

Administration of Donald J. Trump, 2025

Message on the Kentucky Derby, 2025

May 3, 2025

Today more than 150,000 Americans will gather at Churchill Downs for the 151st running of the legendary Kentucky Derby, "The Most Exciting Two Minutes in Sports" and a time-honored tribute to America's love of competition, pageantry, and tradition.

Every May, massive crowds flood the streets of Louisville, Kentucky, to witness the "Run for the Roses," where 18 of the world's fastest, fiercest, and mightiest Thoroughbred horses sprint for glory in our Nation's oldest continuously held major sporting event. The Kentucky Derby is not only a stakes race, but also an iconic American institution and an elegant celebration of our culture, customs, and unwavering competitive spirit.

When the first Kentucky Derby commenced in the spring of 1875—1 year before the 100th anniversary of American independence—our Nation was in the midst of a grand transformation. Westward expansion was underway, our industries were booming, and the promise of Manifest Destiny was beating in the hearts of 10,000 spectators gathered in hope for a united, prosperous, and triumphant American future.

Now, as our Nation gathers for that same Derby 150 years later—and 1 year before we celebrate 250 years of independence—we recognize that we are in the early days of a new golden age. Before our very eyes, we are witnessing a resurgence of the American economy, a rebirth of American strength, and a restoration of the American Dream. Today, as we enjoy the venerated springtime tradition of the Kentucky Derby, my administration pledges to continue the work of reforming our country, reharnessing our heritage, and reigniting all our greatness and glory.

I send my best wishes for a safe and successful Kentucky Derby. May God bless you, and may He continue to bless the United States of America. May the best horse win!

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