

THE NATIONAL WWII MUSEUM

Annual Report 2018





A female riveter at Lockheed Aircraft's Burbank, California, factory.

On June 10, 2017, The National WWII Museum unfolded a new chapter in fulfilling its mission to tell the complete story of the American experience in *the war that changed the world*. On this day, the Museum opened its newest permanent exhibit, *The Arsenal of Democracy: The Herman and George R. Brown Salute to the Home Front*, which explores the events that led to our nation's involvement in World War II, and how the war was won through the ingenuity and labor of patriotic Americans. Through the exhibit's personal narratives and evocative artifacts, stories are told of how everyday civilians helped the United States become the world's arsenal of democracy, and how World War II affected American culture, from rationing to the draft to civil rights.

Before the first visitors even entered *The Arsenal of Democracy's* introductory gallery, they were introduced to a narrative that truly embodied the patriotic spirit of the millions of Americans across the Home Front: the story of the Brown Shipbuilding Company. A red and navy blue pennant flag—emblazoned with a large white “E” at its center—immediately grabbed visitors' eyes at the exhibit's entryway. The flag represents the great achievements of brothers and engineers Herman and George R. Brown, who together transformed their construction company Brown and Root into a massive production hub—called Brown Shipbuilding Company—capable of turning out high-quality ships at a rapid pace during World War II, despite the fact that the company had never built one.

The brothers' “can-do” spirit inspired the men and women who worked at their newly created Brown Shipbuilding Company, the corporation's collective endeavors turning out over 350 warships from its Greens Bayou shipyard in Houston. Less than 5% of companies involved in war production received an Army-Navy “E” Award, but Brown Shipbuilding Company received four for their great achievement, and this gifted flag flew proudly upon the shipyard's mast. Not only did the flag serve

as a visible source of pride and inspiration for the workers who had earned it, but it also served as a growing symbol at other factories across the Home Front of how essential the nation's civilians were to America's victory. This theme of Americans' perseverance and resolute spirit continues through stories revealed to visitors as they explore *The Arsenal of Democracy's* nine galleries.

Following the opening of *The Arsenal of Democracy*, the Museum launched a series of initiatives to deeper examine the exhibit's content. Throughout Fiscal Year 2018, Museum staff hosted various public programming events exploring the American Home Front, opened a special exhibit focusing on Louisiana's role in the war, broadcast a distance-learning program about the African American experience in the war, and broke ground on a hotel and conference center named for famed New Orleans boatbuilder Andrew Jackson Higgins. For thousands of visitors, the American Home Front is now at the forefront of their Museum experience, whether in-person at the institution's campus or via digital outreach.

Through this annual report, we look back at how Fiscal Year 2018's milestones furthered the Museum's mission to better engage and interact with current and new audiences. Its pages also visually track the journey visitors make through the immersive *The Arsenal of Democracy* exhibit itself, demonstrating how the Museum now teaches essential components of the larger war narrative—the road to war and how it was experienced and supported on the US Home Front. In its galleries, visitors learn about the efforts behind the production, innovation, and volunteerism that made Allied victories possible on battlefields all across the globe. In this Annual Report, readers will learn about the engines of investigation, imagination, and presentation that built unforgettable learning experiences for our audiences—through the Museum's galleries and public programming, and in homes, offices, and classrooms across the country.

The Museum’s Board of Trustees gathers at the entrance of *The Arsenal of Democracy*.



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The Arsenal of Democracy's Manufacturing Victory gallery features sights and sounds of factory production, including disassembled machinery and interactive experiences.



C. PAUL HILLIARD

Letter from the Chairman of the Board

From ingenious discoveries to manufacturing efforts across the Home Front, in Fiscal Year 2018 the Museum's galleries welcomed new stories and voices of the WWII generation. By incorporating this vital narrative into the Museum experience, we've stepped closer towards telling the full story of the American experience in *the war that changed the world*, and I'm excited to encourage our supporters to continue this journey with us.

Having started my tenure as Board Chairman on July 1, 2018, I am honored to help advance the efforts of my predecessor, Immediate Past Chairman Jim Courter, and I thank him for his dedication and work guiding our Board of Trustees. Through Jim's leadership, the Museum gained national popularity and international recognition, with the 2017 TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice® awards ranking the Museum as No. 2 in the nation and No. 2 in the world. By further enriching the visitor experience, new audiences took notice, and I couldn't be more proud to help take our world-class Museum to its next chapter.

If you've visited the Museum recently, you know that construction is well underway on future campus additions, including the Bollinger Canopy of Peace, The Higgins Hotel & Conference Center, and the Hall of Democracy—which will house the Institute for the Study of War and Democracy and the WWII Media and Education Center.

With your support, the Museum's final pavilion, the Liberation Pavilion, will be completed by 2021. Exploring the end of the war and its lasting legacies, the three-story pavilion will be the capstone to our campus and capture the last leg of our mission—what the war means today. As we move into this crucial period of completing our campus, we must remain focused on reaching our \$400 million capital campaign goal and helping connect our supporters with available naming opportunities that offer a unique way to pay tribute to their loved ones who served our country, and help us share personal stories of the war with even greater audiences.

Beyond New Orleans, we continued to expand our educational travel program last year as we took WWII enthusiasts to the very sites where history was made. I was honored to experience the Museum's inaugural Victory in the Pacific program in March, where guests explored historical sites from Pearl Harbor to Iwo Jima and interacted with WWII veterans, including Medal of Honor recipient Hershel "Woody" Williams. Having served in the South Pacific myself, I was able to share with travelers the immensity of the theater and the importance of humor in the face of hardship.

Upon returning from the trip, commemorating the American spirit took center attention as the Museum held its annual American Spirit Awards in June. At the celebration's capstone gala, philanthropist and WWII veteran Maurice R. "Hank" Greenberg, US Senator John McCain, and Museum and veterans champion Gary Sinise were honored with the American Spirit Award, the institution's highest honor. The memorable celebration surpassed our fundraising goal of \$1 million, a feat made possible by the unwavering support of our entire Museum family.

Looking ahead, I'm thrilled to be part of future milestones, particularly this June when we commemorate the 75th anniversary of D-Day with two charter cruises to Normandy, a Museum-produced documentary, a new book authored by President & CEO Emeritus Nick Mueller, and an entire slate of programs at the Museum. It is sure to be a moving tribute to what remains the largest, most complicated invasion in history.

As always, I want to thank you—our friends and supporters—for your ongoing commitment to complete one of the most inspiring museums in the world. Together, our efforts will continue to soar.

Paul Hilliard

Letter from the President & CEO



STEPHEN J. WATSON

Over the past 18 years, The National WWII Museum has been dedicated to building a world-class campus to honor and share the stories of the brave men, women, and children who all came together to contribute to the war effort and help secure the freedom we enjoy today. Their personal stories of service and sacrifice, tragedy and loss, ingenuity and progress, as well as celebration and inspiration continue to guide our efforts as we near the completion of our physical Museum campus in New Orleans and begin planning for our next phase of growth beyond bricks and mortar.

During this pivotal time for our institution, it is particularly fitting for us to have a WWII veteran leading our efforts as Chairman of the Board of Trustees. As a former radioman and gunner who flew 45 combat missions in SBD Dauntless Dive Bombers, Paul Hilliard deeply understands the urgency and importance of raising the remaining funds needed to finish our exhibit halls and expand our educational initiatives to reach even more students, teachers, and lifelong learners across the country.

Thanks to our great Board leadership and your generous support, the Museum made incredible progress toward reaching these milestones over the past year. We opened two special exhibits on Louisiana's wartime contributions and the legacy of Bob Hope while also breaking ground on the Hall of Democracy, Bollinger Canopy of Peace, and The Higgins Hotel & Conference Center with all three dedication ceremonies planned for 2019. We continued to break visitation records—attracting 754,465 visitors this year and marking the 13th consecutive year of visitation growth. Over 62,000 students in classrooms across America also participated in our distance-learning programs, several of which highlighted the lesser-known stories of the critical roles that African Americans and Latinos played in the war.

Meanwhile, our Institute for the Study of War and Democracy along with our WWII Media and Education Center are fully established and already developing new programs that will help shape the future of our expansion efforts. This winter, we launched the nation's first online master's degree in World War II Studies with Arizona State University, and for the past year we have been partnering with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency to assist in locating, identifying, and ultimately returning the remains of WWII veterans still unaccounted for. To help families learn the stories of their loved one's WWII service, our staff historians and researchers have also introduced WWII Research Services to find and translate military records for the public. As time marches on, we understand that these programs and the entire mission of our Museum will only grow more important each day.

In this year's Annual Report, we are proud to highlight our newest permanent exhibit, *The Arsenal of Democracy: The Herman and George R. Brown Salute to the Home Front*, which not only tells the story of why the war was fought but also celebrates the American spirit that inspired the can-do, all-in-this-together movement across the country. It is that same spirit that has made this Museum the success it is today. None of the efforts highlighted in this report would be possible without the dedication of our Board of Trustees, staff, volunteers, and growing number of supporters—now including over 176,000 Charter Members. Thank you for helping us reach these milestones and inspiring us to keep expanding our efforts to share the story of *the war that changed the world*.

The Citizens to Warriors gallery in *The Arsenal of Democracy* examines how the explosive growth of all military branches brought together Americans from diverse backgrounds in a common experience of military training.



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.

World War II exposed and highlighted issues of national loyalty and racial discrimination within American society that could not be ignored. *The Arsenal of Democracy's* United but Unequal gallery explores these tensions, which would have deep implications for change in postwar American life.

After a yearlong run at the Museum, *The Pelican State Goes to War* is now traveling through Louisiana.



Listen to Rosemary Elfer’s full oral history at ww2online.org.

THE PELICAN STATE GOES TO WAR PUBLIC PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

Weekend War Games: Louisiana Maneuvers
—August 19, 2017

Dinner with a Curator: James Linn presents “Louisiana and World War II”
—October 24, 2017

Louisiana in World War II: Teacher Workshop
—November 4, 2017

Louisiana in World War II: Teacher Professional Development Webinar
—November 8, 2017

A Veteran’s Story: Paul Hilliard Shares His Wartime Experience
—December 6, 2017

The Pelican State Goes to War Symposium: Uniquely Louisiana
—April 19, 2018

Museum Unveils *The Pelican State Goes to War: Louisiana in World War II*

“Wasn’t it wonderful that women got a chance to work and earn, and bring some money into the house? That was marvelous.”

—Rosemary Elfer, Higgins Industries worker and Women’s Army Corps

On July 27, 2017, over 400 guests packed the Museum’s Louisiana Memorial Pavilion for the opening of its original exhibit *The Pelican State Goes to War: Louisiana in World War II*, presented by The Alta and John Franks Foundation. Museum Curator James Linn collaborated with historical experts across the state to create an exhibit illustrating Louisiana’s contributions to American victory during World War II. Highlights of the state’s efforts displayed in the exhibit included the Louisiana Maneuvers held in 1940 and 1941—when nearly 500,000 American troops trained for war throughout the central part of the state—in addition to Louisiana’s wartime manufacturing efforts, including Higgins Industries’s construction of more than 20,000 vessels and Thibodaux Boiler Works production of over two million artillery shells.

The exhibit not only told the story of Louisiana’s contributions to military training, civilian defense efforts, and wartime manufacturing—which far exceeded that of other states its size—but it also revealed the faces of Louisianans who were instrumental in Allied victory. Those highlighted included well-known figures, such as entrepreneur and boatbuilder Andrew Jackson Higgins, and those who worked tirelessly behind the scenes, like Delta Shipbuilding welder Beulah Dugas. Both played important roles in manufacturing naval craft necessary to win the war, and in helping

to change public perception about women and African Americans in the workforce.

