Tuskegee Airman Roscoe Brown (right) oversees maintenance on his P-51D Mustang.
Tuskegee Airman Roscoe Brown (right) oversees maintenance on his P-51D Mustang.
2016–17 Board of Trustees

**FOUNDER**

Stephen E. Ambrose  
(1936–2002)

**OFFICERS**

James A. Courter  
Chairman

C. Paul Hilliard  
Vice Chairman

Charles W. “Chip” Goodyear  
Vice Chair

Todd Ricketts  
Vice Chair

Richard C. Adkerson  
Immediate Past Chairman

David Barksdale  
Secretary

Suzanne T. Mestayer  
Treasurer

Gordon H. “Nick” Mueller, PhD  
President & CEO

**TRUSTEES**

Herschel L. Abbott Jr.  
Dwight W. Anderson  
Michael L. Ashner  
Norman R. Augustine  
Hon. J. Kenneth Blackwell  
Donald T. “Boysie” Bollinger  
Harold J. Bouillion  
Raymond J. Brandt  
Michael S. Bylen  
Daryl G. Byrd  
James S. Chanos  
James H. Clement III  
Thomas B. Coleman  
Ralph E. Crump  
Jed V. Davis  
Richard L. Duchossois  
Peter N. Foss  
John D. Georges  
William A. Goldring  
John M. Hairston  
Terence E. Hall  
Robert Tucker Hayes  
David P. Hess  
John E. Koerner III  
Alan M. Leventhal  
Deborah G. Lindsay  
James E. Maurin  
Markham R. McKnight  
Robert W. Merrick  
Dennis A. Muilenburg  
Michael E. O’Neill  
Robert J. Patrick  
Sonia A. Perez  
Wyatt G. Rockefeller  
Edwin R. “Rod” Rodriguez Jr.  
Tracy L. Rosser  
Mark M. Rubin  
Joe F. Sanderson Jr.  
Philip G. Satre  
Robert A. “Bobby” Savoie, PhD  
Peggy Higgins Sewell  
J. Scott Spradley  
Carroll W. Suggs  
Henry Swieca  
Thomas H. Turner  
Ted M. Weggeland  
Bruce N. Whitman  
Governor Pete Wilson  
Fred S. Zeidman

**TRUSTEE EMERITUS**

Louis Freeman

**HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS / MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS**

Colonel Jack Jacobs, USA (Ret.)  
Major General James Livingston, USMC (Ret.)  
Colonel Leo Thorsness, USAF (Ret.)
Letter from the Chairman of the Board

Fiscal Year 2016 saw achievement in many areas by staff members, volunteers, and generous supporters. Not least among these milestones were two sterling thresholds passed during March 2016: A total of 81,703 visitors explored the Museum’s galleries, smashing the previous monthly record of 73,449. In the same month, the Museum welcomed its 5 millionth visitor. We’re honored that about 1 million of those lifetime visitors have been school-age children; of those, more than 750,000 have visited through field trips and other school programs.

Also shattering previous standards is the effort to enlist Museum Members in advancing our mission: membership rolls increased to 147,000, another high mark for the institution and the largest such support base among museums across the nation.

As anyone who’s recently visited the Museum’s campus can attest, further signs of growth are everywhere. December 2015 saw the grand opening of Richard C. Adkerson & Freeport-McMoRan Foundation Road to Tokyo: Pacific Theater Galleries, joining The Duchossois Family Road to Berlin: European Theater Galleries to complete the Campaigns of Courage: European and Pacific Theaters pavilion. In the same month, the Museum celebrated the opening of the Ralph E. Crump LTJG, USNR, US Merchant Marine Gallery. Road to Tokyo, of course, is named for my predecessor as chair, Richard Adkerson. Generosity and leadership have been hallmarks of his three-year tenure as chairman, and I am honored to be taking the reins from my esteemed colleague and friend. Richard, thank you for your leadership as our capital expansion continues strongly onward!

That capital expansion continued to make strides in summer 2016 as ground was broken for Founders Plaza and the Bollinger Canopy of Peace. On Constance Street, finishing touches were put on the new parking garage and offices, while elsewhere on campus our historians and educators pored over plans for the next set of immersive galleries, The Arsenal of Democracy: The Herman and George Brown Salute to the Home Front.

No accounting of the past year would be complete without recognizing a singular honor for Dr. Mueller. In May, the Museum’s president and CEO received the French Legion of Honor alongside longtime Museum champions Tom Brokaw and Tom Hanks at the Grand Chancellery in Paris. It is the highest distinction awarded by the French government, and Dr. Mueller, Mr. Brokaw, and Mr. Hanks earned it for their tireless efforts in teaching the modern world about the towering achievements of the WWII generation.

Congratulations to Nick Mueller, Tom Brokaw and Tom Hanks. Three great Americans.
Introducing a campaign fought largely from air and sea, the opening gallery of Road to Tokyo is set fittingly in a crucial US weapon: a US Navy aircraft carrier.
A Japanese vice admiral's flag, Japanese and American uniforms, and binoculars from the battleship Nagato are on display in the Returning to the Philippines gallery of Road to Tokyo.
Letter from the President and CEO

Education has always been at the core of the Museum’s mission, and the new Institute for the Study of War and Democracy illustrates how we are enlarging the Museum’s mission to become the most trusted source for WWII history and knowledge.

This research and education center, a key feature of the coming Hall of Democracy pavilion, will marshal the efforts of a premier team of historians to ensure that we are not only the leading WWII museum but also the best at providing authentic experiences and resources for diverse audiences. Scholars and researchers in the Institute will provide oversight for our exhibits, add intellectual horsepower for online education programs, and lead the development of conferences and symposia. In the process, we will be reaching new learners and strengthening our national and international brand far beyond the boundaries of time and place.

This exciting project is founded on careful planning. Six years ago, the Museum Board’s Strategic Planning Task Force brought forward ideas and challenges for management to take our initiatives to new frontiers of learning and access. The agenda was linked to the creation of the Digital Archive and Research Services to manage the Museum’s growing collection of digitized assets—including thousands of oral histories and other personal accounts, photographs, maps, documents, and artifacts. Envisioned as the Museum’s education engine, these assets will soon be tapped as we launch graduate online degree programs in the study of war and society, develop new learning tools for schools, and provide services that help families search the WWII service of loved ones.

In addition to the new Institute, the Hall of Democracy will offer a state-of-the-art WWII Media and Education Center with broadcast studios, interactive presentation centers, production facilities, and digital-instruction experts to enable students, schools, and universities to gain immediate online access to the Museum’s rich archival resources and programs. The pavilion will also house a special gallery that can accommodate large-scale traveling exhibits.

These new initiatives do not replace, but rather build on, the fine educational offerings that have drawn teachers, students, and other history enthusiasts to this Museum since its opening on the anniversary of D-Day in Normandy in 2000.

We are reaping the benefits of careful planning, steady investment, and exciting ideas. As always, thank you for your support!
Mission Statement

The National WWII Museum tells the story of the American experience in the war that changed the world—why it was fought, how it was won, and what it means today—so that all generations will understand the price of freedom and be inspired by what they learn.
This shark-faced P-40 Warhawk (restoration funded by Museum trustee Paul Hilliard and the Irene W. and C.B. Pennington Foundation) cuts a stunning figure against the towering video backdrop in Road to Tokyo's China-Burma-India gallery.
Educational Foundations

Educational Programs Helped Lay the Groundwork and Plot the Future for America’s National WWII Museum

From its very beginning, The National WWII Museum has been committed to education, and to giving teachers and schools the tools they need to tell the WWII story in a full and meaningful way. Indeed, director of education Kenneth Hoffman, hired by Stephen Ambrose and Nick Mueller, began work on a set of WWII lesson plans two years before the first visitor arrived in the Museum’s galleries, his workspace adorned with a countdown clock that marked the days until the grand opening.

Once the Museum officially opened its doors, and as gallery and staff resources became available, the Museum’s educational offerings took a leap forward: Milestones in the Museum’s first five years included the first gallery field trips and public lectures, family programs, teacher workshops, local school outreach with the Red Ball Express artifact van, and student competitions including the Student Essay Contest and WWII Quiz Bowl.

In August 2005, Hurricane Katrina offered a milestone of a different kind. The Education Department was reduced from five to one (Hoffman), but the Museum’s commitment to education remained strong. “We rebuilt, restructured, and reconnected to teachers and students with new technologies,” said Hoffman.

Over the next five years, the Museum balanced continued growth of on-site programming with technology-based efforts reaching far beyond the physical institution. In New Orleans, a grant from the E.J. and Marjory B. Oursur Family Foundation made possible the completion of the education offices and classroom in Discovery Hall (the first expansion of the original Museum building). The Museum played host to National History Day for youth participants and, for adults, the first International Conference on World War II—a conflict that engaged the best in American engineering, ingenuity, and mechanics. By combining the two, Museum educators have developed engaging programs, including the popular WWII Robotics Challenge, STEM field trips, and a summer science teacher institute, that emphasize the kind of integrated learning and critical thinking that serve students best.

“The development of radar, penicillin, jet engines, rockets, atomic science, and blood plasma all had impacts on the war and all continue to have impacts on us today,” Hoffman said. “Combining history and STEM, while somewhat unique in the museum world, has allowed us to reach students and teachers beyond the social-studies classroom and become a year-round teaching resource.”

Today, The National WWII Museum welcomes more than 50,000 students per year on field trips. Beyond that total, more than 92,000 K–12 students visited the Museum in Fiscal Year 2016, as well as more than 61,000 college students. Add to that the reach of distance-learning programs, which counted more than 56,000 total participants in FY2016. The Museum’s mission to educate current and future generations about World War II rolls on. With a slate of programming that is broader than ever—and new programs just beginning to take root—the best of FY2016 was impressive indeed . . . and so much more is still to come.
**TOP LEFT** Middle-school students hear history firsthand as Museum volunteer Bowdre McDowell shares stories of the war years.

**TOP RIGHT** Using LEGO MINDSTORM components and their own ingenuity, Robotics competitors face WWII-themed challenges.

**BELOW** Student day at WWII AirPower Expo introduces students to WWII aircraft and the pilots who flew them.
Stephen E. Ambrose Legacy Society

The Stephen E. Ambrose Legacy Society recognizes 85 special individuals and couples who have included The National WWII Museum in their will, trust, life insurance policy, retirement assets, or other estate plans. These gifts support our mission to preserve and share the history of the American experience during World War II. The Museum recognizes and thanks these Society members for their generous support.
Below Legacy Society supporter Captain John H. Ford serving in Europe.

We remember with special gratitude those individuals whose deferred commitments to The National WWII Museum have been realized.

