but promoted the idea of the hot air balloon -- the 18th century version of the airplane," said Ms. Adams.

"The well-traveled Dr. Franklin marveled at the idea of traversing long

distances in the sky -- as opposed to getting around by ship, coach, or horse-back. And many a school child is aware that Dr. Franklin discovered electricity by flying a kite.

"Dr. Franklin's lifelong career as statesman, diplomat, politician, philosopher, scientist, inventor, author, humorist, and printer was unprecedented. He has earned the honor of having an airport, which services millions of international visitors annually, named after him," Ms. Adams said.

Members of the Independence Hall Foundation would be happy to field questions or grant interviews on this topic. Please use the contact information at the top of the page to make arrangements.

# # #

**The Independence Hall Foundation** is a tri-state (DE, PA, NJ) regional non-partisan, non-profit organization seeking to promote the values embodied in the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, and the Bill of Rights.

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