The Pelican State Goes to War visitors learned how Higgins Industries’s seven plants throughout New Orleans were the first in the city to fully integrate a diverse workforce of women, men, African Americans, and Caucasians, all receiving equal pay for equal work. Dugas’s profile also exemplified how gender stereotypes in the workforce were changed during the war, the former seamstress becoming one of thousands of Louisiana women to take part in the wide variety of jobs in vital industries across the state. Altogether, the exhibit showed the role that Louisiana workers played in helping to power a massive effort to support the war through defense industries—despite any differences or hardships—which helped the state become a significant contributor in transforming the nation.

During the course of the exhibit’s run at the Museum, the institution hosted a series of free public programs that complemented the exhibit and educated the public about the multifaceted ways in which Louisiana contributed to the war effort, and how the war itself affected the lives of Louisianans. Made possible by The Alta and John Franks Foundation, the exhibit’s programming held a common connection with the Foundation’s namesake John Franks, who served in World War II and whose family members



experienced the war firsthand in their town of Haughton, Louisiana.

Displayed in The Joe W. and Dorothy D. Brown Foundation Special Exhibit Gallery, the exhibit ran through April 29, 2018, and will now travel to at least 10 cities across Louisiana, bringing the story of this critical part of the state's history to the places where it happened. Through its journey, the exhibit will bring another chapter of America's Home Front efforts to even larger audiences, joining the Museum's other current traveling exhibits *Manufacturing Victory: The Arsenal of Democracy* and *Fighting for the Right to Fight: African American Experiences in World War II*.

Higgins Industries worker Louis Lanza's red hard hat is a featured artifact in *The Pelican State Goes to War*. Hard hats were an important piece of equipment for workers because of the dangers associated with constructing thousands of craft so quickly.



Carole Cotton Winn joins more than 400 guests in the Museum's Louisiana Memorial Pavilion for the grand opening of *The Pelican State Goes to War*. Winn provided remarks about artifacts from her father, Lt. Colonel William Davis Cotton, which are featured in the exhibit.

THE ALTA
AND JOHN FRANKS FOUNDATION



The Alta and John Franks Foundation is proud to sponsor *The Pelican State Goes to War: Louisiana in World War II* exhibit, which opened at the Museum in July 2017. After its run at the institution, the traveling exhibit made its first stop at the R.W. Norton Art Gallery in Shreveport, Louisiana, the hometown of The Alta and John Franks Foundation, in August 2018. The exhibit pays tribute to the role Louisiana citizens played in World War II. By engaging visitors through the exhibit's interactive displays, oral histories, and artifacts, guests will have a deeper understanding of Louisiana's contribution to victory in World War II.

The war made a huge impact on the life of a young John Franks. His story began in 1925 on a 50-acre Haughton, Louisiana, farm. The youngest of six children, Franks graduated from Haughton High School in 1942, and that same year, enrolled in Louisiana State University (LSU) in Baton Rouge, entering its School of Journalism as a budding young reporter. But his newspaper plans never bloomed as the call for young men in World War II reached Franks; he entered the service, becoming a bombardier and radar specialist.

Possibly spared by the surrender of Japan shortly before Franks was to be deployed in 1945, he returned to LSU. Franks decided to cancel his journalism plans and enrolled in the School of Geology, because of the job opportunities available at the time. However, he later discovered that the demand for geologists had minimized since his enrollment. Through perseverance and sacrifice, he built a successful oil and gas exploration business, which allowed Franks and his wife, Alta, to create The Alta and John Franks Foundation to pursue important community philanthropic opportunities.

Distance-Learning Initiatives Help Share Stories of Struggle and Triumph

“The significance of that happening, just think, to be the honor man of a platoon, in a military organization where we weren’t wanted. And in spite of all of that, I still wanted to be the best.”

—Edgar Cole, Member of the Montford Point Marines, the nation’s first African American Marines who received basic training at Montford Point Camp, North Carolina

In Fiscal Year 2018, the Museum’s Distance Learning program explored the wartime experience of African Americans and Latino Americans. Through these educational offerings, students across the nation gained deeper insight into war-era racial injustices. By examining artifacts from the Museum’s collections and exploring WWII historic sites, webcast viewers were able to better understand the adversity encountered by victims of discrimination at home in America and the heroism of these individuals who helped shape our nation’s history.

On February 22, 2018, more than 40,000 students in 1,141 schools in all 50 states and Washington, DC, took part in the Museum’s live interactive Electronic Field Trip *Fighting for the Right to Fight: African American Experiences in World War II*. Produced in partnership with The National Park Service, the documentary-style webcast examined the major cultural, social, and economic shifts that played out in the lives of African Americans—both on the Home Front and on the battlefield—during World War II.

The Museum-produced webcast—geared for students in grades 6–12—was hosted by Rob Citino, PhD, the Museum’s Samuel Zemurray Stone Senior Historian, and Damon Singleton, a Navy veteran and meteorologist for New Orleans NBC affiliate WDSU-TV. Together, Citino and Singleton explored how local black communities took part in wartime programs while intensifying their demands for social progress.

Also joining the production was Museum Distance Learning Specialist Shelbie Johnson and student reporters Mizani Ball and Maceo Carney, who throughout the webcast interviewed special guests about their personal struggles for first-class citizenship during the war. Carney interviewed National Park Service Ranger Kelli English and WWII Home Front worker Betty Reid Soskin at historic sites in California, giving students a chance to look inside the Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial and The Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front National Historical Park. Johnson and Ball spoke with Tuskegee Airman George Hardy back at the Museum in New Orleans. During one segment, they specifically focused on the United but Unequal gallery in the Museum’s *The Arsenal of Democracy* exhibit, and examined the changes in discriminatory hiring practices during World War II after President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed Executive Order 8802 in 1941.

In addition to sharing the WWII personal stories of African Americans, the Museum also presented the Virtual Field Trip *Los Veteranos: Latinos in World War II* to students throughout America during National Hispanic Heritage Month. Made possible through a gift from Pan-American Life Insurance Group, *Los Veteranos* connected classrooms to a live Museum educator who helped examine the significant impact that Latinos and Latinas made during World War II despite discrimination, from sacrifices made on

the battlefields overseas to manufacturing and agricultural efforts made across the Home Front.

The wartime movement toward social and economic equality for both African Americans and Latino Americans proved to be less transformative after the war, as the federal government’s interventions failed to completely break the persistent hold of racial discrimination. Yet, through the Museum’s Distance Learning program, students were able to gain newfound knowledge on the contributions made by all Americans during the war, and how the determination and extraordinary efforts of every American became key factors in the nation’s ability to secure victory.

The Museum’s *Fighting for the Right to Fight* Electronic Field Trip was generously supported by Paul and Didi Reilly in honor of Paul J Reilly, US Marine Sergeant, WWII, The Dale E. and Janice Davis Johnston Family Foundation in honor of Dr. Earle R. Davis and his service aboard the USS *Tranquillity*, the Albert and Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation, Alan & Diane Franco, and the C. Jay Moorhead Foundation. Additional support was provided by Fabenco Founding Fathers Foundation and Anonymous. A collection of the Museum’s past distance-learning programs are available for viewing on demand at nationalww2museum.org/distance-learning-videos.

65th Infantry soldiers after an all-day schedule of maneuvers at Salinas, Puerto Rico.

Student reporter Maceo Carney and Betty Reid Soskin, the oldest living National Park Service Ranger serving in the United States, at The Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, California.

Listen to Edgar Cole’s full oral history at www.2online.org.



In spring 2018, Pan-American Life Insurance Group generously donated \$1 million to the Museum in support of the institution’s Virtual Field Trip, *Los Veteranos: Latinos in World War II*. Through this free virtual experience, students throughout the nation were able to connect live with a Museum educator during National Hispanic Heritage Month.

As part of the Museum’s K-12 Distance Learning program, *Los Veteranos* explores the history of more than 500,000 Latino Americans—including 350,000 Mexican Americans and 53,000 Puerto Ricans—who fought in desegregated units throughout the European and Pacific theaters during World War II.

The Virtual Field Trip highlights wartime contributions made by Latino American men as well as Latina American women. Due to their bilingualism, many Latinas found important work in cryptology, communications, and interpretation, breaking through both gender and cultural barriers to serve their country. Thousands of Latino men and Latina women also supported the war effort by working on railroads, in mines, shipyards, and airplane factories, and as crucial agricultural workers.

Through primary source documents and oral histories directly from Latino and Latina veterans, students learn how these Americans overcame discrimination and adversity while serving their country and making significant contributions along the way.

In addition to bringing this important part of US history to students through *Los Veteranos*, the gift also sponsors the Pan-American Life Insurance Group World Map in the Museum’s Louisiana Memorial Pavilion. Standing 49 feet high and 28 feet wide, the dynamic, two-story digital world map educates visitors on the global expansion of Axis powers and the significant events that led to Allied victory.

Through Pan-American’s special gift, the Museum’s educational outreach efforts will continue to expand students’ understanding of the invaluable contributions of all Americans during *the war that changed the world*.

Summer Teacher Institute Explores Home Front Story

“I was sitting in a theater in Detroit, and suddenly the movie went off—everything went black. The manager came out, and he announced that the Japanese naval and air forces had attacked our naval base at Pearl Harbor, and it was just stunned silence. And then all of a sudden, there was a woman...stood up with the most bloodcurdling scream I’ve heard in my entire life. I will never forget it. And she started screaming ‘My boy! My boy! He’s stationed in Pearl Harbor!’ I’ll carry that to my grave.”

—Frederick Hollis, civilian

Throughout Fiscal Year 2018, production was underway on Volume 3 of the Museum’s curriculum guide series, From the Collection to the Classroom: Teaching History with The National WWII Museum. As thousands of students in classrooms around the country were benefitting from the first two installments from the series—Volume 1, focusing on the Pacific theater of the war, and Volume 2, focusing on the war in Europe—members of the Museum’s Institute for the Study of War and Democracy, Education Department, WWII Media and Education Center, and Marketing & Communications teams were developing content focused on the struggles and triumphs of the 116 million Americans who experienced the war on the Home Front.

Through this curriculum guide and its companion website, ww2classroom.org, educators from across the nation gain access to lesson plans, primary source materials, oral history videos, and other teaching aids to introduce their 7-12 grade students to the American experience of World War II through the eyes and words of those who lived it. Not only does the curriculum guide’s essays explain how the nation came together to solve complex problems created by the war, but it also describes the impact it had on the lives of everyday Americans due to wartime practices such as rationing, the draft, and segregation—social transformations that changed the country forever.

The guide also tells the story of how all Americans played a part in the Home Front war efforts, demonstrating a level of involvement, commitment, and sacrifice not shown in previous conflicts. As told in the guide’s essays “Becoming the Arsenal of Democracy,” “Gender on the Home Front,” and “The Double V Victory,” women and African Americans stepped up to the challenge to fill factory jobs previously held by young white men who had quickly filled the ranks of the US military instead.

By the war’s end in 1945, the United States had fulfilled President Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s admonition to become the great arsenal of democracy. American manufacturers had turned out more than 96,000 bombers, 86,000 tanks, 2.4 million trucks, 6.5 million rifles, and billions of dollars’ worth of supplies to equip a truly global fighting force, all while challenging social-cultural perceptions and gender stereotypes. Through these accounts, students learn that without the sacrifices made by Americans at home, US soldiers, sailors, and airmen could not have fought and defeated our enemies abroad.