Anne Anthony
IMO Robert J. Hanbury
John and Virginia Bettencourt
Robert W. Dannely
Carolyn Davis Fernandez
IMO Capt. Julian M. Fernandez
Richard Dorney
Nathan S. Elder
Erwin Charles Ellerbeck, Jr.
Bertram E. Fetter
Henry and Audrey Fontcuberta
Jerome Gerwitz
Dr. Morris W. Goldberg
Thaddeus Gruszecki
Aaron M. "Rick" Harris
Dr. Tryon Wieland
Mrs. Lou Werneberg
Michael B. Wanas and Karen Wibrew
IMO 2nd Lt. Howard L. Cox, Jr.
IMO Maj. John R. Glassey
IMO 1st Lt. Clifford J. Peck USAAF
IMO Charles Wilson, Jr., 282
IMO her husband Theodore
IMO Capt. Julian M. Fernandez
IMO Col. William K. St. Claire
IMO YNCM Clinton S. Thurlow, Jr.
IMO Col. William K. St. Claire
IMO 1st Lt. Clifford J. Peck USAF

We acknowledge that her greatest joy comes from using her fortune to “help people.” We are fortunate that she is a member of the Museum family.

Myrtis “Jeri” Nims is the widow of the late Robert E. Nims, founder of Lucky Coin Machine Company. Since his passing in 2000, Jeri has continued to honor her husband’s legacy through philanthropy. Robert came to New Orleans when he served with the Merchant Marines in World War II. After the war, he moved to the city and stayed until his death.

When Jeri visited the Museum for the first time she “instantly fell in love.” Due to the couple’s shared love for the arts, Jeri decided to name the Robert and Jeri E. Nims Entertainers Hallway, which welcomes all visitors to the Solomon Victory Theater and BB’s Stage Door Canteen with large photos of the stars of stage and screen who served in uniform during the war.

She has also named the Jeri Nims Soda Shop, a restaurant on the Museum’s campus where guests can enjoy house-made milkshakes and sodas as well as a lunch and breakfast menu that evokes the nostalgia of the WWII era. Period decor in the Soda Shop includes a jukebox, WWII-era posters, and photographs of Louisiana’s 1948 jitterbug champion—Jeri herself (above).
Summer Teacher Training

A Stellar Array of Educator Resources Takes World War II from the Collection to the Classroom

The Museum is a summertime beacon of professional advancement for teachers from around the country. In FY2016, historian and best-selling author Donald L. Miller, PhD (author of Masters of the Air: America’s Bomber Boys Who Fought the Air War Against Nazi Germany, The Story of World War II, and D-Days in the Pacific), led a seminar for 25 teachers produced in partnership with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. A weeklong Real World Science: Summer Teacher Seminar gathered 28 science educators to study how STEM innovations proved essential to the Allied victory in World War II, including examinations of wartime artifacts from our collection, meetings with veterans, and working with a Museum-designed curriculum, among many other activities.

In FY2016, Museum educators were also hard at work at a new teacher-education resource unlike any other. The aptly named From the Collection to the Classroom is a series of comprehensive WWII curriculum guides designed to bring students and teachers the best of The National WWII Museum’s galleries: photography, video, digital artifacts, personal accounts, and authoritative treatments of major battles, leaders, strategies, and social issues, as well as the wealth of scholarly research and curation that goes into the Museum’s award-winning exhibits. Throughout the fiscal year, educational experts and historians, including Richard B. Frank (author of Guadalcanal: The Definitive Account of the Landmark Battle and Downfall: The End of the Japanese Imperial Empire), collaborated to incorporate this rich source material into the first volume in the series, The War in the Pacific.

Drawing on the 10 galleries in Road to Tokyo, The War in the Pacific contains historiographical essays, lesson-planning tools, materials for hands-on student activities, and a classroom poster. An accompanying interactive website, free for use by all with registration, houses relevant multimedia resources linked to each lesson plan, and downloadable, printable contents of the entire set. Three additional volumes will follow, each based on another body of assets from the Museum, on the themes of the war in Europe, the Home Front, and liberation.

In turn, each will serve as the basis for a summer institute for teachers, at which educators will have unparalleled access to
The hometown-workshop multiplier effect means that 3,600 teachers and more than 400,000 students will experience the Museum’s four-part From the Collection to the Classroom WWII overview curriculum over the next five years.

Funding for the first Institute cohort and the curriculum kits was generously provided by the David I. Oreck Foundation. The Patrick F. Taylor Foundation will fund the second cohort covering the war in Europe. Oreck, a WWII veteran, and Phyllis Taylor on behalf of the Patrick F. Taylor Foundation, were able to meet and observe the first Summer Teacher Institute educators while they were at the Museum.

“It takes visionary funders who appreciate the depth and integrity of this approach to recognize the value of investing in those students,” said associate vice president of education and access Owen Glendening. “To actually come and experience the Institute was a special statement. I think they found, as do we, that the level of engagement and enthusiasm the teachers show for the subject—and for the power of these tools to engage their students—makes the project wholly worthwhile.”
Program Supporters

The National WWII Museum thanks the following donors, whose support makes our exhibits, educational programs, outreach initiatives, and commemorative events possible. These generous individuals and organizations help us increase understanding of the war that changed the world among people of all ages across the nation.

Anne and Herschel Abbott
Acadian Ambulance Service
Adams and Reese, LLP
Adkerson Family Foundation
John G. Amato
American Legion 656
American Legion Post 656
Ladies Auxiliary
IrV & Bee Apatoff Foundation, Inc.
Associated Benefit Consultants
ATA*
Mr. and Mrs. William Baird
James L. Barksdale*
David and Stephanie Barksdale*
Timothy L. Barnes
Bellingrath Wealth Management and Employee Benefits*
Brandon & Daphne Berger*
and the Berger Family
Bob & Dolores Hope Foundation
The Boeing Company*
Joy and Boydie Bollinger*
Char and Harold Bouillion*
Joy and Boysie Bollinger*
The Brown Foundation, Inc., of Houston
Bruce J. Heim Foundation
Bruhn-Morris Family Foundation
Clarence Burnett*
C. Jay Moorhead Foundation
Thomas J. Callender
The P. and C. Carroll Foundation
Jeffrey R. Carter*
Chevron
Cigna Group
Clark Charitable Foundation, Inc.
Datel and Thomas Coleman*
Crescent Capital Consulting
Dr. and Mrs. James Crouch*
Cudd Foundation*
Dale E. and Janice Davis Johnston
Family Foundation
David H. Dewhurst III
Dale E. and Janice Davis Johnston
Family Foundation
Florida Marine
Gary Sinise Foundation
The Giardina Family Foundation
Eugene and Emily Grant
Family Foundation
Harper Family Foundation
Harrah's
Lois and Lloyd Hawkins, Jr.
Foundation
Robert Tucker Hayes Foundation
William and Susan Hess*
Mr. Ryan Higgins
Madelyn and Paul Hilliard*
Jean W. Horn*
HP
IBERIABANK
Infogroup Nonprofit Solutions*
Jones Walker, LLP*
J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.
Ann and John Koerner*
Koret Foundation
John Peter Labouisse III
Latter & Blum, Inc.*
The Lemoine Company*
Deborah G. Lindsey*
Listow & Lewis*
Lockton Companies
Louise H. Moffett
Family Foundation*
The Lupin Foundation
Lupo Family Charitable Fund*
Dr. and Mrs. Neil J. Maki*
Ben A. Martinez, Jr.*
Mathes Brierre Architects*
Jimmy and Lillian Maurin*
Col. Craig and Kathleen Mays*
MBCS Steel Fabrication
LTG Neil and Mrs. Bonnie McAskill*
Noel and Irene McDonald
Gustaf W. McIlhenny Foundation*
Mrs. Diana Mercer
Col. and Mrs. Larry L. Merington*
Suzanne and Michael Mestayer
Diane Garber Miller*
Lupo Family Charitable Fund*
Dr. and Mrs. Neil J. Maki*
Ben A. Martinez, Jr.*
Mathes Brierre Architects*
Jimmy and Lillian Maurin*
Col. Craig and Kathleen Mays*
MBCS Steel Fabrication
LTG Neil and Mrs. Bonnie McAskill*
Noel and Irene McDonald
Gustaf W. McIlhenny Foundation*
Mrs. Diana Mercer
Col. and Mrs. Larry L. Merington*
Suzanne and Michael Mestayer
Diane Garber Miller*
Ronald and Cynthia Mirost*
Mitchiner-Gittinger
Family Foundation
MKM Foundation
Dan M. Morgan
Mutual of America Investment Corporation*
National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors
National Film Preservation Foundation
National History Day Inc.
Walter Negley
New Orleans Convention and Visitors Bureau
New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corporation*
New Orleans Theatre Association
The New York Community Trust
Margaret M. Hitchcock Fund
NOLA Brewing
Northrop Grumman Corp.
Mr. & Mrs. Leon L. Nowalsky
Ochsner Health System*
Thomas and Cheryl Olinde*
The David I. Oreck Foundation
Oscar J. Tomas Charitable Trust*
Otto Candles, LLC*
The E.J. and Marjory B. Ourso Family Foundation
Peoples Health
The Chris and Janel Pieszko Fund
Toska and Barry Quinioes*
Red Oak Foundation
Amy Reimer and Jack Sileo
William W. Richardson
William J. and Dina B. Riviere*
RosaMary Foundation
Roth Law Firm, LLC
Rouses
Jennifer and Phil Sater*
Lori and Dr. Bobby Savoie*
Kathryn and Jeff Scurlock*
Mr. Robert V. Siebel*
Peter and Kelly Sloss*
Solomon Group*
Maj. Louis H. Soroe
The Starr Foundation*
Frank and Paulette Stewart*
Tawani Foundation
Patrick F. Taylor Foundation*
The Advocate*
The TR Family Trust*
ThirtyNorth Investments, LLC*
Tidewater Inc.*
Transdev Services, Inc.
David W. Tuminello*
Lady Hope Foundation
Flavio W. Tuminello
Wells Fargo
Kate Whiteman Annis and Taylor Whitman
Whitney Bank*
Richard and Kathryn Winter*
The Waldenfong Foundation
The Wyler Family Foundation
Mr. Michael Yatsko
Fred and Kay Zeidman*
Robert E. Zetzmann
Anonymous (3)*

* American Spirit Awards Donor

DONOR SPOTLIGHT
JAMEY AND JUDY CLEMENT

DALLAS, TX Jamey and Judy Clement were introduced to the Museum by their friend Walter Negley, who invited Jamey to the grand opening of the Solomon Victory Theater complex in 2009. It was the first of many visits for the Clements, for whom patriotism runs deep: In World War II, both Jamey’s and Judy’s fathers served in Europe, as did Jamey’s uncle. Jamey’s grandfather was active as well, as president of the Pennsylvania Railroad on the Home Front.

But it is Jamey’s two sons—one a 2nd Lt in the USMC Reserves after a tour in Iraq with the 2/17 Marines, the other an aviator and a Captain in the Marines—who inspired their proud father to say, “Any interest I have in World War II and military history was heightened by their enlisting and willingness to serve.”

Jamey’s own father was reluctant to talk about his service in France, where he landed following D-Day. Before his father’s death in 1994, Jamey asked him to write about his experiences. It was Jim Clement’s three-page letter that sparked the Clements to name the From Normandy to Berlin exhibit in the Louisiana Memorial Pavilion.

