



Saturday, December 17th, 2011

2012 Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative \$5 Gold Coin



2012 Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative \$5 Gold Coin (line-art), [click to enlarge](#)

General Coin Information

The **2012 Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative \$5 Gold Coin** will be struck by the US Mint to commemorate the bicentennial of the writing of the poem which would go on to become the national anthem of the United States. Up to 100,000 of the commemorative gold strikes will be minted in either proof or uncirculated condition with each composed of 90% gold.

Francis Scott Key wrote the [Star-Spangled Banner](#) after witnessing the bombardment of Fort McHenry in the Baltimore Harbor by British naval forces during the War of 1812. His poem would go on to become the national anthem of the United States in 1913.

Congress authorized the striking of the Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative \$5 Gold Coins along with [commemorative silver dollars](#) as part of the Star-Spangled Banner Commemorative Coin Act (Public Law 111-232). Surcharges are to be collected on the sale of each strike in the amount of \$35 per gold coin. This surcharge is to be forwarded

to the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission to be used for purposes relating the bicentennial celebrations and to help preserve War of 1812 structures and sites.

Obverse Design

The obverse of the coin was designed by United States Mint Artistic Infusion Program (AIP) Master Designer Donna Weaver and sculpted by United States Mint Sculptor-Engraver Joseph Menna to a theme of "The Battles at Sea During the War of 1812." It depicts an American sailing ship in the foreground with a damaged, fleeing British naval ship behind it. Obverse inscriptions include *IN GOD WE TRUST*, *LIBERTY* and *1812 - 2012*.

Reverse Design

The reverse is based on the theme of "The Star-Spangled Banner" (the song) and shows the first words of the national anthem "O Say Can You See" in the handwriting of its author - Francis Scott Key. Reverse inscriptions include *UNITED STATES OF AMERICA*, *E PLURIBUS UNUM* and *FIVE DOLLARS*. The reverse was designed by AIP Master Designer Richard Masters and sculpted by Joseph Menna.

Star-Spangled Banner Coin Specifications

Mint: United States Mint

Mintmark: to be determined

Finish/Condition: Proof / Uncirculated

Metal Content: 90% gold, 10% alloy

Weight: 8.359 grams nominal

Diameter: 0.850 inches

Edge: Reeded

Issue Date: TBD

Issue Price: TBD

Mintage Limit: 100,000 (across all product options)

Face Value: \$5

Obverse Design: Donna Weaver / Joseph Menna

Reverse Design: Richard Masters / Joseph Menna