The curriculum guide was distributed in summer 2018 when participants of Team Home Front—the third cohort of the Museum’s Summer Teacher Institute—gathered at the Museum’s campus for the first day of an intensive one-week training program. Made possible through the A. James & Alice B. Clark Foundation—who supported the production of the Institute’s

Kim Guise, the Museum’s Assistant Director for Curatorial Services, displays artifacts for Team Home Front—the third cohort of the Museum’s Summer Teacher Institute.



Listen to Frederick Hollis’s full oral history at ww2online.org and in the Museum’s *The Arsenal of Democracy* exhibit.



curriculum guide as well—Museum and university scholars were able to bring the story of the Home Front to life for educators from around the nation. Teachers from 27 different states were selected from a competitive applicant pool of over 400 educators to visit the Museum and to be introduced to the third volume of the Museum's curriculum series. The 30 participating teachers took the Home Front curriculum materials back to their local schools and districts to share with their peers this past fall, but more importantly, with their students.

The Museum is grateful to the Clark Foundation for supporting the third Summer Teacher Institute cohort, as well as the David I. Oreck Foundation for supporting the Museum's first cohort, and the Patrick F. Taylor Foundation for supporting the second.

Thirty teachers from across the nation participate in the Museum's 2018 Summer Teacher Institute, which is focused on the American Home Front.



Volume 3 of the Museum's curriculum guide series—From the Collection to the Classroom: Teaching History with The National WWII Museum—will help teachers put the institution's innovative exhibits and extensive collection of artifacts to work in their classrooms.



Students participate in the Museum's sixth annual Robotics Challenge on May 12, 2018, in US Freedom Pavilion: The Boeing Center.

Museum’s STEM Programming Reaches New Heights in 2018

“Powerful enemies must be outfought and outproduced.”

—President Franklin Delano Roosevelt

When President Franklin Delano Roosevelt declared in his Fireside Chat on December 9, 1941—two days after the attack on Pearl Harbor—that “every single man, woman, and child is a partner in the most tremendous undertaking of our American history,” communities all across the country united behind the war effort, performing all kinds of tasks to help the Allies, no matter how large or how small.

Contributing to those efforts were scientists, technicians, and inventors, who supplied a steady stream of new products that helped make victory possible. From businesses like Firestone, Goodyear, Goodrich, and US Rubber Company sharing patents and scientific information with one another so that they could help solve the nation's rubber crisis, to young scientist Harry Coover discovering the active ingredient in Super Glue while searching for a clear plastic he could use to make gun sights, all played a significant part in helping the United States find the strategic goods necessary for fighting the war.

To educate the public about how science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) contributed—and advanced—in World War II, the Museum launched its STEM education program in 2012 and currently offers STEM education field trips and summer science camps to over 1,000 students annually. The Museum's STEM Innovation Gallery, now housed in the

John E. Kushner Restoration Pavilion, offers visitors, educators, and students the opportunity to engage in tactile learning and exploration through hands-on experiments and authentic WWII macro-artifacts.

In addition to STEM learning opportunities for students, the Museum also offers STEM workshops and professional development programs for teachers through a curriculum aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards. Supported by a grant from the Northrop Grumman Foundation, the Museum hosts a weeklong learning program for middle school math and science teachers that explores key STEM concepts using actual WWII examples. In Fiscal Year 2018, 28 teachers from across the country were selected to experience the Real World Science Summer Teacher Seminar's fourth cohort, which gathered in New Orleans in July to explore how necessity, knowledge, perseverance, and skill lead to inventions, innovation, and careers in STEM, just as they did in World War II.

Additionally, in May 2018, the Boeing Company pledged \$1.5 million to support the Museum's STEM initiatives, including the Museum's annual Robotics Challenge, which will expand to a multistate regional competition, allowing a larger student population to develop problem-solving techniques through applied science and engineering. The donation will also lead to more staffing resources and three



As the leading manufacturer of commercial airplanes, military aircraft, and space and security systems, in addition to serving as a provider of international services, The Boeing Company connects, protects, explores, and inspires the world. It also strengthens communities across the globe through the programs it supports and key partnerships, including with The National WWII Museum.

In 2018, Boeing pledged \$1.5 million to support the Museum’s education and innovation programs aimed at advancing student knowledge in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math—collectively known as STEM. Through this gift, Boeing is recognized as a lead supporter of the STEM program in perpetuity in the institution’s STEM Innovation Gallery, helping to create more staffing resources and three new interactive exhibits within it. Additionally, through this gift the Museum’s annual Robotics Challenge will expand to a multistate regional competition, allowing a larger student population to develop problem-solving techniques through applied science and engineering.

As the manufacturer of the military’s famed B-17 Flying Fortress, Boeing also donated \$15 million to the Museum in 2010 to complete the US Freedom Pavilion: The Boeing Center, which opened in 2013. This collaboration helped make it possible for the Museum to provide visitors with pavilion-high catwalks to see up-close views of ceiling-suspended authentic aircraft, including a B-17E Flying Fortress, a P-51 Mustang, and the forward fuselage of a B-24 Liberator.

“Boeing is committed to moving the world through our innovative products and services, as well as our community investments and partnerships,” said Dennis Muilenburg, Boeing Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer, and member of the Museum’s Board of Trustees. “I’m proud of our longstanding relationship with The National WWII Museum and our Boeing team members who dedicate their unique skills and passion, along with their time and financial resources, to communities across the globe.”



new interactive exhibits in the STEM Innovation Gallery: Gears and Generators, Internal Combustion and Turbochargers, and Exponential Growth of Bacteria.

Earlier in May, middle school students were already eager to put their innovative skills to use when the Museum held its sixth annual Robotics Challenge in the US Freedom Pavilion: The Boeing Center. The competition attracted 37 energetic teams of 4–8 grade students—nearly 400 students and coaches—who all came armed with displays on WWII people, places, and objects in their community and with robots programmed to complete some of the 14 tasks on competition mats.

To coincide with the Museum’s most recent traveling exhibit, the Robotics Challenge theme was *The Pelican State Goes to War*. All participants gained firsthand experience using innovative 21st century skills and teamwork to

solve problems and find creative solutions—bringing to life a significant part of the WWII story.

In addition to Boeing, the Museum’s Robotics Challenge is also supported by Chevron, Motorola Solutions Foundation, and The Bruce J. Heim Foundation.



The Museum’s Robotics Challenge is an exciting opportunity for students to develop 21st century skills and participate in active problem solving all based on real-life scenarios from World War II.



Known today as the Northrop Grumman Corporation, Northrop Aircraft Inc. and the Grumman Corporation played vital roles during World War II by providing Allied troops with critical aircraft and supplies necessary to secure victory. The Northrop P-61 Black Widow along with the Grumman F4F Wildcat and F6F Hellcat, for example, were instrumental to air warfare in all theaters of the war. In fact, in 1942 Grumman Corporation earned the Army-Navy “E” Award flag for excellence in production, and in 1948 its founder Leroy Grumman was awarded the Presidential Medal for Merit for outstanding wartime production.

Given the company’s historical significance in World War II, it is particularly meaningful for The National WWII Museum to enjoy a long-standing partnership with Northrop Grumman Foundation. A grant from the foundation in 2014 enabled the Museum to establish the Real World Science Summer Teacher Seminar, a weeklong teacher professional development seminar hosted annually at the Museum. Each year, the program provides 28 5th–8th grade science teachers from across the nation the opportunity to learn how to teach STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) in the context of the history of World War II. Using examples from the war, educators learn classroom activities that teach students science with hands-on experiences, design projects, and engaging real-world examples. Over the course of the following academic year, teachers are expected to share the Real World Science activities and curriculum materials with 28 or more school district colleagues and implement it in their classrooms.

In the first four years of Real World Science, the Museum has trained 109 teachers who have conducted workshops for more than 1,500 additional teachers, ultimately impacting more than 100,000 students nationwide. The initiative is part of the rich teacher professional development programming that Northrop Grumman and the Northrop Grumman Foundation have committed to in their STEM outreach and in their commitment to United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4. The Museum looks forward to advancing its partnership with the Northrop Grumman Foundation in its fifth year, continuing to blend the importance of history lessons and STEM.

Museum Engages Audiences Through Home Front-Themed Events

“We had these great big drives to see which kids could collect the most pots and take them down to the schoolyard, so the military could come and take these truckloads of aluminum and make airplanes out of it. Sure, it’s a sacrifice, give away your best pots, you know, but it’s war: you just did it.”

—Robert “Bob” Gurr, civilian

Throughout Fiscal Year 2018, the Museum’s Education and Programming teams hosted a series of events at its campus to connect with audiences—from students to local history buffs to culinary aficionados—by exploring themes centered around various Home Front efforts, particularly rationing.

World War II put a heavy burden on US supplies of basic materials like food, shoes, metal, paper, and rubber due to the nation’s effort to aid its allies overseas. However, civilians still needed these materials for consumer goods as well. To meet this surging demand, the federal government took steps to conserve crucial supplies, including establishing a rationing system that affected virtually every family in the United States. Children also played a critical role in civilian defense, collecting scrap paper and metal for recycling, and even leftover cooking fats to be turned into glycerin for explosives and ammunition. Every civilian contributed in some way, and their united efforts ultimately helped make victory possible thousands of miles away.

To demonstrate the sacrifices that Americans made to aid these endeavors, the Museum held events and sponsored learning activities to display in real time what everyday life was like for civilians on the Home Front. Through fun and engaging programs, audiences got to taste and even see firsthand how these efforts affected lives and communities.

One of the more popular programs, Ration Wars, featured a fast-paced, *Iron Chef*-style, WWII-themed cooking competition, demonstrating to guests how civilians had to be quite inventive when it came to preparing nourishing meals when food was rationed and even basic items were scarce.

Even for those not able to make it to the Museum’s campus during the year, the institution offered myriad opportunities for students and educators to interact in activities centered around the country’s rationing efforts. Get in the Scrap! is just one example of these programs. A national service-learning project inspired by the scrapping effort of students during World War II, Get in the Scrap! offers students a chance to complete fun and educational classroom activities while learning important lessons about environmental stewardship.



Listen to Robert Gurr’s full oral history at ww2online.org.

HOME FRONT PUBLIC PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

Liberty: The Louisiana Home Front through Historical Fiction Student Webinar
—October 5, 2017

Higgins Reunion Day
—October 21, 2017

Dinner with a Curator:
Patrick Stephen presents “Baseball and World War II: Playing Through the Years”
—March 20, 2018

Rosie the Riveter Day
—June 2, 2018

Garden to Glass
—June 13, 2018

HOME FRONT LUNCHBOX LECTURES

Josh Goodman, PhD, presents
“Victory on the Menu: Dining out in World War II”
—September 6, 2017

Charles Chamberlain, PhD, presents
“New Orleans Manufacturing: Simplex Motorcycles and Higgins Industries”
—October 18, 2017

Edward Branley presents
“Krauss at War: Krauss Department Store, Canal Street, and the War Effort, 1941–1945”
—January 3, 2018

The Museum’s Ration Wars, cohosted by New Orleans food critic Ian McNulty and *Chopped Teen* season 3 champion Eliana de Las Casas, features a clash of two local New Orleans chefs.