Later, his father’s letter would play a role in what became one of Jamey’s fondest memories, during the Museum’s 70th anniversary D-Day cruise. On the last day of the land tour, a Museum guide used Jim’s letter to guide his family in his footsteps. The Clements blazed a trail through Normandy, retracing the steps of Jim’s unit from the beaches to Gathemo, the hill on which the guide believed Jim was injured. For Jamey, visiting the very sites where his father served was an incredibly special experience to share with his family.
Debuting in June 2016, the special exhibit Tom Lea: LIFE and World War II collected 26 iconic pieces of original art from LIFE Magazine war correspondent and artist Tom Lea, who covered many aspects of the war—from experiencing convoy battles in the North Atlantic firsthand to hitting the beach at Peleliu in the Pacific with US Marines. In its June 11, 1945, issue, LIFE devoted seven pages to Lea’s stark, visceral images of the Battle of Peleliu, including one of the most publicly recognizable artworks of the war, That 2,000 Yard Stare, a highlight of the exhibit for visitors. Supplementing the artwork—which was on loan from the US Army Center of Military History—were Lea’s drawing table, brushes, and easel on loan from the Tom Lea Institute, and sketches drawn by Lea on loan from the collection of Judy and Jamey Clement. Oral histories of Peleliu veterans collected by the Museum were also featured.
Student Connections

On-Site and Online, Museum-Produced Educational Programs Reach Tens of Thousands Through Electronic Gallery Visits, Webinars, and Award-Winning National Electronic Field Trips

Through school field trips developed by our education staff, more than 750,000 students have visited the Museum since its opening. Themed according to a special exhibit or STEM topic, and including Title 1 subsidies in order to welcome the broadest possible population of students, field trips remain a premier way for students to experience the Museum and the WWII story.

Educational programs for families and the community provide another way to engage with history: In May, dozens of young cast members took part in a performance of Brundibár, a children’s opera originally produced in Theresienstadt concentration camp, a “model” camp for artists and intelligentsia designed to deceive visiting inspectors. The opera was a propaganda tool to add to the deception—but also an instrument of hope for the child actors who performed it.

In addition to studying their roles and learning the music, cast members interacted with the last surviving original cast member of Brundibár, Ela Weissberger, who joined them on stage for the final triumphant song and interacted with the audience as a featured guest. For younger children, Weissberger led a butterfly-painting activity in honor of children of the Holocaust. And for those farther afield, she shared her story via a webinar, during which she related her personal story of struggle and survival, but also her casting as the role of the cat in Brundibár, and what its staging around the world means to her today.

Like the Brundibár webinar, web-based programming throughout the year brings WWII experts, authors, and veterans into classrooms. During FY2016, electronic distance-learning programs for students—including virtual field trips, Skype programs, webinars, and a pioneering National Electronic Field Trip in partnership with New Orleans PBS member station WYES—reached more than 50,000 students.

The premiere National Electronic Field Trips (NEFT)—titled for the WWII-era slogan We’re All in This Together!: How Students like YOU Experienced WWII—aired in December 2015 and helped students see themselves in history by examining the war as it was fought on the Home Front. The project won an award for excellence in "Instructional Media" at the 2016 NETA Awards competition, which honors achievements by members of the National Educational Telecommunications Association. The Museum’s NEFT series, which continued on December 7, 2016, with Remember Pearl Harbor, streams directly into classrooms across the country.

Interactive, immersive, and presented live via the Internet, We’re All in This Together! roaming the Museum’s immersive exhibits and displays to teach students about rationing, Victory Gardens, collecting scrap for the war effort, and even a lesson in dancing the jitterbug. Thousands of students in grades 4-8 examined WWII artifacts and primary sources, asked questions of our Museum’s expert staff, and participated in live polls—all without leaving their classrooms.

For everyday on-demand electronic outreach, the Museum’s website offers a host of classroom-ready lesson plans for teachers on a variety of WWII subjects, including the war in the Pacific, the war in Europe, the Home Front, and the science and technology of the war. Designed with ease-of-use in mind, the lesson plans feature primary sources from the Museum’s extensive collection and meet Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards.

The Education Department’s Get in the Scrap! program is a service-learning project that calls on students in grades 4-8 to participate in classroom activities about recycling and energy consumption—the same patriotic role students played on the Home Front 70 years ago during World War II.

“Our goal is for students to make deeper and more personal connections with history than they can ever make with their textbook,” said Virtual Classroom Coordinator Chrissy Gregg. “One of the most powerful ways to do this is to expose students to rich primary-source materials such as artifacts, photographs, songs, and historical film, in addition to firsthand accounts of the war. These personal connections with veterans, young people on the WWII Home Front, and Holocaust survivors remind students of the humanity of the war—not only the loss and sacrifice, but also the teamwork and perseverance.”
TOP LEFT  Director of education Kenneth Hoffman examines a propaganda poster on-camera for the inaugural National Electronic Field Trip in December 2015.

TOP RIGHT  Ela Weissberger celebrates with a cast member in May 2016, following one of three performances of Brundibär sponsored by the New Orleans Theatre Association.

BELOW  From their own school, students participate in an educational webinar produced live from the Museum.
Solomon Victory Theater Seat Donors

The National WWII Museum thanks the following donors for purchasing a theater seat in the Solomon Victory Theater to honor or remember a family member, personal friend, or organization. An engraved plaque has been permanently affixed to the arm of the purchased seat to recognize the contribution. Such support helps preserve the stories of World War II for future generations in this one-of-a-kind theater.
Since their first visit to the Museum in 2013 for the grand opening of US Freedom Pavilion: The Boeing Center, Robert and Lenore Briskman have returned many times. Their favorite visit? A 2015 reunion of Rob’s Princeton classmates, who toured the Museum together to learn about Princeton’s role in the war. They were “very impressed,” says Rob, who was thrilled to share this information with his friends and family.

The Briskmans are committed to expanding the Museum’s educational mission so that younger generations can learn about the importance of the war. By sponsoring two seats in the Museum’s Solomon Victory Theater, home to the extraordinary 4D experience Beyond All Boundaries, the Briskmans have taken an active role in supporting that mission. The couple has also made steps to include the Museum in their future Planned Giving initiatives. According to Rob, the variety of Planned Giving options at the Museum offers many ways to help strengthen the Museum’s Endowment Fund for this very purpose.

Of the importance of studying WWII history, Lenore says, “This was the most popular war, and probably the most important war in recent years. . . . It would be a pity for people to lose track that this particular event could have changed the world in a disastrous way.” Adds Robert, “It’s important for visitors to know the whole story of World War II, not just the battles, but the things that affected civil society. It was a tremendous change of our culture, society, and industry. All of this needs to be told.”
The National WWII Museum hosts a year-round roster of public educational programming for students of all ages. From special symposia with WWII veterans and evening author talks to Lunchbox Lectures and Dinner with a Curator gatherings that match themed dinner menus with WWII topics, the calendar of enlightening offerings brims with rich, engaging content. The superstar gathering of each year, however, is the International Conference on World War II—the world’s foremost such convening of WWII experts, students, and aficionados.

The 2015 International Conference was “a high-water mark to date,” said Jeremy Collins, director of conference and travel program development for the Museum. The penultimate installment of the 70th Anniversary of World War II Conference Series presented by the Pritzker Military Museum & Library and the Tawani Foundation, the 2015 Conference, titled 1945: To the Bitter End, covered key events in the war from the Battle of the Bulge and V-E Day to the dropping of the atomic bombs and V-J Day. The annual conference takes place in New Orleans over the course of three days each fall—but the Museum’s work to produce this extraordinary event begins long before that.

The rough map for each Conference is first drawn by a Museum team led by president and CEO Nick Mueller and guided by staff historians. Finer details are drawn by the Conference Program Planning Committee, then the Presidential Counselors—a select group of scholars and experts that advises experts and audiences engage at the International Conference on WWII and Panel Discussions Aimed at Lifelong Learners

The National WWII Museum hosts a year-round roster of public educational programming for students of all ages. From special symposia with WWII veterans and evening author talks to Lunchbox Lectures and Dinner with a Curator gatherings that match themed dinner menus with WWII topics, the calendar of enlightening offerings brims with rich, engaging content. The superstar gathering of each year, however, is the International Conference on World War II—the world’s foremost such convening of WWII experts, students, and aficionados.

The 2015 International Conference was “a high-water mark to date,” said Jeremy Collins, director of conference and travel program development for the Museum. The penultimate installment of the 70th Anniversary of World War II Conference Series presented by the Pritzker Military Museum & Library and the Tawani Foundation, the 2015 Conference, titled 1945: To the Bitter End, covered key events in the war from the Battle of the Bulge and V-E Day to the dropping of the atomic bombs and V-J Day. The annual conference takes place in New Orleans over the course of three days each fall—but the Museum’s work to produce this extraordinary event begins long before that.

The rough map for each Conference is first drawn by a Museum team led by president and CEO Nick Mueller and guided by staff historians. Finer details are drawn by the Conference Program Planning Committee, then the Presidential Counselors—a select group of scholars and experts that advises Dr. Mueller on a multitude of Museum endeavors, including exhibit content, travel tours, and the International Conference. “These groups come together and work to form a program that is the most engaging for the audience and that includes the latest research and writing to press,” said Collins, who first came to the Museum as an intern while still a history student at the University of Missouri. “We want to make sure we bring in the top scholars with the newest research and publications—but we also want to make sure that those scholars are indeed good speakers, and that they’re able to convey their subject matter and knowledge to the audience in a digestible manner, because we serve the general public. We’re not here for academics or for the speakers’ peers. We’re
The reach of the Conference extends well beyond the walls of the ballroom in which it’s held through live Internet streams of every session. “The live streams really do allow this content to be presented to anyone and everyone, anywhere and everywhere,” Collins said.

Some of the best moments of every Conference transcend the meticulous planning that goes into every minute of the schedule, Collins added, when the hundreds in attendance in New Orleans get to interact with the speakers.

“Audience Q&A is where some of the best discussions take place,” Collins said. “It’s not scripted. It’s not part of the speaker’s presentation. It allows for the speakers and the audience to really engage in some exciting and thorough discussion. Our audience members can and do buy the speakers’ books and read them. They know that by attending they get the opportunity to engage with the authors.”

The Pritzker Military Museum & Library and the Tawani Foundation, presenter of the 70th Anniversary of World War II Conference Series, are vital Museum partners in making the International Conference the prestigious congress it has become.

“Their support is invaluable to the Museum’s ability to bring together the finest historians—the best stories and freshest research—for our Conference audience both in person and virtually,” says Jeremy Collins, the Museum’s director of conference and travel program development. “Our institutions share a mission to celebrate the US citizen soldier. The Museum’s focus is World War II; their focus broadens to include all of US history. The International Conference is where we meet, and their sponsorship generosity makes possible the success we mutually enjoy. The Museum is delighted that its relationship with the Pritzker Military Museum & Library and the Tawani Foundation will continue into the future, and our hope is that the ongoing partnership shines a spotlight on the essential work they do.”

In FY2016, The Pritzker Military Museum & Library and the Tawani Foundation committed to a new round of funding in support of the next five years of the International Conference on World War II. The Museum is grateful for their ongoing generosity, which supports this prestigious gathering year after year.

In addition to their ongoing support for the International Conference, the organizations also stepped forward in FY2016 as major supporters of PT-305, playing a significant role in helping the Museum raise needed funds to return the boat to water.
The National WWII Museum’s permanent exhibits—our primary teaching tool for tens of thousands of visitors each year—are developed through a process with many players and stages.

