WILLIAMSBURG – Governor Mark R. Warner and Jamestown 2007, Inc. announced today that The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation is becoming a Founding Colony Sponsor of the events and programs that will commemorate the 400th anniversary of the settlement of Jamestown. Colonial Williamsburg joins Norfolk Southern as a Founding Colony Sponsor.

In addition to an ongoing commitment of staff and facilities, Colonial Williamsburg is making a $3 million, multi-year commitment in support of the activities related to the commemoration. Colonial Williamsburg’s Visitor Center will serve as the official regional visitor center for Jamestown 2007, and Colonial Williamsburg will actively support the overall marketing efforts for the commemoration.

Colonial Williamsburg is also being designated the official representative of Jamestown 2007 for the purpose of coordinating reservations for lodging, and Colonial Williamsburg’s hotels are being designated the official hotels and conference facilities of the commemoration. Governor Warner joined state Senator Thomas K. Norment, who chairs the board of directors of Jamestown 2007, Inc., and Colonial Williamsburg Foundation Chairman and President Colin G. Campbell to make the announcement.

“Virginia’s prominent place in American history has its roots in the settlement at Jamestown and the development of representative government at Williamsburg,” said Governor Warner. “Colonial Williamsburg has done so much over the years to remind visitors from around the world of Virginia’s vital role in the formation of a nation. This partnership with Jamestown 2007 is a natural fit.”

“We welcome Colonial Williamsburg as a Founding Colony Sponsor, especially given the strong linkages developed over the years among the leading sites and institutions in Virginia’s Historic Triangle,” said Senator Norment. “We are confident Colonial Williamsburg’s leadership will serve as an inspiration to other organizations considering sponsorship and foster even greater collaboration within the region toward a successful and memorable commemoration.”
Colonial Williamsburg already has been actively engaged in Jamestown 2007. Chairman and President Colin G. Campbell serves as vice chair of the Jamestown 2007 Steering Committee and several Colonial Williamsburg employees are members or chairs of various 2007 planning committees.

“The Jamestown 2007 commemoration represents an unparalleled opportunity for all of us in the Historic Triangle,” said Campbell. “Given our position as one of Virginia’s and the nation’s preeminent historic sites, coupled with the fact that we operate museums, hotels, restaurants and resort facilities, we have the necessary expertise to take a leadership role and work to ensure the success of Jamestown 2007. The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation board of trustees strongly endorses Colonial Williamsburg’s support of this milestone event.”

The 2007 commemoration is a public-private partnership between the Commonwealth of Virginia and leading national corporations. Sponsorship discussions are continuing with other national companies.

Established in 1926, the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation is the privately-funded, not-for-profit educational institution that preserves and operates the restored 18th-century capital of Virginia. Williamsburg is located 150 miles south of Washington, D.C., near Interstate 64. For more information call toll-free (800) HISTORY or visit Colonial Williamsburg’s Website at www.ColonialWilliamsburg.com.

Jamestown 2007, a sub-agency of the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, is coordinating efforts to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement in the Americas. State, national and international commemorative events begin in spring 2006 and continue into 2008.

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