Drafts for Crafts Helps Put History in Motion

“We used to have air raids, whereas before we used to have fire drills and they didn’t scare anybody because you could look up and see there was no fire. But when the air raids came, we didn’t get out of the building at all, instead they would put us under the tables in the cafeteria. And I remember thinking, ‘If I’m bombed, who will tell my mother?’ And I thought every time was the real thing.”

—Adelaide Benjamin, civilian

On March 16, 2018, guests packed the Louisiana Memorial Pavilion for a night of food, music, and fun to help keep the wheels of the institution’s restoration and preservation efforts turning. The evening’s celebration, Drafts for Crafts, was dedicated to the refurbishment of an authentic 1943 Ford-American LaFrance Fire Truck, which was donated to the Museum in April 2009. The multiyear restoration project will preserve the truck as a vital piece of WWII history and help Museum visitors better understand challenges on the American Home Front during wartime.

During the raid on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, one of the first Japanese targets was the fleet of brightly colored, red fire trucks, as Japan’s goal was to debilitate response efforts following the attack on the US Navy fleet. After that day, the military ordered all military fire trucks to be painted green to help prevent such future devastation. The Museum’s Ford-LaFrance, which was donated by Steve Owen of Pell City, Alabama, will be restored as an Army fire engine and repainted in its original green color.

Once the Ford-LaFrance is restored, the macro-artifact will help teach visitors about the innovative efforts used to solve complex problems on the Home Front, as well as the broad range of occupations and tasks needed to win the war. Throughout the war, the LaFrance Class 500 Fire Truck—manufactured by American LaFrance—was the most common

fire truck used on military posts to combat structural fires. They could be found on all types of camps and air bases, and several were even reportedly sent out to Tinian Island in the Pacific to provide fire protection for structures on the US airbase where preparations occurred for the atomic bombing of Japan.

Due to the high demand of fire trucks for the Army’s wartime fighting needs, the Quartermasters Corps—who constructed most fire equipment used at Army installations in the 1930s—turned to the nation’s fire apparatus manufacturers to supply the much-needed vehicles. By November 1941, the Army Corps of Engineers assumed responsibility for Army fire protection, and expanded the classification of fire equipment as new types of fire trucks were developed and placed in the field. Hundreds of contracts for fire apparatus and fighting equipment were awarded to fire-truck manufacturers. Once again, American industries stepped up to the nation’s efforts in meeting wartime defense and security needs, with almost 1,800 Class 500 Fire Trucks, for example, being produced for the Army during the war.

The Museum’s Ford-LaFrance brought many supporters out to this year’s Drafts for Crafts, all eager to see her restored to former glory. Organized by The National WWII Museum’s Young Benefactors, a committee of young professionals whose mission is

to cultivate the Museum’s next generation of support, the event carried into the late evening hours with guests enjoying live music, samplings from local restaurants, and even a wine raffle. Guests also had the unique opportunity to preview the restoration project with Museum Senior Curator & Restoration Manager Tom Czekanski and local firefighters.

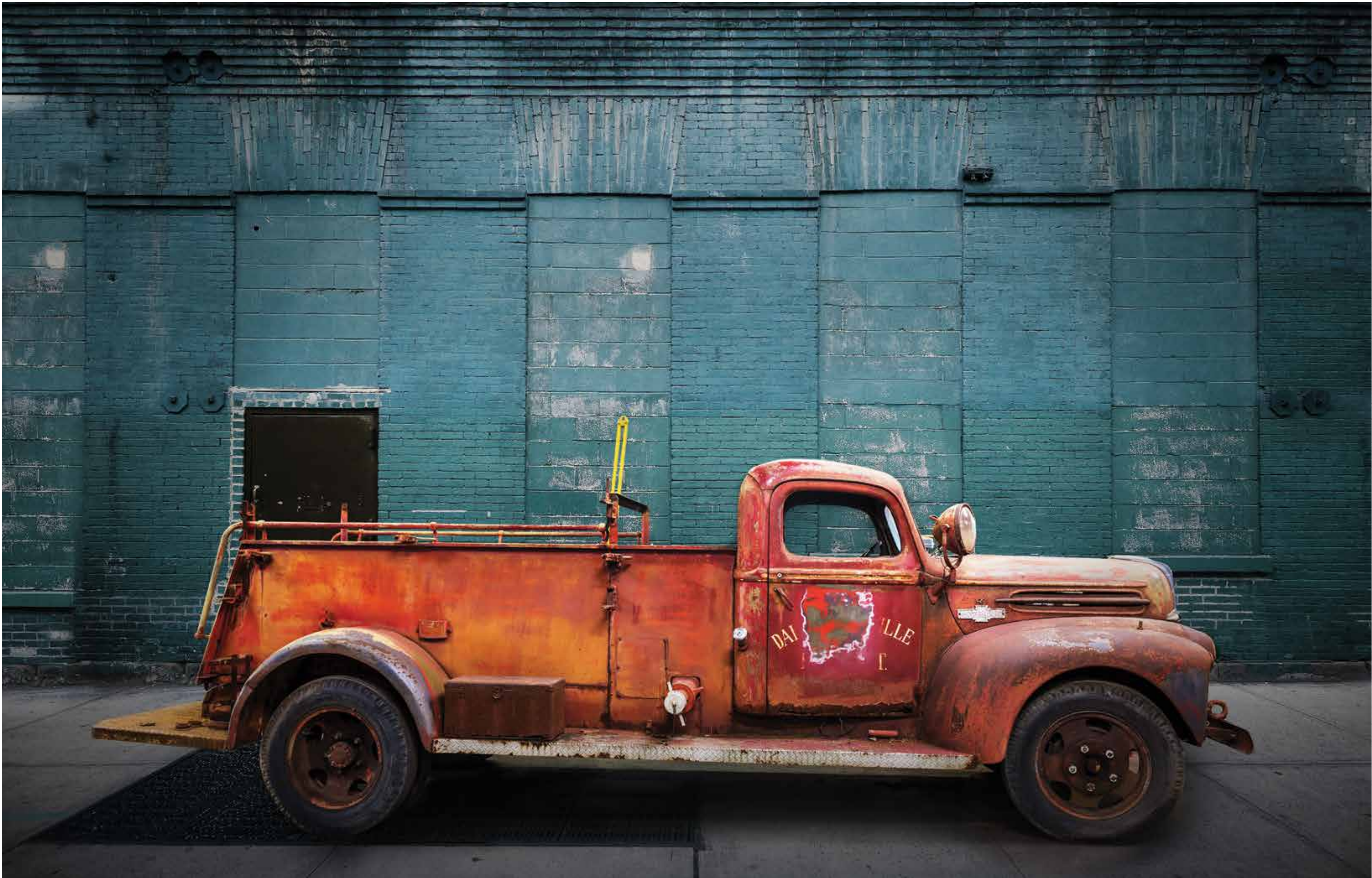


Listen to Adelaide Benjamin’s full oral history at ww2online.org and in the Museum’s *The Arsenal of Democracy* exhibit.

Drafts for Crafts, an annual fundraiser organized by the Museum’s Young Benefactors, serves as a platform for the institution’s ongoing efforts to restore significant WWII macro-artifacts. In years past, the Benefactors used this signature event to help complete the restoration of PT-305.



With PT-305 now fully operational and back on its home waters of Lake Pontchartrain, Drafts for Crafts has shifted its focus to a 1943 Ford-American LaFrance Fire Truck, a macro-artifact in the Museum's collection that will be used to educate the public about service on the American Home Front.



Soaring Efforts to Grow Museum’s Oral-History Collection

“My uncle Jack was a navigator on a B-17 Flying Fortress, flying 30 missions over Europe. He was a true inspiration in my life. When he passed away at the age of 90, it was comforting to know that his story was part of the Museum’s oral-history collection, and that he had the opportunity to visit such a remarkable institution.”

—Gary Sinise, actor, humanitarian, and Founder of the Gary Sinise Foundation

The heart of the Museum’s mission is to share the full story of the American experience during World War II, from the voices of those who lived through it. From firsthand accounts of Pearl Harbor to the D-Day invasion to the Home Front, the collection and preservation of these invaluable and treasured stories helps expand the understanding of the WWII generation’s sacrifices, which were made to ensure the freedoms we enjoy today.

To collect these oral histories, two Museum historians travel across America to conduct interviews in the homes of WWII veterans, the resulting discussion becoming a permanent part of the Museum’s collection. These stories serve as an educational tool for Museum audiences, whether experienced through its exhibits in New Orleans or online through its digital collections. To help support these efforts, the Gary Sinise Foundation—founded by actor and humanitarian Gary Sinise—sponsors one of the Museum’s full-time historians to investigate and pursue possible oral-history leads provided by the Foundation. Through the Foundation’s support, the Museum is able to continue to grow its existing oral-history outreach program to record even more memories of WWII veterans.

In addition to collecting oral histories, the Gary Sinise Foundation partners with the Museum to bring groups of WWII veterans from around the country to visit the Museum in New Orleans several times every year. The Soaring

Valor trip includes a robust tour of the Museum, a hero’s welcome from the local community, entertainment, celebratory meals, and an opportunity for connecting with fellow veterans. Not only do these visits serve as an occasion to honor and recognize our veterans, but they also provide the chance to record their stories so they can be preserved and shared for years to come.

Since the Museum began its partnership with Soaring Valor in 2015, the program has made the following possible:

- 690 oral histories collected by historians sponsored by the Gary Sinise Foundation
- 14 Soaring Valor flights to the Museum and 62 individual trips, for a total of 392 WWII veterans visiting to date

In addition to veterans and their guardians, the program has also started bringing high school students along for the journey, offering them the unique opportunity to connect with WWII veterans. To date, over 140 high school students from four schools have traveled with Soaring Valor.

With support from donors and partners like the Gary Sinise Foundation, the Museum collected 293 new personal accounts in Fiscal Year 2018, with many more stories waiting to be uncovered: 150 accounts are expected to be added in Fiscal Year 2019. To date, the Museum’s collection holds nearly 10,000 personal accounts from the WWII generation.

One of these personal stories was collected in 2018 during an unlikely encounter in the Museum’s newest permanent exhibit, *The Arsenal of Democracy*. Last spring, a fortunate group of visitors walking through one of the exhibit’s galleries received the rare opportunity to interact with an individual featured in that very gallery. On that special day, 96-year-old Grace Janota, a former Home Front lathe operator who worked at the Consolidated Aircraft plant in Fort Worth, Texas, during the war, was visiting her panel in the exhibit’s Manufacturing Victory gallery, which features a photo of her working at the lathe making parts for bomber engines.

During her visit, Janota was interviewed by Historian Hannah Dailey for the Museum’s oral-history collection, and also met with Assistant Director for Curatorial Services Kim Guise, to whom Janota presented a hammer she’d manufactured to add to the Museum’s collection of wartime artifacts. Following her interview in the gallery, a crowd gathered around Janota to hear her tell stories of her wartime life, experiencing the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to hear an oral history live, in person, and directly from the source.

Stories like Janota’s help the institution offer an intimate, up-close view of the war, providing visitors with a museum experience like no other.



Home Front worker Grace Janota visits her panel in *The Arsenal of Democracy* exhibit.



The Soaring Valor trip experience includes entertainment, celebratory meals, and community building with fellow heroes. Students who accompany veterans carry on their stories with a new appreciation for the sacrifices made by an entire generation.

To tell the story of Hope's major tours and travels during World War II, *So Ready for Laughter* features nearly 50 artifacts that draw from the unique collections of the World Golf Hall of Fame & Museum and The National WWII Museum. Highlights include photographs of Hope taken by 8th and 9th Air Forces photographer Charles W. McCracken, which have not been previously published or displayed before this exhibit.