The exhibits are developed by the Museum’s exhibit-design partner, Gallagher and Associates, which handles the master vision of architectural spaces and all the content that goes within them, including gallery settings, lighting, artifacts, panels and labels, photographs, and media productions. Historical content is researched and vetted by Museum staff and History Associates, an outside research firm. Based off the master plans, the Museum then hires vendors to carry out the work, ranging from construction and lighting firms to video production companies, among others.

The Museum also enlists some of the top historians working in specialized fields to join with staff on various exhibits. Donald L. Miller, Conrad Crane, and Rick Atkinson were instrumental in the development of Road to Berlin. Richard B. Frank, a noted historian of the Pacific war, was a key advisor for the Road to Tokyo galleries; Lynne Olson, who has written several books on the coming of war to Britain and America, is serving as consultant on our upcoming exhibit The Arsenal of Democracy; and the Museum’s new Samuel Zemurray Stone senior historian, Rob Citino, PhD, will serve in that capacity for the upcoming Liberation Pavilion.

Museum staff then works in teams with individual vendors to develop the detailed storylines across all the different types of content. Foremost in the process is a deep understanding of both the history to be taught and the different ways visitors will absorb it. For the exhibit-creation team, the phrase that describes the range of visitor experiences in galleries is “skimmers, swimmers, and divers.”

How a Team of Designers, Advisors, and Historians Comes Together to Create an Immersive Exhibit Experience for Every Kind of Visitor

**ROAD TO TOKYO**

**BY THE NUMBERS**

- Galleries: 10
- Artifacts in exhibit: 400+
- Personal accounts: 132
- Dog Tag Experience stories: 20
- Video oral histories: 23
- Static maps: 26

“A ‘skimmer’ is a visitor who has a limited amount of time in the Museum, and wants to get the top-level story of World War II, quickly and efficiently,” said senior director of research and history Keith Huxen, PhD, whose role in the gallery-creation process is to compose and vet educational content and maintain responsibility for the overarching narrative of the story of World War II the Museum tells not only across individual exhibit galleries, but across all of the pavilions on the campus. “A ‘swimmer’ has more time, and wants to engage with the content more deeply, perhaps reading more panels or contemplating more artifacts. A ‘diver’ wants to read every word on every panel, watch every video, look at every interactive kiosk, etc.”

Huxen cited the Guadalcanal gallery in Road to Tokyo, the grand opening of which completed the Museum’s Campaigns of Courage pavilion in December 2015, as an example of the process.
Educational Travel Programs

Top Scholars, Expert Guides Direct Journeys to Normandy, Paris, Berlin, and Beyond to Lead Guests into WWII History

The evolutionary arc of the Museum's educational travel program has been steady expansion, including tours for high school and college students: Normandy Academy begins its programming at the Museum in New Orleans then travels to the beaches and hedgerows of the D-Day invasion, while Student Leadership Academy pairs online learning with a behind-the-scenes experience at the Museum's New Orleans campus. Both offer a college-credit option.

For adult learner-travelers, the programming menu ranges from a D-Day Tour of Normandy and Paris to the Easy Company Tour, retracing the steps through Europe taken by the soldiers immortalized by Museum founder Stephen E. Ambrose in his 1992 book Band of Brothers (later adapted for the HBO miniseries of the same title). Masters of the Air travels to the airfields of East Anglia, England, for a study of America's "Bomber Boys" of World War II. The Soldiers and Spies Tour visits Normandy then occupied Paris for lessons in wartime espionage and resistance, and The Rise and Fall of Hitler's Germany Tour explores Germany and Poland following the arc of the Third Reich's ascension then destruction.

Linking many such tours with renowned scholars has become a trademark of the Museum's travel program. Donald L. Miller, PhD., Dr. Alexandra Richie, and Alex Kershaw—all stalwart presenters at the annual International Conference on World War II—lead current tours for the Museum. A new tour for 2017 pairs Museum president and CEO Nick Mueller, PhD, with Robert M. Citino, PhD, the Museum's Samuel Zemurray Stone senior historian and also a Conference regular, for a land-and-water tour of Normandy and Paris via the Seine River. Another, the Writing the War Tour led by Miller, journeys back into some of World War II's most significant battles as documented by Ernie Pyle, Ernest Hemingway, and other war correspondents.

“The Museum's educational tours are a passport to WWII history,” said Jeremy Collins, director of conference and travel program development for the Museum. “Our guides and historians are the best in the business, and to walk with them over the very ground where the soldiers fought, and fell, is to bend time backward. Our returning tour groups say it all the time: For students of WWII history, these are trips of a lifetime, and the number of repeat travelers we have is a testament to our programs.”

For school-age participants, lessons learned on a Museum educational tour can endure a lifetime. The curriculum for Student Leadership Academy encourages students to relate the lessons of World War II to their own lives and the world around them. Normandy Academy mirrors the journey Andrew Higgins's boats made from New Orleans to Omaha Beach.

"In France, the history is tangible," said Natalie McDonald, a Normandy Academy alumna. “You can literally feel the importance of a building by the depressions in the steps, and you can imagine how many people have stood in that exact spot. The beaches that we saw, where ships full of GIs charged the German batteries, were so beautiful and peaceful, but you could feel the sadness and the hope that remained after the men were washed away. It was such a powerful feeling.”
Fighting for the Right to Fight: African American Experiences in World War II

At The National WWII Museum, education isn’t just about teaching individual topics: it’s about finding the connections that bring those themes to life, and make lasting impressions on the audiences who experience them. In FY2016, the special exhibit Fighting for the Right to Fight—and the significant research and scholarship that went into creating it—provided a rich source for these connections, inspiring a wealth of programming and experiences to help students, teachers, and all our visitors access this important story in new ways.

SEE HOW FIGHTING FOR THE RIGHT TO FIGHT CAME TO LIFE IN FY2016 →
BELOW. The special exhibit Fighting for the Right to Fight: African American Experiences in WWII, presented at the Museum by the Coca-Cola Foundation, sparked an array of educational programming.
Among the 9,000+ personal accounts in the Museum’s collection is the oral-history interview of Roscoe Brown, which features prominently in the special exhibit. In his interview, Brown describes his service with the 332nd Fighter Group—America’s first black fighter pilots—recalling what it was like to fly escort missions in the 332nd’s iconic red-tailed aircraft: “The bomber-escort missions required a lot of discipline. They were longer missions in the main, and you knew you were doing good. . . . Escort missions gave us our reputation. We got the reputation of being so-called ‘Red Tailed Angels,’ because of the fact that we stayed close to the bombers.” The video is available online in the Museum’s Digital Collections at ww2online.org.

In an annual event that proves more robust and thrilling with each year, The National WWII Museum joined with the Commemorative Air Force and Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation to bring the public in direct contact with the amazing machines that fought in World War II. WWII veteran airmen were some of the most enthusiastic passengers in the restored vintage planes in attendance, which included a B-17, B-25, and, shown here with Tuskegee Airman Charles McGee, a P-51D Red-Tail Mustang like the one he flew in the war. Elsewhere at the Expo, visitors climbed inside a mobile screening room to view Rise Above, a film about the Tuskegee Airmen.

In February, the Museum's BB's Stage Door Canteen staged the historical docudrama Black Angels Over Tuskegee, currently one of the longest-running productions off-Broadway and a captivating dramatic depiction of the Tuskegee Airmen's story. The award-winning play is a narrative of six men embarking upon a journey to become the first black aviators in the US Army Air Forces during a tumultuous era of racial segregation in 20th-century America.
WEBINARS & SYMPOSIA

In April, a Fighting for the Right to Fight symposium featured two panel discussions by noted historians and veterans focusing on African Americans in the military, while a free interactive webinar, featuring Tuskegee Airmen George Hardy and Charles McGee and streaming live in classrooms across the country, allowed students to hear firsthand accounts of the struggles and extraordinary achievements of African Americans during World War II, both overseas and on the Home Front.

DOCUMENTARIES

The centerpiece of the Fighting for the Right to Fight exhibit is an eight-minute, Museum-produced documentary about the struggles and combat exploits of African American servicemembers, narrated by Robin Roberts (whose father was a Tuskegee Airman) and featuring a collection of oral history segments and historical footage to convey the drama, determination, triumph, and disillusionment in the stories of servicemembers of color during World War II.
FY2016 saw the completion of restoration work on this P-51D Mustang, painted in the likeness of the “Red-Tail” flown by Roscoe Brown in World War II—complete with the “Bunnie” nickname Roscoe painted in honor of his wife. The restoration project, sponsored by Todd Ricketts and the Ricketts family, was the latest in a series of collaborations with historic-aircraft specialists Flyboys Aeroworks in California, who restored the plane down to the powerful Merlin engines that Roscoe and a crew member are inspecting in the photograph on page 1. As it now rests, hanging from the rafters of US Freedom Pavilion: The Boeing Center, the Museum’s newly restored P-51D fighter tells an epic WWII story.

EXHIBIT

On display at the Museum July 4, 2015–May 30, 2016, Fighting for the Right to Fight: African American Experiences in World War II resided in the Joe W. and Dorothy D. Brown Special Exhibit Gallery. The award-winning exhibit saw 612,892 visitors, including 37,863 students. Fighting for the Right to Fight is now a traveling exhibit with stops at the St. Petersburg Museum of History in Florida (through March 5) and the Dallas Holocaust Museum/Center for Education and Tolerance (August 31, 2017–January 26, 2018), with more locations to be announced.
P-51D DEDICATION

Great fanfare heralded the dedication of the P-51D, drawing national media attention to the Fighting for the Right to Fight special exhibit and to the Museum and its work. WWII veterans Charles McGee and George Hardy were spotlighted during an evening dedication ceremony, hosted by ABC Good Morning America anchor Robin Roberts and WWL-TV anchor Sally-Ann Roberts, daughters of Tuskegee Airman Colonel Lawrence Roberts. As she reflected on her connection to the WWII story, Robin Roberts noted of her father, “He said he never felt more free than when he was in that plane, flying.”

NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Fighting for the Right to Fight's development was overseen by a national advisory committee comprised of some of the world’s most respected scholars of African American history and drawing on personal and family experience of segregation and race relations in the war years. Said John H. Morrow, PhD, committee cochair (far left in photo), “The committee meshed immediately within its ranks and with the Museum staff, who realized our vision far beyond the wildest expectations. As an African American and historian who was born in 1944 and grew up in the South in the aftermath of World War II, the stories were not new or surprising, but the overall impact of bringing all these stories together in one exhibit I found impressive. It’s one thing to know about these events, entirely another to be present in an exhibit that surrounds you with them and immerses you in them.”

MEDAL OF HONOR CEREMONY

A highlight of the special exhibit were five Medals of Honor—representing the seven medals awarded to African American heroes some five decades after the war’s end. In 1997, after an investigation confirmed a racial disparity in the way the Medal was awarded, President Bill Clinton conducted a ceremony awarding the Medal of Honor to seven men (six of them posthumously). The families of these men were honored at an October ceremony hosted by Al Roker, at which Roker along with WWII scholars discussed the medals and their honorees through panel discussions and a screening of Roker’s film Honor Deferred.
Teaching World War II to “Skimmers, Swimmers, and Divers” in Museum Galleries

How a Team of Designers, Advisors, and Historians Comes Together to Create an Immersive Exhibit Experience for Every Kind of Visitor

The National WWII Museum’s permanent exhibits—our primary teaching tool for tens of thousands of visitors each year—are developed through a process with many players and stages.

