

# AVAILABLE LIGHT

## Museum of the American Revolution

Philadelphia PA



The new Museum of the American Revolution is filled to the brim with important, historical artifacts. Exhibit lighting required not only conservational knowledge, but also technical know-how for this contemporary museum. Dioramas incorporated motion sensors, case lighting was changed from fiber-optic to programmable LED fixtures, and large cases used DMX controls to ensure lighting was balanced between multiple artifacts. Far from an old-fashioned experience, the artifacts are surrounded by full-walled graphics, multi-media presentations, and immersive environments.

The highlight of the Museum is a light-and-sound show centered around George Washington's actual tent. This highly fragile, 400-year-old artifact required strict guardianship over light exposure. Extensive calculations computing total light levels over years were used alongside mock-ups and a thorough control system to ensure the lighting would not damage the fabric. The lighting team was able to program a full show with the background of the tent moving through seasons and times of day, using only just over 2 lux hours per viewing.

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Exhibit Design: Gallagher & Associates

Completed: 2017