Museum Debuts *So Ready for Laughter* Special Exhibit

“It was the most enjoyment we’ve had—in fact, it is the only one.”

—From a letter written by Andy Stumpf to his mother, Mrs. A.A. Stumpf. Andy served with the First Marine Division and was killed in action on Peleliu soon after seeing Bob Hope’s troupe perform.

During World War II, the entire country sought to mobilize every available resource in the united effort to defeat our enemies. These endeavors also involved many famous Hollywood figures who were anxious to contribute to the war effort. One entertainer in particular—radio and film star Bob Hope—took his talents on the road to military camps and bases across the country and then around the world to perform for what became his most cherished audience: American troops.

To explore Hope's unique place in the history of World War II and beyond, and the contributions he made that still reverberate more than 70 years later, the Museum brought his story to life on the evening of May 24, 2018, when it opened its special exhibit, *So Ready for Laughter: The Legacy of Bob Hope*. To celebrate the exhibit's opening, the Museum welcomed more than 400 guests for a presentation and reception in the Louisiana Memorial Pavilion with special guest speakers Linda Hope, daughter of Bob and Dolores Hope and Chair/CEO of the Bob & Dolores Hope Foundation, and Kim Guise, Museum Assistant Director for Curatorial Services.

Following the opening of *So Ready for Laughter*, the Museum launched a diverse series of free public programs to complement the exhibit, all supported by the Bob & Dolores Hope Foundation, with special thanks to the World Golf Hall of Fame & Museum. Programs

include a free film series in BB's Stage Door Canteen featuring classic Bob Hope films, in addition to unique daytime and evening programs—from a family miniature golf tournament to a comedy-writing workshop—that spotlight Hope's lasting impact on American popular culture.

After closing at the Museum in February 2019, *So Ready for Laughter* hits the road as a traveling exhibit that will tour the country, bringing Hope's WWII story to audiences in as many as 10 cities over a three-year period.

**SO READY
FOR LAUGHTER**
THE LEGACY OF BOB HOPE

BOB HOPE PUBLIC PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

American Masters: This Is Bob Hope . . .
—October 12, 2017

BB's Stage Door Canteen's
On the Road with Bob Hope & Friends
—October 13 - November 26, 2017

Bob Hope Film Series, featuring:
Caught in the Draft
—May 14, 2018

My Favorite Blonde
—June 11, 2018

Monsieur Beaucaire
—June 25, 2018

Dinner with a Curator: Kim Guise presents
“On the Road with Bob Hope”
—June 26, 2018



American entertainer Bob Hope was one of the most significant stars of the 20th century, and his tireless commitment to supporting the men and women who served our country epitomizes the best of what our nation can be. Hope's legacy is central to the story of World War II and vital to the lessons that The National WWII Museum teaches each day.

Recognizing this natural partnership, the Bob & Dolores Hope Foundation began collaborating with the Museum in 2016 to introduce a comprehensive Bob Hope legacy program across and beyond the Museum's campus. While the Museum's special exhibit on Hope's unique contribution to the American war effort, *So Ready for Laughter: The Legacy of Bob Hope*, is the capstone of these efforts, numerous other initiatives have shared Hope's spirit of levity and patriotism with visitors young and old.

The annual Bob & Dolores Hope Summer Theater Camp has helped children aged 8–12 hone their skills in theater arts, while the Museum's Skype in the Classroom program, *A Call to Service: Bob Hope in World War II*, has taught students across the world about the contributions of the Home Front during the war. The Bob Hope Dog Tag Experience has allowed visitors to experience Hope's inspiring WWII journey while immersed in the Museum's world-class exhibits, and the Bob & Dolores Hope Tickets for Troops program continues to provide free admission for veterans and their companions to shows at BB's Stage Door Canteen. Additionally, an endowment from the Bob & Dolores Hope Foundation ensures that the songs, style, stars, and spirit of the WWII era are brought to life each day through the Museum's entertainment series.

Linda Hope, daughter of Bob and Dolores Hope, visits the Museum's special exhibit that honors her father's wartime legacy.



The Museum Breaks Ground on The Higgins Hotel & Conference Center

“The one man in the South I want especially to see is Andrew Jackson Higgins. I want to tell him, face to face, that Higgins’s landing boats such as we had at Guadalcanal are the best in the world. They do everything but talk; honest, they do.”

— Warrant Officer Machinist James D. Fox, quoted in The Shreveport Times, March 6, 1943

On December 8, 2017, the Museum and its Board of Trustees officially broke ground on The Higgins Hotel & Conference Center—a luxurious property that will feature 230 guest rooms and more than 18,000 square feet of conference space. Scheduled for completion in 2019, the development will support the institution’s expanding educational programs while offering Museum visitors accessible accommodations in the booming Warehouse District neighborhood.

The Higgins Hotel & Conference Center’s name reflects the contributions of the extraordinary entrepreneur Andrew Jackson Higgins, who designed and built over 20,000 boats in New Orleans that were used in every major amphibious assault of World War II. The unique property will be inspired by the war era and feature a striking art deco style designed by renowned architects Nichols Brosch Wurst Wolfe & Associates from Coral Gables, Florida, and Los Angeles interior design firm Kay Lang + Associates.

The Higgins Hotel will operate as part of the exclusive Curio Collection by Hilton, one of Hilton’s 14 market-leading brands. The daily operations of the privately-funded project will be managed by Hostmark Hospitality Group, and hotel revenue will help fund the growth of the Museum’s endowment and educational initiatives. The Museum looks forward to guests having the opportunity to enhance their visitor experience when the property celebrates its grand opening later this year.

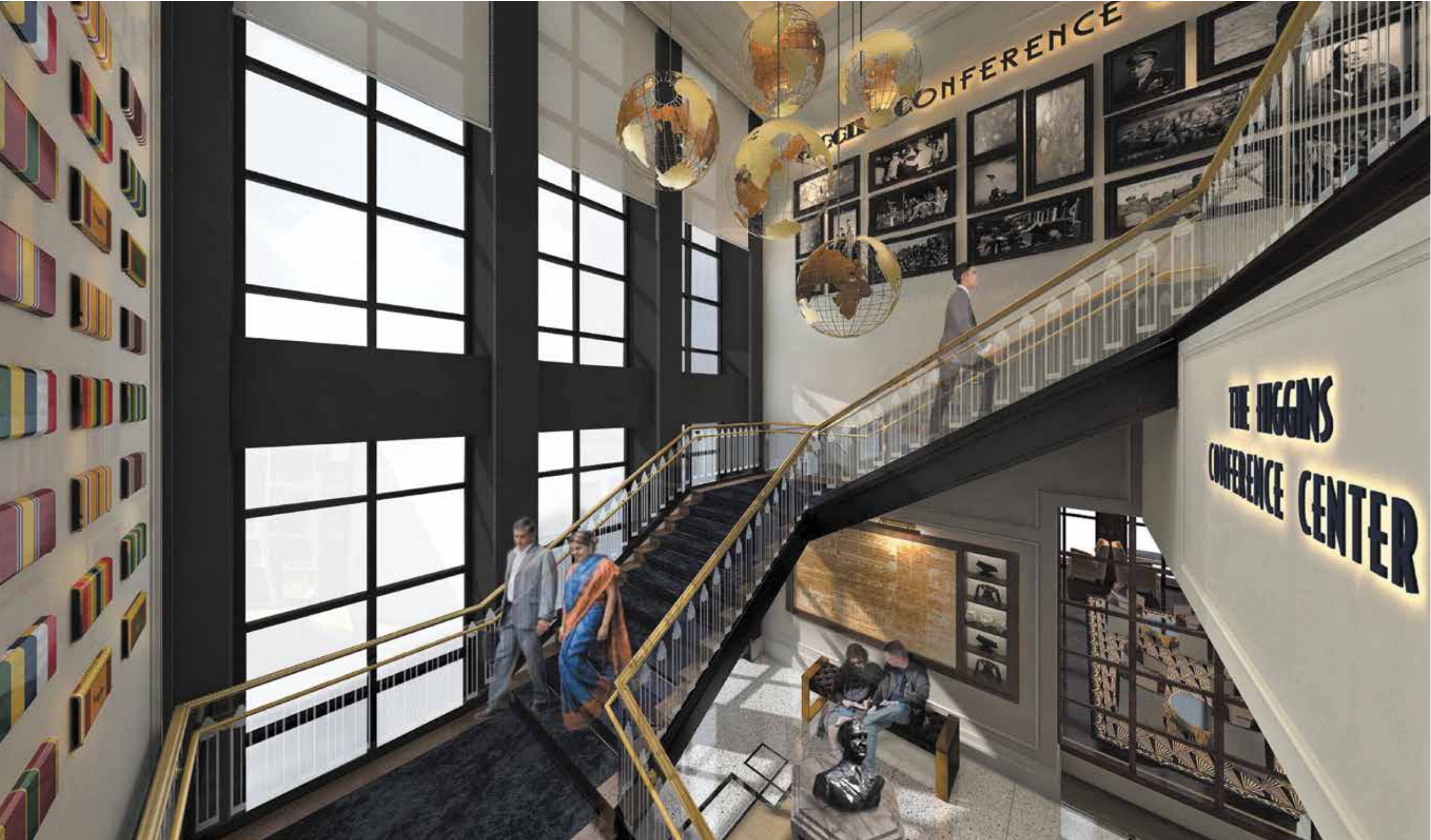
Andrew Jackson Higgins, the innovative New Orleans boatbuilder Dwight Eisenhower once credited with winning World War II.



Due to the Museum’s increase in international reputation and its expanding educational programming, the institution is developing a hotel and conference center that will support its ongoing mission and growth.



The Higgins Hotel will be located on The National WWII Museum's campus at the corner of Andrew Higgins Drive and Magazine Street. Scheduled for completion in 2019, the property will operate as part of the exclusive Curio Collection by Hilton, one of Hilton's 14 market-leading brands.



For Museum Trustee David Nierenberg, honoring the memory of the WWII generation serves as a personal tribute to his loved ones who fought bravely in World War II.

Nierenberg's father, Ted, and his uncles, Jay and David, volunteered to serve during the war—Ted and David served in the US Navy in the Pacific theater, and Jay joined the American Field Service as an ambulance driver in North Africa and Italy. Although the brothers faced danger on land and sea, their stories ended happily. At war's end, Ted and David enjoyed an improbable reunion as their ships berthed together in Tokyo Bay, and Jay survived his service as an ambulance driver, and married a Holocaust survivor he met while in North Africa—Inge Gutenberg—who escaped Germany the day of Anschluss.

Hearing his father's and uncles' stories from the war is an experience that Nierenberg hopes will continue for future generations. His wife Patricia also had three uncles who served in the war—John, Mario, and Andy Cambou—all born in the United States to 20th century French immigrants. "The Museum transforms the lessons of the past into guideposts for our future," he said. "If we do not remain vigilant and prepared to fight for our freedoms—and if we do not lead the fight—we will dishonor the life lessons of our parents and grandparents."

In addition to supporting the Museum's endowment and educational mission, Nierenberg played a significant role in the Museum's expansion endeavors through his efforts in spearheading a matching gift program in 2017 to kick-start fundraising for The Higgins Hotel & Conference Center. He also chairs the Museum Board's investment committee and serves on the institution's long-term strategic revisioning task force to develop plans for engaging future generations on the lessons of the war. "It's important that we continue to educate all youth and adults that freedom is precious and worth fighting for," he said. "This is why funding educational programs at the Museum is so tremendously important."