The exhibits are developed by the Museum’s exhibit-design partner, Gallagher and Associates, which handles the master vision of architectural spaces and all the content that goes within them, including gallery settings, lighting, artifacts, panels and labels, photographs, and media productions. Historical content is researched and vetted by Museum staff and History Associates, an outside research firm. Based off the master plans, the Museum then hires vendors to carry out the work, ranging from construction and lighting firms to video production companies, among others.

The Museum also enlists some of the top historians working in specialized fields to join with staff on various exhibits. Donald L. Miller, Conrad Crane, and Rick Atkinson were instrumental in the development of Road to Berlin. Richard B. Frank, a noted historian of the Pacific war, was a key advisor for the Road to Tokyo galleries; Lynne Olson, who has written several books on the coming of war to Britain and America, is serving as consultant on our upcoming exhibit The Arsenal of Democracy; and the Museum’s new Samuel Zemurray Stone senior historian, Rob Citino, PhD, will serve in that capacity for the upcoming Liberation Pavilion.

Museum staff then works in teams with individual vendors to develop the detailed storylines across all the different types of content.

Foremost in the process is a deep understanding of both the history to be taught and the different ways visitors will absorb it. For the exhibit-creation team, the phrase that describes the range of visitor experiences in galleries is “skimmers, swimmers, and divers.”

“A skimmer” is a visitor who has a limited amount of time in the Museum, and wants to get the top-level story of World War II, quickly and efficiently,” said senior director of research and history Keith Huxen, PhD, whose role in the gallery-creation process is to compose and vet educational content and maintain responsibility for the overarching narrative of the story of World War II the Museum tells not only across individual exhibit galleries, but across all of the pavilions on the campus. “A ‘swimmer’ has more time, and wants to engage with the content more deeply, perhaps reading more panels or contemplating more artifacts. A ‘diver’ wants to read every word on every panel, watch every video, look at every interactive kiosk, etc.”

Huxen cited the Guadalcanal gallery in Road to Tokyo, the grand opening of which completed the Museum’s Campaigns of Courage pavilion in December 2015, as an example.
As chairman of the Board of Trustees, Richard C. Adkerson presided over the December 2015 grand opening ceremonies for Road to Tokyo, which explores the evolution of strategy in fighting relentless Japanese forces in Asia and the Pacific.

Together with the Freeport-McMoRan Foundation, Adkerson pledged $5 million to the completion of the immersive Pacific war exhibits, a gift honoring the men and women who served in the Pacific during World War II, including his father as a Seabee.

As chairman, Adkerson said, “With our company’s operations in the Asia-Pacific region, it was good for Freeport and me personally to support the Museum in achieving this important goal in its Master Plan and to encourage others to participate as well.”

At the grand opening, Museum president and CEO Nick Mueller said that Adkerson’s “leadership to bring this day about has been decisive.”

Added Gary Sinise, master of ceremonies for the grand opening, “This institution, the stories it tells, the values it reflects, are important to our collective identity as Americans.”

example of how the “skimmer, swimmer, diver” concept informs exhibit formation. “A ‘skimmer’ might only read the intro panel, and spend three or four minutes walking through the gallery, getting a sense of the show presentation, and looking only at the few artifacts that interest him,” Huxen said. “A ‘swimmer’ may read all the intro and main text panels, check out the artifacts, and watch the entire seven-minute video show going on around him. A ‘diver’ will read every panel, watch the entire show with their full attention, watch every oral history and play every animated map in the Dog Tag Station, read every word of Jefferson DeBlanc’s Medal of Honor citation and ponder the medal and spear on display, plus absorb everything else on display in the gallery.”

The driving force in the Museum’s galleries is a commitment to personal narrative, which dates back to founder Stephen Ambrose, Huxen said.

“Dr. Ambrose collected oral histories of veterans for use in his books, which brought WWII history alive for so many readers through having that personal voice of experience, telling you about something most readers had not experienced for themselves,” Huxen said. “Dr. Ambrose’s collection was the heart and start of the Museum’s oral history collection, and we now have over 9,000 personal accounts in various formats in our collection holdings.

“The Museum has incorporated the personal voice into our exhibits not only through media-driven oral histories, but through our Dog Tag Experience, personal story panels, and the artifacts associated with individuals who went through the war. I personally believe that nothing interests people more than other people and their experiences.”
PT-305’s Restoration Nears Completion as She Readies for New Role

Everything from Her Instruments to Her Paint Scheme Teaches How Science, Technology, and Tactics Helped Win the War
After a decade of restoration work, including installing engines, electrical systems, rails, gun mounts, and other finishing touches in FY2016, PT-305 stands by on the eve of her return to water. Top of her to-do list for FY2017: sea trials in preparation for passenger rides.

FY2016 was an action-packed year in the John E. Kushner Restoration Pavilion, where volunteer crew members moved toward completion of the extraordinary restoration effort of PT-305. Patrol-torpedo boats were the fastest US Navy vessels in World War II—but when PT-305 first made her way to The National WWII Museum, she did so slowly, on a tractor-trailer. In fact, not much about the appearance of the tour boat–turned–oyster boat–turned–party boat, modified and even shortened as she was, suggested the fearsome war machine she once had been.

Today, almost every inch of PT-305, from her instruments to her paint scheme, advances the Museum’s education mission. PT-305’s Mark 31 Torpedo Director, acquired on eBay, is a deceptively simple metal device used to aim torpedoes by mechanically computing factors such as the angle of the target on the bow, the speed of the target, and the speed of the torpedo. The boat’s paint colors—first applied in 1944 and reapplied in 2016—are a unique “Measure 32 modified” camouflage combination of blue tones intended to mask the boat from the enemy before, and immediately after, torpedo attacks.

And then there’s her personal narrative. Built in New Orleans by Higgins Industries, PT-305 was deployed in the Mediterranean for 14 months, during which she conducted more than 77 offensive patrols and operations, fought in 11 separate actions, sank three German ships, conducted reconnaissance, landed commandoes on occupied coasts, carried generals, and was home to 44 men.

“The restoration of PT-305, like all Museum projects, is aimed at making history accessible in as detailed and authentic a way possible,” says Stephen Watson, the Museum’s executive vice president and COO. “By preserving macro-artifacts so central to the wartime experiences of WWII veterans, we are building the framework for tomorrow’s generations to connect with their service and sacrifice.”

In June 1945, her squadron (Ron 22) returned to the United States to be overhauled for deployment to the Pacific. The war, however, ended while the squadron was still in New York Harbor. PT-305 was decommissioned and sold as military surplus for $10.

The Museum acquired PT-305 from the Defenders of America Naval Museum in Galveston, Texas, in June 2006, and transported her home to New Orleans. The decade-long, $3.3 million effort to restore PT-305 totaled more than 120,000 volunteer hours. Everything aboard her except her weapons is now fully operational. Tours and sure-to-be-thrilling rides—all based out of a custom-built lakefront boathouse—are expected to begin in April 2017.

PT-305

**By the Numbers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>78 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beam</td>
<td>20 feet, 1 inch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight (depending on weapons)</td>
<td>43–56 tons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speed</td>
<td>40 knots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wartime crew</td>
<td>2 officers, 11 men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restoration volunteer hours</td>
<td>120,549</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper rivets</td>
<td>39,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caulked seam</td>
<td>3 miles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The last legs of PT-305’s journey would have been unthinkable without the tireless efforts of her volunteer restoration crew. Sacrificing weekends over many years, the crew (a total of 200+ over the course of the project) worked toward an outlandish dream—restoring a combat-veteran patrol-torpedo boat to wartime operational trim. The John E. Kushner Restoration Pavilion became a home away from home for many crew members, who were inspired by the heroic service of the men who fought aboard PT-305.

Returning PT-305 to her home waters of Lake Pontchartrain will be the result of more than 120,000 volunteer hours at an estimated labor value of more than $2 million. Donations from more than 100 companies (including shipbuilders, engineering firms, and many more) added to the in-kind donation total, which got a homestretch boost of more than $200,000 from the Museum’s first Kickstarter fundraising campaign.

“During World War II, everyone came together to accomplish the job of total victory,” said senior curator and restoration manager Tom Czekanski. “In much the same way, people came together from all over the country to make the restoration of PT-305 a reality. The dedication of volunteers has allowed her to return to active service—now as an instrument of learning and a reminder of the courage and sacrifice of our WWII sailors.”
CHARTER MEMBERS

At the foundation of The National WWII Museum’s growth are our Charter Members. Their staunch support throughout the 2016 fiscal year exemplifies a strong commitment to the mission of America’s National WWII Museum.

Combined, the Museum’s members provided the Museum with over $8 million in operating revenue to help fund educational programming and preservation initiatives. As we continue our efforts to expand the Museum, their loyalty is an inspiration.

In the first five years of the Museum, our WWII veterans were the torchbearers for advancing the membership program. As time moves on, the torch has passed to their sons and daughters—Americans who are invested in ensuring that their family’s contribution to our collective history and the war that changed the world is preserved for all future generations.

We welcome the more than 50,000 new Charter Members who joined during fiscal year 2016 and thank all 147,051 for supporting The National WWII Museum.

PATRIOTS CIRCLE

Members of the Patriots Circle have placed their stamp on The National WWII Museum. In addition to contributing between $1,000 and $10,000 annually, these elite members participate in the Museum’s travel programs, attend the International Conference on World War II, and are national ambassadors for the Museum.

In FY2016, Patriots Circle members contributed more than $2 million dollars to the Museum—the largest amount ever and a telling demonstration of their fidelity.

Among the Circle’s 1,116 members around the country, more than 60 are members of the Museum’s Board of Trustees and staff. Their annual financial support is a testament to the personal investment each has made in the mission of this Museum. Thank you to all for leading by example through your giving.
DONOR SPOTLIGHT

KEN AND LINDA COPPER

"We are so grateful that The National WWII Museum honors the sacrifice of the men and women who gave their all to save the world from Hitler and Imperial Japan. Because of their inherent modesty, much of what they accomplished for America and the free world is unknown to younger generations. What a gift that the Museum focuses on educating the world about the American experience of World War II—and honoring the sacrifice and dedication of the Greatest Generation!"

For Ken and Linda Copper, involvement in Patriots Circle has helped teach the importance of World War II to their children and grandson, and provide context for discussing their own family's service. Ken's father, H. E. Copper, was a pilot with VF-29 aboard the escort carrier Cabot in Bull Halsey's fleet, though he never talked about it. Linda's dad, Harold Buckingham, wanted to serve in the military but was deemed too important to the Home Front as the head of a trucking company.

"We never tire of telling our friends to visit New Orleans and the Museum with their children and grandchildren. I know that many have listened to our pitch, made the trip and thanked us for prompting them to go. They all come back impressed," says Ken.

The Coppers remain faithful supporters of the Museum through Patriots Circle to keep the history of this critical period alive and instructive for all Americans. "We are proud to participate, in a small way, to thank those brave souls who died and sacrificed so that we might live in freedom today."
Ms. Barbara Hull
IHO Lt. Cmdr. William Deloney Hull, Jr., WWII Veteran

Mr. and Mrs. Donald C. Jones
Ms. Sachiko Kawaguehi

Mr. Philip W. Reed
IHO Philip W. Reed, WWII Veteran

Dr. Patrice K. Richardson
IHO Edgar Richardson

S. Melvin Rines, WWII Veteran

Mr. Michael H. Russell
IHO Harold C. Russell

The Wilson Sexton Foundation
Herbert J. and Jeanne S. Siegel

Frederick P. Stratton, Jr.
IHO Tracy N. Gordon

Scotty Bamford, WWII Veteran

Mr. John G. Turner and
Mr. Jerry G. Fischer
IHO Bert Silger Turner, WWII Veteran

David and Candace Weir Foundation
IHO David Andrew Weir, Jr., WWII Veteran

Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Wolf
IHO Ens. N. Clifford Wolf, WWII Veteran

And two other donors who wish to remain Anonymous
IHO Benjamin N. Goo, WWII Veteran

David T. S. Goo, WWII Veteran

Joseph F. S. Goo, WWII Veteran

Ms. Deborah A. Eppolito
IHO Lt. Col. N. Clifford Wolf, WWII Veteran

Mr. Jerry B. Epstein
IHO Pat T. Epstein

LTC Randy Everson, USA (Ret.)
IHO LG/J Bartlett S. Everson, WWII Veteran

Lynn Everson, WWII Veteran

Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Farnsworth
Tina L. Ferrell

IHO Edward C. Zimmerman, WWII Veteran

Anna Zimmerman
Herman Haegle, WWII Veteran

Emma Haegle

Mr. James H. Fraenberg
IHO E. J. Connelley, WWII Veteran

Howard Fraenberg, WWII Veteran

Loretta Fraenberg, WWII Veteran

Pam Davis Friedler

IHO Arthur Q. Davis, WWII Veteran

Marcus Frost
IHO Clifford A. Drost, WWII Veteran

Daniel Preston Frost, WWII Veteran

Rodney Brubaker, WWII Veteran

Kenneth Blackbird, WWII Veteran

Jim and Sherree Funk

Dr. Jack and Mrs. Linda Gill
IHO Lt. Lewis Chalais, WWII Veteran

PFC Elmer Clayton Gill, WWII Veteran

Morris Goldfarb
IHO Mr. Julius Sigholz, WWII Veteran

Mr. Barry Gossett
IHO Joe B. Gossett, WWII Veteran

Mr. Merrill Greer

Ms. Leonie Griswold
IHO William Tudor Griswold, WWII Veteran

Don Lopez, WWII Veteran

Tex Hill, WWII Home Front

General Claire Lee Chennault, WWII Veteran

LTC and Mrs. Ronald M. Guiberson
IHO Charles E. Foster, WWII Veteran

Henry Foster, WWII Veteran

John Kramer, WWII Veteran

Katherine Kramer, WWII Veteran

Robert Kramer, WWII Veteran

G. Robert Harms
Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Hanna
IHO Robert R. Schmalhofer, WWII Veteran

Thomas F. Cassia, Jr.

Fred Brooks, WWII Veteran

Mr. Marc Helm
IHO Homer Marcus Helm, Sr., WWII Veteran

Quay Milford Fortner, WWII Veteran

Col. Paul H. Herbert

Warren G. Herrell II and

Jeannine M. Rivet

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald E. Hodnefield

Robert W. Horner III

David and Sarah Hurder
IHO Maj. Gen. Edwin D. Patrick, WWII Veteran

Kent and Jan Jackman
SGT Robert E. and Monica Jacoby, USA (Ret.), WWII Veteran

Mary L. Dumestre and
Guillermo Johnson

Mr. Tom Jordan

John and Dottie Kelley
IHO Lt. Calvin A. Kelley, WWII Veteran

Lou Kennedy and Family
IHO James E. Kennedy, WWII Veteran

1st Lt. Frances Tuciarone, WWII Veteran

Dr. Meritt E. Kimball, WWII Veteran

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M. Kitchen
IHO John Walter Paul, Jr., WWII Veteran

Buddy Kullman

Sal and Carol Glenn Lalani
IHO Theodore A. Mangesdorff

William G. "Bill" Newman, WWII Veteran

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Marino and
Ms. Ann Morehead

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Markey
IHO John T. Markey, Jr., WWII Veteran

Robert Jones, WWII Veteran

Walter H. Jones, WWII Veteran

Charles D. Marks
IHO Maj. Sidney L. Marks, WWII Veteran

Pt. Harry Otter, WWII Veteran

Mr. Thomas Marks
IHO Marvin J. Marks, WWII Veteran

Ben A. Martinez, Jr.
IHO Urban B. Martinez, WWII Veteran

Mr. Duncan L. Mattose, Sr. and
Mrs. Shirley C. Mattose

George A. McCalpin
IHO F. William McCalpin, WWII Veteran

William J. Dieter, WWII Veteran

IHO Theodore A. Mangesdorff

William G. "Bill" Newman, WWII Veteran

IHO Lawrence F. Wadsworth, WWII Veteran

Mr. Wilton Looney, WWII Veteran

Frederick and Linda R. Mangesdorff

IHO Theodore A. Mangesdorff

William G. "Bill" Newman, WWII Veteran

IHO Lawrence F. Wadsworth, WWII Veteran

Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Hanna
IHO Robert R. Schmalhofer, WWII Veteran

Thomas F. Cassia, Jr.

Fred Brooks, WWII Veteran

Mr. Marc Helm
IHO Homer Marcus Helm, Sr., WWII Veteran

Quay Milford Fortner, WWII Veteran

Col. Paul H. Herbert

Warren G. Herrell II and

Jeannine M. Rivet

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald E. Hodnefield

Robert W. Horner III

David and Sarah Hurder
IHO Maj. Gen. Edwin D. Patrick, WWII Veteran

Kent and Jan Jackman
SGT Robert E. and Monica Jacoby, USA (Ret.), WWII Veteran

Mary L. Dumestre and
Guillermo Johnson

Mr. Tom Jordan

John and Dottie Kelley
IHO Lt. Calvin A. Kelley, WWII Veteran

Lou Kennedy and Family
IHO James E. Kennedy, WWII Veteran

1st Lt. Frances Tuciarone, WWII Veteran

Dr. Meritt E. Kimball, WWII Veteran

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas M. Kitchen
IHO John Walter Paul, Jr., WWII Veteran

Buddy Kullman

Sal and Carol Glenn Lalani
IHO Theodore A. Mangesdorff

William G. "Bill" Newman, WWII Veteran

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Marino and
Ms. Ann Morehead

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew J. Markey
IHO John T. Markey, Jr., WWII Veteran

Robert Jones, WWII Veteran

Walter H. Jones, WWII Veteran

Charles D. Marks
IHO Maj. Sidney L. Marks, WWII Veteran

Pt. Harry Otter, WWII Veteran

Mr. Thomas Marks
IHO Marvin J. Marks, WWII Veteran

Ben A. Martinez, Jr.
IHO Urban B. Martinez, WWII Veteran

Mr. Duncan L. Mattose, Sr. and
Mrs. Shirley C. Mattose

George A. McCalpin
IHO F. William McCalpin, WWII Veteran

William J. Dieter, WWII Veteran

IHO Theodore A. Mangesdorff

William G. "Bill" Newman, WWII Veteran

IHO Lawrence F. Wadsworth, WWII Veteran

Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Hanna
IHO Robert R. Schmalhofer, WWII Veteran

Thomas F. Cassia, Jr.

Fred Brooks, WWII Veteran

Mr. Marc Helm
IHO Homer Marcus Helm, Sr., WWII Veteran

Quay Milford Fortner, WWII Veteran

Col. Paul H. Herbert

Warren G. Herrell II and

Jeannine M. Rivet

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald E. Hodnefield

Robert W. Horner III
AUSTIN, TX  Growing up, both Jonathan and Lindsay were captivated by stories from their respective grandparents about life during World War II. So when they heard about a “new” museum in New Orleans in 2005, the couple—then students but already avid travelers to WWII museums around the world—went to see it.

They knew right away that The National WWII Museum was something special. “Here were these innovative presentations—oral histories, videos, exhibits—that were so powerful. We loved the materials from both the Allied and Axis perspective—something we didn’t see at the Imperial War Museum in London or other WWII museums!”

Says Jonathan, “None of our family and friends who we’ve encouraged to go to the Museum have ever been disappointed. Even those who say they don’t consider themselves history or ‘museum people’ connect with the engaging exhibits.” Madelyn and Slate (almost two years old at the time) were mesmerized by Road to Tokyo, which they saw at its grand opening in 2015.

“For us, this brings purpose and meaning to our remaining in the Patriots Circle. What a blessing to use their enchantment with so many of the sights and sounds found on campus as an opportunity to share the stories of their great-grandparents—and our own fond memories.”
When he first heard the Museum was going to be built in New Orleans, WWII veteran Jacques Smith jumped at the chance to get involved as a Charter Member. As well as supporting the Museum financially, he is one of its biggest cheerleaders. “My friends call me a ‘big mouth’ for the Museum because I tell family, neighbors—anyone who will listen—about how great it is!” Whenever his sons come in from out of town, we always make a point to spend at least a day or two exploring the Museum together.

Jacques and his wife, Patricia, live in nearby Metairie, which allows them to visit often. They never miss a chance to bring their sons when they come to town. On a recent visit they took in the new Road to Tokyo. “It’s outstanding! I could spend days in the Museum reading every panel in the exhibits.” Their frequent visits also let Jacques and Patricia keep tabs on the Museum’s expansion, for which Jacques has a unique appreciation: “Being a civil engineer, I know it’s not easy to complete a large campus in from out of town, we always make a point to spend at least a day or two exploring the Museum together.

Jacques is also quick to offer praise to Museum staffers and volunteers, whom he calls unfailingly friendly and helpful. “And my family and I will forever appreciate the recognition they give to us WWII veterans! Even though I know it’s not easy to complete a large campus in Metairie, which allows them to visit often. They never miss a chance to bring their sons when they come to town. On a recent visit they took in the new Road to Tokyo. “It’s outstanding! I could spend days in the Museum reading every panel in the exhibits.” Their frequent visits also let Jacques and Patricia keep tabs on the Museum’s expansion, for which Jacques has a unique appreciation: “Being a civil engineer, I know it’s not easy to complete a large campus in from out of town, we always make a point to spend at least a day or two exploring the Museum together.

Jacques is also quick to offer praise to Museum staffers and volunteers, whom he calls unfailingly friendly and helpful. “And my family and I will forever appreciate the recognition they give to us WWII veterans! Even though I know it’s not easy to complete a large campus in Metairie, which allows them to visit often. They never miss a chance to bring their sons when they come to town. On a recent visit they took in the new Road to Tokyo. “It’s outstanding! I could spend days in the Museum reading every panel in the exhibits.” Their frequent visits also let Jacques and Patricia keep tabs on the Museum’s expansion, for which Jacques has a unique appreciation: “Being a civil engineer, I know it’s not easy to complete a large campus in from out of town, we always make a point to spend at least a day or two exploring the Museum together.