The Bollinger Canopy of Peace is made possible through a generous 2015 gift from longtime Museum Trustee Donald T. “Boysie” Bollinger (shown in photo standing center) and his wife, Joy (shown in photo). Designed by Voorsanger Mathes LLC, the Canopy will stand as the crown jewel over the campus, transforming the Museum’s visitor experience.



Construction begins on the Bollinger Canopy of Peace as the first pieces of zinc-coated steel arrive to the Museum’s campus. The steel is part of the structure’s massive 825-ton frame-and-truss system. Assembly of the Canopy is scheduled for completion in 2019—making it a towering addition to the New Orleans skyline.



Ron and Becky Parker of Cornelius, North Carolina, have been Patriots Circle Members since 2009. After many travel tours on the beaches of Normandy, reading Stephen Ambrose and Tom Brokaw, and watching contemporary films like Steven Spielberg’s *Saving Private Ryan*, they knew they wanted to be part of documenting and preserving the stories of the WWII generation, and The National WWII Museum hit all those marks.

Ron’s stepfather, John Johnson Jr., served as a Corporal in the 123rd US Army Air Forces in the European theater. While in Europe, he performed the invaluable service of cooking and preparing meals for thousands of American troops. “My stepfather returned home to Plymouth County, Massachusetts, in 1945, applying those skills that he first learned in the cooks’ and bakers’ schools in Fort Lee, Virginia,” said Ron. “I learned from him the importance of doing meaningful work, earning a good living, and being a respected, reputable citizen.”

Johnson also worked as a public servant and volunteer, becoming an example of citizenship to his family. “It was John’s work ethic and self-

discipline that inspired and motivated me to ‘keep on keeping on’ regardless of obstacles,” Ron continued.

Becky’s dad, Lewis K. “Kenny” Phillips, was 14 years old in 1942 when he started working at what became known as “Atomic City” in Oak Ridge, Tennessee—a production site for the Manhattan Project. “Daddy literally worked from the ground up, helping to build the roads and dormitories, driving laundry trucks in the huge complex of 70,000 workers, and helping construct four of the major industrial facilities,” said Becky. “He later became a machinist apprentice and worked his way up to the position of foreman at the Y-12 plant for enriching uranium, the K-25 uranium separating facility, and X-10 nuclear reactor.”

Phillips retired from Oak Ridge and passed away at age 83, the oldest survivor of his unit. Like most Tennesseans who worked in Oak Ridge, also known by the nickname “Secret City,” he died still holding many secrets of his work on the Manhattan Project. Although Becky’s father was too young to enlist during World War II, she explains that her father’s “patriotism to do something for the

war effort on the Home Front taught me much about the importance of serving our country, our neighbors, friends, or strangers, whether it’s during the crisis of war or simply reaching out to those in need.” She remains very proud that her father served his country on the Home Front and that he played such an important part in ending the war.

The Parkers continue to support the Museum through Patriots Circle because they understand the urgency to capture the oral histories of those on the battlefield and the Home Front. “We appreciate The National WWII Museum for glorifying the fighters, not the fight,” concluded Ron.

- The Florence Mauboules Charitable Trust**
Lt. Col. Charles Everett, WWII Veteran
Paul Hilliard, WWII Veteran
- The John J. McArdle III and Joan Creamer McArdle Foundation**
Alfred and Elizabeth Montalvo
Adolph Hanslik, WWII Veteran
Alfred Montalvo, WWII Veteran
- Dan M. Morgan**
Michael and Jovette T. Mosing
Mrs. Dorothy Duval Nelson
Claude B. Duval, WWII Veteran
- Haig Papaian**
John U. Parolo
Jan and Rich Pattarozzi
Dr. Carl D. Peterson
Ken Meyer, WWII Veteran
- John and Lynn Raber**
Mr. Dick Arnold, WWII Veteran
Dr. Paul Raber, WWII Veteran
- Mr. H. Lewis Rapaport**
Stanley Rapaport, WWII Home Front
Arnold Strauch, WWII Veteran
- Ms. Diana Rathborne**
J. C. Rathborne, WWII Veteran
H. A. Wilmerding, WWII Veteran
J. C. Rathborne III, WWII Home Front
- Mr. and Mrs. Rex E. Ritchie**
Walter Harris, WWII Veteran
- Harvey E. Rothenberg**
Joseph N. Rothenberg, WWI Veteran
Robert Rothenberg, WWII Veteran
- Capt. James S. Russell, WWII Veteran**
Lt. William H. Russell, WWII Veteran
Col. Douglas Tilley, WWII Veteran
Maj. William Tilley, WWII Veteran
- Mr. Michael H. Russell**
Harold C. Russell, WWII Home Front
- Mr. and Mrs. William P. Rutledge**
The Wilson Sexton Foundation
Mr. John G. Turner and Mr. Jerry G. Fischer
Bert Silger Turner, WWII Veteran

- Mr. Charles L. Valluzzo**
Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Wolf
Ens. N. Clifford Wolf, WWII KIA
- Gerard and Martha Wyrsh**
F. Richard “Dick” Brown
Cpt. Fred R. Wyrsh, WWII Veteran
- ★ ★
- TWO STAR**
- Ron and Karen Adams**
Louis John Arbizzani
Mrs. Donna M. Asbill
H. T. (Hank) Miser, WWII Veteran
Oral Jackson Asbill, WWII Veteran
- Humphrey Atherton**
Ms. Kathleen Ausley
Col. Jack Reiter, WWII Veteran
- Captain Stephen M. Bailey**
W. W. Stout, WWII Veteran
- William P. Bakel, WWII Veteran**
Rod Baker and Peggy Pitre
A. Frederick Banfield
Ms. Andree Barsodi
John Michael Barsodi, WWII Veteran
- James W. and Peggy A. Beisner**
CPT William A. Beisner, USA
- Dr. Steven G. and Brenda Beliel**
Major Theodore A. Bell, USAF (Ret.)
Lawrence Berkowitz
Samuel Berkowitz, M.D., WWII Veteran
- Paul Blackney**
Emanuel Blessey
Harold J. Bouillion
John and Bonnie Boyd
CAPT Ronald W. Branch, USCG (Ret.), WWII Veteran
SSGT Frankie Joseph Jindra, USAAF (Ret.), WWII Veteran
- Matthew S. and Julianne L. Brott**

- Mr. Kim Brown**
George Brown, WWII Veteran
John Croup, WWII Veteran
- Mr. John J. Brunetti**
Joseph Prisco, Jr., WWII Veteran
- Colin K. and Kerry Hendon Buell**
CPT Justin Parker Buell, OEF Veteran
L. G. Brown, WWII Veteran
Marvin G. Kleypas, WWII Veteran
Ralph L. Buell, Jr., WWII Veteran
Loyal Brown, Vietnam War Veteran
Walter Lee Hendon, Jr., WWII Veteran
Ralph L. Buell III
William G. Stokes, WWII Veteran
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- Mr. Harvey R. Chaplin**
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- Dr. Donald Clausing and Dr. Shirley Colomb**
Charles Earl Colomb, Sr., WWII Home Front
Merlin Louis Clausing, Sr., WWII Home Front
- Mr. and Mrs. David A. Cowan**
Terry Craig
Jeff and Wendy Dahlgren
Mr. and Mrs. James D. Dake
George H. Lester, Jr., WWII Veteran
Dorothy “Dot” W. Lester, WWII Veteran
Paul G. Dake, WWII Veteran
- Laura Devendorf**
John Porter Stevens, WWII Veteran

- James F. Dicke II**
Dimension Development Two, LLC
Mr. William Dinis
Richard A. Simmons, WWII Veteran
- Mr. and Mrs. James K. Dobbs III**
Ms. Susan Dorsch
Robert Ewing, WWII Veteran
- Mr. Vincent Errante, WWII Veteran**
LTC Randy Everson, USA (Ret.)
1LT Lynn A. Everson, USA, WWII Veteran
LTJG Bartlett S. Everson, USN, WWII Veteran
- Mr. Dean T. Falgoust**
Stephen George Dolese, Jr., WWII Veteran
J. B. Falgoust, WWII Veteran
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Farnsworth**
Mr. James H. Frauenberg
E. J. Connelley, WWII Veteran
Loretta Frauenberg, WWII Veteran
Howard Frauenberg, WWII Veteran
- Robert and Dolores Freidenrich**
Anita Blum, WWII Veteran
John Hatem, Vietnam War Veteran
Sam Newman, WWII Veteran
- Pam Davis Friedler**
Arthur Q. Davis, WWII Veteran
- Marcus Frost**
Daniel Preston Frost, US Army Air Corps, WWII Veteran
Rodney Brubaker, US Army Air Corps, WWII Veteran
Clifford Alton Frost, WWII Veteran
Kenneth Blacklidge, WWII Veteran
- Jim and Sherree Funk**
Lawrence and Ashley Garcia
Mr. Joseph P. Gehegan, Jr.
Mrs. Elaine Goldsmith
Bram Goldsmith, WWII Veteran
- LTC and Mrs. Ronald M. Guiberson**
Mr. and Mrs. James O. Gundlach



The Museum's Electronic Field Trips are streamed directly into classrooms—no special technology required. Focusing on the national impact of World War II, students embark on a cross-country tour of historic sites while examining fascinating artifacts and exhibits.

☆☆☆
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A Second Shipbuilder Leaves His Mark on the Museum

"We Americans walk big, we talk big, we think big....We think up giants. American giants still walk the American earth....This giant's name is Andrew Jackson Higgins."

—From a Radio Reader's Digest program referenced in Jerry Strahan's book Andrew Jackson Higgins and the Boats that Won World War II

The groundbreaking ceremony for the Bollinger Canopy of Peace was held outdoors at the Museum's campus on March 28, 2018. The iconic structure, scheduled for completion in 2019, will rise 148 feet above the center of the Museum's architecturally distinctive campus, bringing all of the buildings together in a way that embraces the stories told of the American experience in World War II.

Made possible through a generous 2015 gift from local shipbuilder Donald T. "Boysie" Bollinger and his wife, Joy, the Canopy will help transform the arrival experience to the Museum by creating a magnificent entryway, instantly conveying the size of the campus and the soaring significance of its purpose.

"I've always said that we are going to build a world-class museum," said longtime Museum advocate and Board Trustee Bollinger back in 2015, his gift marking the largest private donation in the Museum's history. "Stephen Ambrose convinced me that this Museum was going to last for generations. My attitude is that we are going to take a little longer (to complete the campus) but we are going to do it right, and we're going to build it to last."

Bollinger's remarkable career in shipbuilding and his bold reputation as an entrepreneur often prompt comparisons to a famous WWII-era boatbuilder, Andrew Jackson Higgins. Higgins Industries in New Orleans took the lead in producing thousands of the flat-bottomed landing

craft that made it possible for Allied forces to successfully invade enemy-held beaches in Europe, North Africa, and across the Pacific. It is because of Higgins that the Museum is located in New Orleans, and it is largely because of Bollinger that it became a reality, his legacy to become a permanent fixture on a finishing piece of the campus.

The Canopy—a steel lattice framework supporting Teflon-coated fiberglass panels—will be 482 feet long and 134 feet wide, held aloft by four steel legs anchored in more than 1,260 cubic yards of concrete.