Jacques is also quick to offer praise to Museum staffers and volunteers, whom he calls unfailingly friendly and helpful. “And my family and I will forever appreciate the recognition they give to us WWII veterans! Even though I know it’s not easy to complete a large campus in from out of town, we always make a point to spend at least a day or two exploring the Museum together.

Jacques is also quick to offer praise to Museum staffers and volunteers, whom he calls unfailingly friendly and helpful. “And my family and I will forever appreciate the recognition they give to us WWII veterans! Even though I know it’s not easy to complete a large campus in from out of town, we always make a point to spend at least a day or two exploring the Museum together.
AUSTIN, TX Marc and Cathy’s fathers both served in the armed forces during World War II—Cathy’s dad, Ken Reash, as a Marine on Johnston Island, and Marc’s father, Bernie Smith, in the Army Air Force in Foggia, Italy. As children, they both helped their families decorate veterans’ graves and participated in fund-raising activities for the American Legion and Jewish War Veterans organizations. Cathy notes, “We were fortunate to have parents who shared their stories and instilled in us a tremendous respect for the sacrifices made by all Americans during World War II.”

For both, a favorite spot on the Museum campus is US Freedom Pavilion: The Boeing Center. Says Marc, “Because my dad was a waist gunner in a B-17, I am awestruck when I step into that space and see My Gal Sal suspended from the ceiling along with other WWII aircraft. Cathy’s favorite exhibit is on the second floor—the video testimonials of veterans’ experiences are so moving.”

For the SMS, Patriots Circle is a way to take part in preserving the stories and legacy of World War II. “The quality of the exhibits is exceptional. But we’re also invested alongside the Museums’ staff and volunteers. They’re always probing new ways to bring these stories to life and honor veterans. We were thrilled when the Museum, in partnership with the Gary Sinise Foundation, brought my 93-year-old dad on a Soaring Valor flight—he still talks about that experience!”

Dennis and Corrie Roesslein
IHO Howard A. Carlington, WWII Veteran
Theodore A. Roesslein, WWII Veteran
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne E. Rose
IHO Lynn E. Rose, Jr., WWII Veteran
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rosser
IHO Louis H. Ballard, WWII Veteran
Mansel and Brenda Rubenstein
Robert L. Rubbright, MD
Gary Rupnik
Robert L. Rubright, MD
Mansel and Brenda Rubenstein
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rosser
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Scurlock
Marge and Tom Schueck
IHO Arthur Moeslein, WWII Veteran
Russell K. Schulze
Mr. Peter W. Schweitzer
IHO Col. William P. Schweitzer, WWII Veteran
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Scurlock
Marge and Tom Schueck
LTC Allan Scholl
IHO Frank J. Scholl, WWII Veteran
William H. Scholl, WWII Veteran
P. A. Schoeder
IHO Donald C. Spong, WWII Veteran
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne E. Rose
IHO Lynn E. Rose, Jr., WWII Veteran
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Rosser
IHO Louis H. Ballard, WWII Veteran
Mansel and Brenda Rubenstein
Robert L. Rubbright, MD
Gary Rupnik
Capt. James S. Russell, WWII Veteran
Patrick Russell, Esq.
IHO Wilbert H. Russell, WWII Veteran
Mr. Gary Rupnik
Mr. Robert Sanson, WWII Veteran
Edward L. Sabourin, AT1, USNR (Ret.)
IHO Joseph Sabourin, WWII Veteran
James J. Sabourin, WWII Veteran
Cornelius J. Sabourin, WWII Veteran
Edward J. Sabourin, WWII Veteran
Patrick R. Sallin
IHO I. LT Kathleen Prince Sallin, WWII Veteran
I. LT John H. Sallin, WWII Veteran
Mr. Fred H. Salter, WWII, Korean, and Vietnam War Veteran
Mr. Robert Sanson, WWII Veteran
IHO Edward John Sanson, WWII Veteran
Henry Ernest Sanson III, WWII Veteran
Mr. and Mrs. Jane Scharlach
Joseph M. Schell
Renee and Herbie Schilling
IHO Herbert E. Schilling, WWII Veteran
Sylvon Renee Vidrine, WWII Veteran
Robert E. Schmidt
IHO Glenn W. Rulle, WWII Veteran
SGT Edward Hampton Schmidt, WWII Veteran
James W. Schoellerman
IHO William W. Schoellerman
Alvin L. Schoellerman, WWII Veteran
Mr. and Mrs. Richard E. Scott
IHO Harold E. Scott
Mr. Peter W. Schweitzer
IHO Col. William P. Schweitzer, WWII Veteran
Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Scurlock
Mr. Cloe Sellers
Mr. Robert Serio
IHO John Joseph Serio, WWII Veteran
Bobby Stone Shackoulis
IHO David Edward Shackoulis, WWII Veteran
Elliott Shafer, WWII Veteran
Shear Graphics, LLC
Ms. Diane E. Shelgren
IHO 2nd Lt. Wesley H. Shelgren, WWII Veteran
S/Sgt. Loren B. Shelgren, WWII Veteran
Mr. Myron P. Shevell
Ms. Gretchen Pence Shires
IHO Donald Charles Pence, WWII Veteran
Kenneth E. Shuman
Mr. Robert Siever
IHO Clarence Roger Siever, WWII Veteran
Ms. Elda R. Silver
IHO Richard L. Silver, WWII Veteran
Sgt. Perry Kunesky, WWII Veteran
Walter Andrus, WWII Veteran
Ed Sawyer, WWII Veteran
Mrs. Arlene K. Silver
IHO Sgt. Perry Kuniansky, WWII Veteran
Dr. James H. and Peggy Soileau Simmons
IHO - Sgt. Albert Bingham Cantrell, WWII Veteran
Esther Simplot
IHO Jesse K. Johnston, WWII Veteran
Mr. and Mrs. William and Mary Skroch
Frank P. Slattery, Jr.
IHO Frank P. Slattery, WWII Veteran
P. Nevin Sledge, WWII Veteran
Mike and Liz Slive
IHO Ben Slive, WWII Veteran
Jack Slive, WWII Veteran
Sol Slive, WWII Home Front
Morris Ginsberg, WWII Veteran
Sol Gingold, WWII Veteran
Ms. Ella Smart
IHO Clarence Shaffer Smart, Jr., WWII Veteran
Jacqueline Alison Fazzalari, RN, WWII Veteran
Paul V. Fazzalari, DDS, WWII Veteran
Richard R. Crowley, WWII Veteran
Capt. Samuel W. Smith, WWII Veteran
Ms. Kiki J. Smith
IHO Col. Charles P. Jones, WWII Veteran
Mr. David O. Smith
IHO Evelyn Osborne Smith, WWII Veteran
Pamela and Charles R. Smith
IHO Charles R. Smith, WWII Veteran
Marc and Cathy Smith
IHO Bernard A. Smith, WWII Veteran
Edwin Smith, WWII Veteran
Kenneth Bartly Reash, WWII Veteran
Herbert Smith, WWII Veteran
Marvis R. Snell
IHO Lewie Aaron Snell, WWII Home Front
Marvis Reeder Snell, WWII Home Front
Randolph Snell, WWII Veteran
David E. Snowden, Sr.
IHO Lt. Col. John B. Snowden II, WWII Veteran
Harold D. Snyder, WWII Veteran
IHO George Greenhalgh, WWII Veteran
Thomas F. Soule, Jr.
IHO Cpl. Thomas F. Soule, Sr., WWII Veteran
Hugh Franklin Spivack, WWII Veteran
Mr. David Spivack
Pamela Sporing and Steven Altman
IHO William Sporing, WWII Veteran
Dr. Kevin St. Clair
Mr. Michael Stanberry
IHO Wallace A. Stanberry, WWII Veteran
Mr. Brian Stanley
IHO Ernest D. Greco, WWII Veteran
Zoe Stanley
Mr. William D. Stegbauer
IHO Frank T. Stegbaur, WWII Veteran
Mr. James E. Stein
IHO Joseph E. Stein, WWII Veteran
Mr. Sylvester Steinke
IHO Sylvester Steinke, WWII Veteran
Robert Stershell, Ph.D.
Mr. James Sterson
IHO James Woodrow Sterson, WWII Veteran
Patti P. Stewart
IHO David H. Porter, Jr., WWII Veteran
Mark A. Stewart
IHO Reg Duncan
Col. Charles N. (Chuck) Baldwin, WWII Veteran
Mr. Bert W. Stoller, WWII Veteran
Col. Galen L. Stone, WWII Veteran
Mr. and Mrs. William H. Stone
IHO Harland J. Stone, WWII Veteran
Stored Energy & Power Solutions
IHO George W. Kiley, WWII Veteran
Mr. James E. Stott
IHO Arthur E. Hager, WWII Home Front
Keith Anderson, WWII Veteran
Institute for the Study of War and Democracy Envisioned as Hub for WWII Scholars

Hall of Democracy Pavilion Will House Multimedia Facilities for Digital Outreach, and Play Host to WWII Scholars and Scholarship
A generous 2012 gift from the Zemurray Foundation, a distinguished New Orleans philanthropic institution, has funded two PhD historians at the Museum. The current Samuel Zemurray Stone senior historian, Robert M. Citino, joined the staff in 2016. His predecessor in the post, Keith Huxen, is senior director of research and history for the Museum.

Their roles intersect with virtually every department, supporting public programs, conferences, gallery content, and much more. Both are also focused on developing programming for new audiences, including participating in educational travel programs, writing for internal and external publications, and conducting news-media interviews. In many ways and on many channels, staff historians are often the public face of The National WWII Museum—a clear expression of the educational mission that has fueled the institution since its founding by two PhD historians.