The structure's first massive steel elements were delivered to the Museum campus just a few days ahead of the groundbreaking event. The steel is zinc-coated and made up of a frame-and-truss system that's been wind-tunnel tested to exceed American Society of Civil Engineers safety standards to withstand the most extreme tropical weather. Structural Engineer Thornton Tomasetti, who commissioned the testing, has worked to optimize the performance of structures including the Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta, the US Bank Stadium in Minneapolis, and the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge.

In the midday sun, the towering, bright-white Canopy will serve as a beacon to visitors and locals alike; after sundown, a state-of-the-art lighting system will transform the Canopy and its support legs into a stunning new

nighttime landmark for New Orleans. The visitor experience of standing beneath the Canopy of Peace will be a new memorable moment in a city renowned for creating so many of them.

The Museum's Outreach Initiatives Inspire a New Home Front Generation

On June 6, 2018, The National WWII Museum commemorated the 74th anniversary of the D-Day invasion at Normandy and celebrated the 18th anniversary of its opening as The National D-Day Museum in 2000. In just 18 years, the Museum has grown from a single exhibit hall to a multipavilion institution with global impact. These efforts have not only shaped and expanded the institution's exhibits and galleries for visitors, but have also taken the Museum experience to new frontiers of learning and access beyond its campus.

Through on-site and online Museum-produced educational programs, thousands of educators and learners across the country have engaged in a variety of WWII subjects. These programs range from webinars to summer teaching institutes to award-winning national Electronic Field Trips. To make these endeavors possible, the Museum's Charter Members have helped support the institution's expansion, as well as its educational outreach efforts. Through our Members' ongoing support to increase student and teacher access to the Museum's educational resources, the legacy and lessons of the WWII generation will continue to inspire future generations.

In Fiscal Year 2018, students across the country gained newfound knowledge about the struggles and triumphs of the 116 million Americans who experienced the war on the Home Front. Through various learning

experiences, students visited the Museum's newest permanent exhibit *The Arsenal of Democracy*; learned about racial tensions and discrimination during the war at The Rosie the Riveter WWII Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, California; and even got to interact with a Newbery Honor-winning author about her newest novel on race and war in WWII-era New Orleans. Although each student's destination may have been different, they all embarked on their learning journey in the same vehicle: their classrooms.

As a leading educational resource, the core of the Museum's mission is to inform and empower today's young citizens so they can understand the price of freedom and be inspired by what they learn. From distance-learning initiatives to a teaching institute for educators, the Museum brought the stories of the Home Front to life through the voices of those who experienced it. During the fiscal year, more than 40,000 students took part in the institution's live interactive Electronic Field Trip *Fighting for the Right to Fight: African American Experiences in World War II*—2018 winner of a Silver Telly Award for online general education—and 30 teachers enrolled to participate in the Museum's Summer Teacher Institute seminar focused on the Home Front, their future discoveries to contribute to the Institute's growing impact, which will reach 2,700 teachers and over 140,000 students by the end of Fiscal Year 2019.

The Museum's educational outreach efforts also expanded through additional online programs, from Virtual Field Trips to webinars to Skype programs, all incorporating stories about the Home Front's challenges and victories. Programs included a live video conference on the nation's rationing and war production efforts, and even a webinar on WWII innovation and problem solving. Collectively, the Museum's distance-learning reach in Fiscal Year 2018 was momentous: A total of 62,675 students participated, which included 4,356 Virtual Field Trip, 6,664 Skype program, 11,539 webinar, and 40,116 Electronic Field Trip learners. Through these connections to history, the lessons of America's WWII Home Front will continue to shape and inspire future generations.

In Fiscal Year 2019, the Museum will debut its newest Electronic Field Trip commemorating the 75th anniversary of the D-Day invasion at Normandy.

Fiscal Year 2018 Distance Learning by the Numbers



VIRTUAL FIELD TRIPS
115
Sessions
4,356
Students

SKYPE PROGRAMS
205
Sessions
6,664
Students



WEBINARS
11,539
Students

FIGHTING FOR
THE RIGHT TO FIGHT
ELECTRONIC FIELD TRIP
40,116
Students

TOTAL
62,675
Students

CHARTER MEMBERS
176,000+

The staunch support of over 176,000 Charter Members is the foundation of The National WWII Museum's growth. Their loyalty throughout Fiscal Year 2018 exemplifies a strong commitment to the mission of America's National WWII Museum.

Combined, our Members provided the Museum with over \$10 million in operating revenue to help fund educational programming and preservation initiatives. As we continue our efforts to expand the Museum, their commitment and generosity are an inspiration.

WWII veterans helped establish this Museum. With the passage of time, the torch has passed to the sons and daughters of our treasured WWII veterans—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.

Thank you to all of our Members across the country for supporting The National WWII Museum.

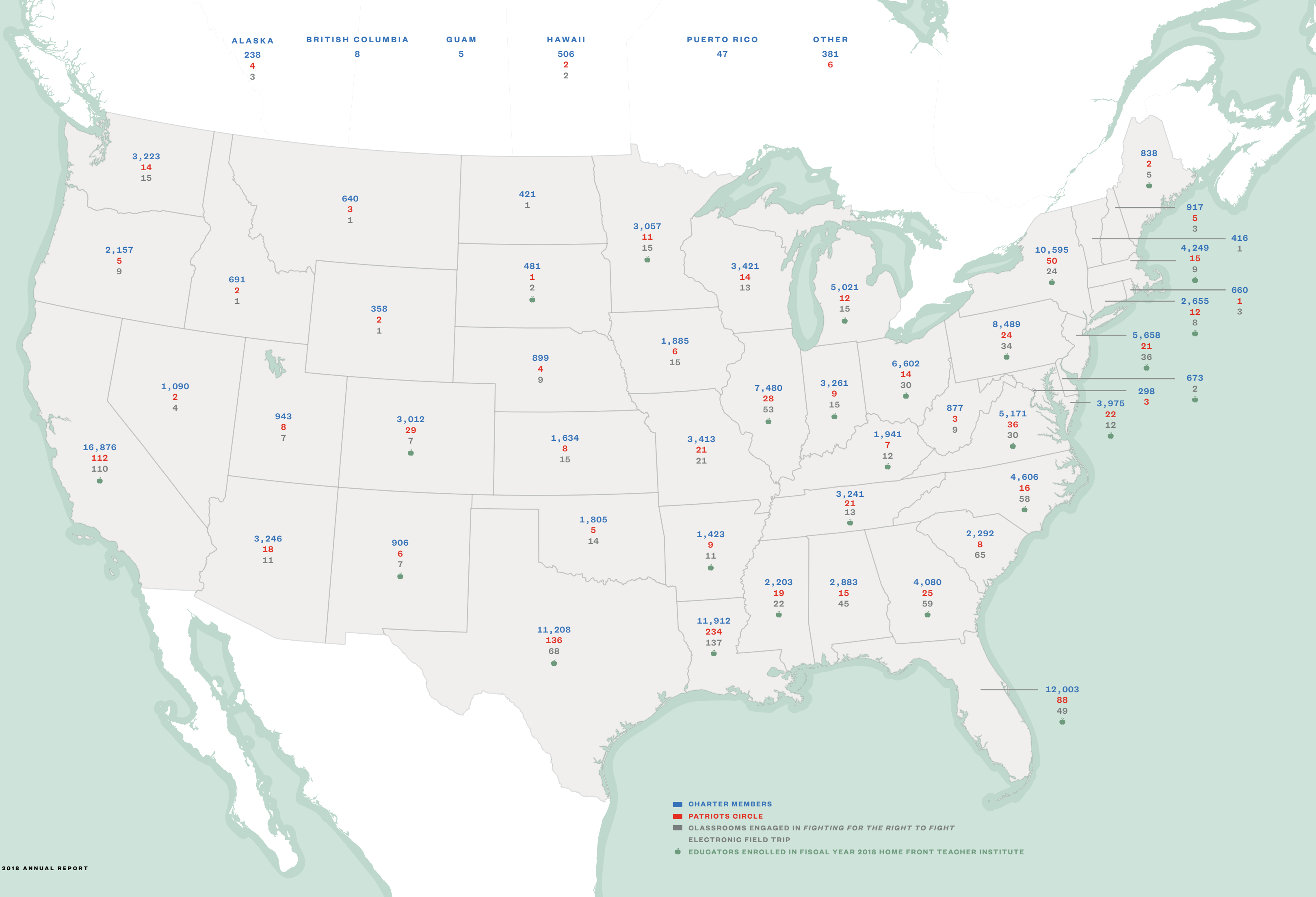
PATRIOTS CIRCLE
1,100+

Among the most loyal supporters of The National WWII Museum, Patriots Circle Members contributed \$2.7 million to the Museum in Fiscal Year 2018—an all-time record, which reflects an astonishing commitment to the institution's mission.

In addition to their financial support—which ranges between \$1,000 and \$10,000 annually—these Members are exceptional in their involvement with the Museum. Many serve on various committees, act as sponsors for the Museum's fundraising events, participate in the Museum's travel programs, and attend The International Conference on World War II. They serve as national ambassadors for the institution.

We remain honored by the 1,118 Patriots Circle Members who supported the Museum from across the country in Fiscal Year 2018. Among those are 57 Members of the Museum's Board of Trustees and two staff members who are Four Star Patriots Circle Members. Their generosity is evidence of the importance of understanding the American experience in World War II and honoring the generation who sacrificed so much to secure our freedom.

Thank you to all of our Patriots Circle Members for demonstrating the American spirit through their generous and continued giving.



H. LEWIS “LEW” RAPAPORT
THREE STAR DONOR



Lew Rapaport describes himself as having always been a patriot and a historian—studying our country’s founding fathers to the present. He served as a lieutenant in the US Army during the early 1960s and was a graduate of the US Army Artillery and Missile School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Family and service to country have always been important to Rapaport. He grew up in the Forest Hills neighborhood of Queens, New York, where the entire Rapaport family was involved in World War II. With two nephews in the US Army and his uncle serving on a destroyer in the US Navy, Rapaport’s family remained proud of their military service.

“My father, Stanley Rapaport, was an architect and was contacted by our State Department for a special assignment,” said Rapaport. “Dad moved us to Norfolk, Virginia, and his new job was to redesign and camouflage ships that were going back and forth to England to carry troops and munitions to the battlefield. The US Navy had to disguise the ships with different silhouettes so that the German submarines would not be able to identify the vessels as they went

across the sea. He didn’t share these details with us then, but we were all proud of him. He even received a letter from Britain’s Ministry of War Transport recognizing his contribution during those turbulent times.”

Rapaport first became involved with The National WWII Museum to honor those in his family who fought, and also those who served their country at home, just like his father. “There were many unsung heroes who gave of themselves during this period to help our nation who were not in uniform,” said Rapaport.

“I support The National WWII Museum through the Patriots Circle because I believe it is the shore station of our democracy and a continuing remembrance of those who fought and died, as well as those Home Front warriors who gave of themselves to win the battle and preserve our freedom,” he concluded.

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Robert “Mac” McWhirter, MD, has been a Member of Patriots Circle since 2014. His father, Stanley B. McWhirter, was a first-generation immigrant from Scotland who came to the United States in 1920. A welder by trade, Stanley participated in the Manhattan Project, working with different metal weld components for atomic bombs.

“Given the secrecy of the project, my dad didn’t realize the importance of his fabrications, but there was great concern that the bombs would break apart midair,” said McWhirter. “Obviously that did not happen, so I believe his craftsmanship played a small but important role in the successful detonations of the bombs and ending the war.”