“The generous support from the Zemurray Foundation is invaluable to an institution like ours because it ensures an ongoing commitment to top-level historical scholarship within the Museum,” Huxen said. “It is important not only because it provides the financial foundations to attract the most distinguished scholars, but it means that our permanent and special exhibits, conferences, publications, collections, tours, and all other programming initiatives are being developed and supervised by historians with the highest-caliber talents. The public sees the end results of these programs when they visit the Museum or go on a tour or to a conference, but what they don’t see is the long process and work beforehand, and the very beginning of that process is made possible by the support and vision of sponsors like the Zemurray Foundation.”
Through the Road to Victory Capital Campaign, The National WWII Museum will tell the entire story of the American experience in World War II. When completed in 2020, this $370 million expansion project will quadruple the size of the original Museum, adding state-of-the-art program and exhibit space, libraries and archives, and collections and conservation space. An endowment campaign will provide long-term funding for educational programs, research, collection of oral histories, and future exhibitions.
In memory of Calvin “Kelly” Haase
Frank William Harrison III
In memory of Calvin “Kelly” Haase
Frank William Harrison III
The Hearst Foundations
In memory of Sgt. John Hoson Cdr.
William Howson, Sr.
J.C. Flowers & Co. LLC
Scott Jacobs
Mr. and Mrs. Peter S. Kalikow
The Kean Foundation Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Norman V. Kinsey
Kirkpatrick Family Fund
Mr. and Mrs. C. Jeffrey Knittel
Koret Foundation
John E. Kushner Family
Elaine & Ken Langone
INDEPENDENCE
Louis & Elizabeth Andrews
aos architectural interiors
AT&T
Battelle
In Honor of John Leighton Batts
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Blair
Boh Foundation
Mr. David Boies
Gen. and Mrs. Walter E. Boomer
USMC (Ret.)
Robert & Lenore Briskman
Harvey R. Chaplin
Cooper T. Smith Corporation
CuDD Foundation
Christopher Dewey
Diamond Offshore Drilling, Inc.
The Dowd Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Lewis M Eisenberg
Fidelity Homestead Savings Bank
Mr. and Mrs. Alan I. Franco
Frantzen/Voelker Investments, LLC
Foster Friess
Jeff & Debbie Gorski
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gardiner
Marla R. Garvey
Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Godchaux III
Gulf Island Fabrication Inc.
In memory of Calvin “Kelly” Haase
Frank William Harrison III
Terri and John Havens
The Hearst Foundations
In memory of Sgt. John Hoson Cdr.
William Howson, Sr.
J.C. Flowers & Co. LLC
Scott Jacobs
Mr. and Mrs. Peter S. Kalikow
The Kean Foundation Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Norman V. Kinsey
Kirkpatrick Family Fund
Mr. and Mrs. C. Jeffrey Knittel
Koret Foundation
John E. Kushner Family
Elaine & Ken Langone
Mrs. Dorothy W. “Dot” Lester
W.O. George H. Lester, Jr.
Levy Rosenblum Family Foundation
Christy and John Mack Foundation
Maersk Inc.
Dr. and Mrs. Neil J. Maki
Pearl Ann Marco
Ben A. Martinez, Jr.
The John J. McArdle III & Joan
Creamer McArdle Foundation
Suzanne and Michael Mestayer
Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Meyer, III
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
Dr. & Mrs. Gordon H. “Nick” Mueller
Marlyn Thompson Mueller
Murphy Oil
Pearl Ann Marco
Ron and Mary Neal
Robert Newman Family
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph O’Dowd
The Octavia Foundation
Oreck Family
IHQ David Oreck
Jan and Rich Partarozzi
Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Payne
Audrey and Albert Ratner
Records-Johnston
Family Foundation, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Rick S. Rees
The Reily Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. R. Randolph
Richmond, Jr.
Mr. David Rockefeller
Michael Rose and Debbi Fields
Jelly Belly Candy Co.
The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld
Bill and Trudy Rutledge
SAIC
San Antonio Area Foundation
Patrick Sands Family
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Sherrill
Mr. Robert V. Siebel
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP
Pamela and Charles R. Smith
William A. & Madeleine Welder
Smith Foundation
Sony Corporation of America
Steven Spielberg
Standard Mortgage Corporation
The Rich and Sue Sugden Family
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Sherrill
Sun Drilling Products Corp.
In memory of Leonard Pipkin
Sycamore Management Corporation
The Gentlemen, LLC
Killin & Cecille To Foundation
Eli and Deborah Tullis
Mr. and Mrs. St. Denis J. Villere
VT Halter Marine, Inc.
Optimist Club of the West Bank
Courtney and Mark E. Watson, Jr.
Christine Whitman
IHO Whitman
Jonathan and Lindsay Wilkerson
Anonymous (2)
SPECIAL PARTNERS
First NBC Bank
BELOW The Ralph E. Crump, LTJG, USNR, US Merchant Marine Gallery, opened December 2015, tells the story of the servicemembers who risked all to “deliver the goods”—creating a link both narrative and literal to the “overseas” galleries of Road to Tokyo and Road to Berlin.
Digitization Efforts for Oral Histories, Photographs, and Artifacts

Recording, Preserving, and Sharing the Personal Experience of Citizen Soldiers is a Core Pursuit Dating Back to Founder Stephen Ambrose

The personal experience of citizen soldiers is the foundation on which The National WWII Museum stands. The personal narratives of WWII veterans collected by founder Stephen Ambrose seeded a priceless trove of recorded interviews that has been growing ever since. The Museum’s Research Department travels far and wide in a race against time to collect more.

These first-person narratives from men and women who lived through World War II give Museum visitors a uniquely personal connection to the war years. They’re seen and heard throughout our galleries, and are archived for all to study at ww2online.org.

“I watched the whole scene,” says Harold Ward, a witness to the attack on Pearl Harbor, in his Museum oral-history interview. “I watched Oklahoma roll over while Arizona was still exploding.

“It was chaotic. It was bloody. It was frightening.”

Sailor Roy Boreen was aboard the USS Oklahoma that day.

“That morning the sun was out, it was a beautiful day, and then after the first attack and especially when the Arizona went up in the air, everything turned black,” Boreen says in his Museum oral history. “That day was really dark and everything after.”

As the race to collect oral histories like these continues, a parallel effort is underway to make more of the collection accessible to the public.

Recording and archiving are only the preliminary steps. The tools to disseminate these stories to current and future generations of students, educators, researchers, filmmakers, and authors, calls upon extraordinary computing resources, as well as countless staff hours.

The Museum’s digital collections website, launched in December 2013, currently contains segmented and annotated videos of oral histories from all military service branches, easily searchable by theater, branch of service, or keyword. Website visitors can also create custom collections to which they can save photos and oral history clips at no charge—an invaluable resource for students of World War II. The Museum’s new From the Collection to the Classroom WWII curriculum
The storage and information-management company Iron Mountain, which specializes in the storage and protection of original documents, recordings, and artifacts, has become an important partner in the Museum’s digitization efforts through its generous support.

An essential counterpoint to the digitization and dissemination of primary-source documents and recordings is of course the conservation of the originals. Iron Mountain’s capabilities in this area have helped the Museum’s historians and curators move forward with digitization efforts secure in the knowledge that the original materials are also being properly managed and stored. It’s another essential part of the digitization drive that means so much to the Museum and the stories it strives to preserve.

“Every time we lose a veteran, it’s like losing a library—all of those memories and firsthand experiences are gone,” said Museum president and CEO Nick Mueller. “Digitization efforts preserve a significant piece of our nation’s cultural heritage for future generations, and Iron Mountain is helping us ensure that the stories of our WWII veterans are not lost with their passing. Through archiving and sharing firsthand accounts like Roy Boreen’s, we’re able to present deep and meaningful content to the public and students and scholars of all ages, living all over the world.”

**DIGITAL COLLECTIONS BY THE NUMBERS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digital artifacts</td>
<td>190,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal accounts</td>
<td>9,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visits to Digital Collections at ww2online.org (2013–2016)</td>
<td>223,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visits to Museum website at nationalww2museum.org (2013–2016)</td>
<td>13,202,367</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Collections / Ongoing Development and Impact

As its educational outreach continues to expand, the Museum continues its essential work: telling the story of World War II through exceptional gallery settings, online experiences, personal accounts, and artifacts—such as this unique “souvenir” brought home by an American servicemember who served in postwar Nagasaki: a vase, flash-burned on one side, shows the scars of the atomic bomb while the other side remains unharmed. The vase was recovered by Lt. EL Willey, executive officer of the USS _Tills_, which was one of the first American ships to arrive in the city at the end of the war. The vase is on display in Downfall, the final gallery of _Road to Tokyo_, beneath towering screens depicting the blast, a haunting reminder of the personal and indelible impact of this world-changing war.

## Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

The National World War II Museum, Inc. and Subsidiaries
June 30, 2016 (with comparative totals for 2015)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>43,942,273</td>
<td>41,485,663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>17,518,623</td>
<td>13,145,975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unconditional promises to give: Capital Campaign, net of allowances</td>
<td>13,573,169</td>
<td>12,170,599</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment, net of allowances</td>
<td>3,014,575</td>
<td>1,174,885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other, net of allowances</td>
<td>1,864,536</td>
<td>1,001,125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants receivable</td>
<td>423,056</td>
<td>15,220,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes receivable</td>
<td>12,524,383</td>
<td>548,712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gift shop inventory</td>
<td>654,596</td>
<td>147,545,581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>3,044,713</td>
<td>2,197,685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation</td>
<td>161,888,353</td>
<td>147,545,581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collections</td>
<td>12,087,630</td>
<td>9,660,759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>270,536,907</strong></td>
<td><strong>244,151,534</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LIABILITIES</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable trade</td>
<td>1,547,797</td>
<td>1,161,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction projects payable</td>
<td>2,242,865</td>
<td>2,184,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued expenses</td>
<td>1,870,396</td>
<td>1,099,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred revenue</td>
<td>1,671,143</td>
<td>953,918</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notes payable</td>
<td>33,363,636</td>
<td>40,972,217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Line of credit</td>
<td>3,477,807</td>
<td>1,080,219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>44,173,644</strong></td>
<td><strong>47,452,345</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NET ASSETS</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted: Board designated</td>
<td>3,302,280</td>
<td>2,809,479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undesignated</td>
<td>187,357,069</td>
<td>165,450,273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Unrestricted Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>190,659,349</strong></td>
<td><strong>188,259,752</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily restricted</td>
<td>18,499,009</td>
<td>16,143,347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently restricted</td>
<td>17,204,905</td>
<td>12,296,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>226,363,263</strong></td>
<td><strong>196,699,189</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>270,536,907</strong></td>
<td><strong>244,151,534</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The National World War II Museum, Inc. and Subsidiaries
For the year ended June 30, 2016 (with comparative totals for 2015)

### SUPPORT AND REVENUES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>950,725</td>
<td>10,068,266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Campaign</td>
<td>12,037,194</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment</td>
<td>4,908,815</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5,356,386</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax credit incentives</td>
<td>2,799,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memberships</td>
<td>9,091,031</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admissions</td>
<td>14,895,805</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities and property rental</td>
<td>3,287,504</td>
<td>3,287,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsored events and conferences</td>
<td>3,231,406</td>
<td>798,098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gift shop</td>
<td>3,467,811</td>
<td>3,467,811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income (loss)</td>
<td>494,794</td>
<td>37,896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsorships</td>
<td>594,500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>730,170</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restrictions</td>
<td>20,585,792</td>
<td>(20,585,792)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Support and Revenues</strong></td>
<td>65,484,724</td>
<td>2,355,662</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Capital Campaign fundraising and other</td>
<td>1,525,641</td>
<td>1,525,641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>6,365,219</td>
<td>6,365,219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>2,750,134</td>
<td>2,750,134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General and administrative</td>
<td>3,233,938</td>
<td>3,233,938</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gift shop merchandise sold</td>
<td>1,786,803</td>
<td>1,786,803</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest - amortized</td>
<td>271,215</td>
<td>271,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest - other</td>
<td>419,109</td>
<td>419,109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museum expansion</td>
<td>1,183,830</td>
<td>1,183,830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs and operations - personnel costs</td>
<td>9,778,728</td>
<td>9,778,728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs and operations - other costs</td>
<td>15,770,510</td>
<td>15,770,510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td>43,085,127</td>
<td>43,085,127</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22,399,597</td>
<td>2,355,662</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning of year</td>
<td>168,259,752</td>
<td>16,143,347</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End of Year</td>
<td>190,659,349</td>
<td>18,499,009</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Residents of St. Roch, Louisiana, celebrate V-J Day.

Image: Oscar F. Valeton Sr., The Times-Picayune, August 15, 1945 © 2014 NOLA Media Group, L.L.C. All rights reserved. Used with permission of The Times-Picayune and NOLA.com.