After the war, Stanley was given a commendation for his efforts and participation in the project.

As for McWhirter, his fascination with World War II started as a child. Part of the baby boom generation, he enjoyed learning about the war. McWhirter fondly recalls watching the television show *Victory at Sea*, a documentary television series about warfare—in particular naval combat—during World War II, as well as the use of industry in warfare, creating a meaningful

connection to his father’s role in the war.

However, McWhirter’s greatest lessons about the war came from the values and teachings instilled by his parents. “My father and mother both told me about the struggles endured through hard times during the Great Depression and World War II, and those stories inspired me and my siblings to succeed in life through hard work and dedication.”

McWhirter feels it’s important to sustain and grow the Museum through his involvement in Patriots Circle. “The stories and the trauma of war—in World War II in particular—are important to remember,” he said. “Our involvement in this global conflict—and the values and ideals that emerged from it—impacted me then and will always be a huge part of who I am today.”

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Stuart Trembly of Hanover, New Hampshire, was a child of the 1950s. Growing up postwar, Trembly gained a special appreciation of World War II, as did many children whose families served in the US Armed Forces and on the Home Front. His family was deeply patriotic and instilled in him the value of service to home and country.

Trembly’s mother, Grevilda Snider Trembly, and his aunt, Cornelia Snider Yarrington (both shown in photo), were young children when the war broke out. They pitched in on the Home Front by scrapping, saving their allowances to buy war bonds, and helping out at their family’s store in the small town of Hoffman, North Carolina.

Because Hoffman was near Fort Bragg and Camp Mackall—both US Army training facilities in North Carolina that also housed German prisoner of war camps—there were many young servicemembers stationed in the area who frequently visited the Snider family store to purchase candy, cigarettes, and other items. “Our store displayed posters to warn that the enemy was always listening, and we helped watch for strangers who passed though our tiny town in

those years of national dislocation,” said Cornelia. As further explained by Grevilda, “We children even kept the secret of the federal agent who was stationed in our father’s general store to watch for enemy agents.” Their family home served as a mock French residence in practice maneuvers for the Normandy invasion. “No New Year’s Eve or Fourth of July fireworks display has ever compared in pageantry to the awe-inspiring sight of paratroopers dropping from the sky down into our front yard,” recalled Cornelia.

Trembly’s family was not without tragedy during the war. His mother’s cousin, Lt. William Snyder Jr., made the ultimate sacrifice and lost his life while fighting in France in 1945.

“Both my mother and aunt made sure I understood and respected what their cousin’s life and death meant for me and my generation,” said Trembly. “His sacrifice along with all that my mother, aunt, and the entire Trembly family offered in service to our country remains the motivation for my support of the Museum through Patriots Circle.”

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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 2021, this \$400 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.

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PETER AND MARY KALIKOW



Peter Kalikow first became involved with The National WWII Museum in 1990, when friend Stephen Ambrose asked for his help to create a D-Day museum. Without hesitation, Kalikow stepped up to provide support and became the first donor to what is today The National WWII Museum. As a WWII history enthusiast for most of his life, Kalikow's early involvement became an inspirational and unforgettable moment. Kalikow's memories of World War II go as far back as childhood, when he and his mother moved to his grandparents' house after his father left to serve in the US Marine Corps. Before his mother's funeral decades later, he asked journalist and fellow Museum supporter Tom Brokaw whether, in addition to servicemembers, those who were on the Home Front—like his mother—were members of the "Greatest Generation." Brokaw responded with an unequivocal "yes," and Kalikow used this statement in his mother's eulogy. Of all his memories with the institution, Kalikow's fondest one is the opening of the Museum on June 6, 2000, when he saw friend Stephen Ambrose's dream come true before his

passing two years later. He recalls the day as a grand celebration, and never before remembers seeing so many generals and admirals in one place. He describes the event as having more stars than a planetarium, and especially cherishes the memory of joining with friends and WWII veterans John Whitehead and Hank Greenberg, who both became early supporters of the Museum. Through a special gift made by Kalikow and his wife, Mary, they hope to ensure a successful continuation and expansion of the Museum. They are proud that their recent contribution will support the final push toward the completion of the Museum's expanded campus, ensuring that younger generations have a permanent place to visit and see the loyalty, the pain, and the sacrifices made by what was truly the Greatest Generation. Michael Rose and Debbi Fields
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The Stephen E. Ambrose Legacy Society recognizes 150 special individuals, couples, and associations who have included The National WWII Museum in their will, trust, life insurance policy, retirement assets, or other estate plans. These Legacy gifts support our mission to preserve and share the history of the American experience during World War II.

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TAD TAUBE



Tad Taube's story with the Museum began in 2006 when he was introduced to the institution by close friend Pete Wilson, former Governor of California and current Museum Trustee. His passion for preserving and teaching history strongly connected with the Museum's mission, and ultimately led to his recent establishment of the Taube Family Holocaust Education Program at the Museum. Through this effort, he hopes to extend the Museum's initiatives to share the important story of the Holocaust and its ties to American history, including the US Army's liberation of Nazi concentration camps, the Jewish American families who lost loved ones at the hands of Nazi Germany, and the survivors who relocated and rebuilt their lives in America.

Taube's personal family history ties closely to his educational endeavors at the Museum. Born in Kraków, Poland, he escaped the country just months before the Nazi invasion of 1939, and lost a significant number of family members in the Holocaust. His parents created a new life for their family in the United States, and through hard work and perseverance, their efforts

allowed Taube to attend Stanford University, helping lay the foundation for his future career ambitions—from real estate to his philanthropic work. As he explains, "In the minds of refugees such as myself who have been embraced by this great country, there exists a level of gratitude for the opportunities we have had that is somewhat analogous to a debt to be repaid. Some refer to it as a feeling of 'giving back,' but I prefer to call it wanting to 'share opportunity.'"

Through a planned giving commitment to the Museum, Taube and his wife, Dianne, are confident that their estate plan will carry their legacy of expanding public awareness of World War II and its consequences that still impact lives today. "The Museum is a national treasure, and I encourage others to sustain its efforts through a legacy gift that will have a lasting purpose for future generations," he said.

We remember with special gratitude the individuals whose Legacy gifts to The National WWII Museum have been realized.

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Hancock Whitney has been a champion of the Museum since its beginning as The National D-Day Museum, helping to support the institution's capital campaign efforts. In 2005 the company became a patron of the Museum's programmatic initiatives by sponsoring its Victory Ball. Their support later continued through sponsorship of the Museum's 70th anniversary of D-Day on-site events in 2014 and, most recently, as the presenting sponsor of the American Spirit Awards for the past three years.

Additionally, Hancock Whitney executives have generously committed their time to serving on the Museum's Board of Trustees as well as its committees, which help carry on the legacy the Museum celebrates. World War II also played a role in the lives of many Hancock Whitney associates and executives. Some of them served during the war or are children of WWII veterans. President and CEO John Hairston's father, Mitch Hairston, was an ammunition loader on the USS *Fletcher* DD-445 in the Pacific theater.

When asked what drew Hancock Whitney to sponsoring the American Spirit Awards, Hairston said, "The American Spirit Awards are broader than

honoring only World War II. The ceremony recognizes those who share the values and spirit of the Greatest Generation and uses that commitment to keep our country a wonderful place to live and promote opportunities for all Americans. Hancock Whitney supports the American Spirit Awards because we faithfully believe in the American spirit." This past year, the Museum honored Maurice R. "Hank" Greenberg, Senator John McCain, and Gary Sinise for their outstanding achievements that reflect the values of teamwork, optimism, courage, and sacrifice and for their expression of the American spirit through the impact of their lives and work.

Hancock Whitney embraces its own set of core values to carry on the American spirit in the communities the century-old bank serves: Honor and Integrity, Strength and Stability, Commitment to Service, Teamwork, and Personal Responsibility. Hairston continues to be inspired by how the Museum, through veteran volunteers, brings to life the firsthand experiences of patriotism and spirit that rallied our entire nation to fight for freedom during the war. "What the Greatest Generation achieved has allowed every generation since to grow and prosper," he said.

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Stuart S. Wilson, III
Windsor Court Hotel
Carol B. Wise
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Woody and Gayle Hunt Family Foundation
Yuengling Beer
Anonymous (4)

Solomon Victory Theater Seat Donors

The National WWII Museum thanks the following donors for purchasing a 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.

451st Bomb Squadron Association
In Honor of the 451st Bomb Squadron Men Who Served in World War II
Karen & Ron Adams
IHO (1) Larry & Alice Melton
(2) Ron & Karen Adams
Richard C. Adkerson Family
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In Honor of William P. Rutledge, AECOM Board of Directors
Darleen Alexander
The Calvin and Marisa Allen Foundation
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(1) IHO Steve Ambrose
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American Beagle Squadron Association
(1) The American Beagle Squadron Association
(2) 2nd P-15 Fighter SQ., 52 Fighter Group, 15 AF WWII
Anonymous
Tom Hanks
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(1) Frank D. Hopkins; Captain, USAF; 64TC-18TH Squadron
(2) In Memory Of James A. Mangum
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The D&P Bayly Family Foundation
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In Honor of 1st Lt. Gus Blass II, 24th Reconnaissance Squadron, 4th Calvary Group
Bob and Dee Boozer
Susan Gore Brennan
IMO (1) Kathryn Briede Gore
(2) Dr. Benjamin Cromwell Gore
Robert and Lenore Briskman
IHO (1) Robert Berman, Bomber Shot Down Over Hump
(2) Burton Gwirtzman, Battle of the Bulge Heroic Medic
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Hans Christensen
G. William Christensen, Army Air Corps
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Don Kennedy Clover, WWII 82nd
ABN 507 PIR, Silent Courage
James A. Courter
IHO Carmen Courter
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Mr. Demo Kouzounis

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Finnegan Henderson
John H. Von Der Bruegge Jr, Operation Varsity 513 PIR, From Finnegan Henderson
Eleanor J. Fox
Lt. Col. Lews V. Smith US Army, Birthplace: Spiro, Oklahoma
Frezza Family Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. John J. Frezza, In Honor of Our WWII Veterans
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Marvin L. Jacobs
Dotty and Buddy Jacobs
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(2) IMO James J. Fisher, Jr. DFC
Sue S. Janssen and Wendy Robinson
In Honor of Clarence Wayne Shreve, Pacific Theater, World War II
Pat and Kelly Jay
Jerlyn Foundation / Carolyn Holleran
(1) Charles J. Holleran
(2) Walter Raymond McGonigle
Erik F. Johnsen Family Foundation
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(2) Zachry S. Lee San Antonio, Texas
(3) Travis M. Lee Boston, Massachusetts
John Leseth
IMO Trygve A. Leseth
John and Gail Liebes Trust
The John Liebes Family
Kevin Lilly
IHO Lt. Trevor Rees-Jones, USN

CONNIE O'NEILL



Connie O'Neill first became involved with The National WWII Museum after hearing a presentation at the Dallas Woman's Club in 2015. "I was so incredibly impressed that I wanted to honor my father with a gift to the Museum," she said. To celebrate the birthday of her father, a WWII veteran, O'Neill purchased a commemorative brick in his honor. Only after telling him of her gift did she learn he was one of the founding donors to The National D-Day Museum.

O'Neill is committed to expanding the Museum's educational mission so that younger generations can learn about the importance of the war. "It is critical that we continue to tell the story of World War II to our children and generations to come," she said. "We bury all of this knowledge each time we lose a veteran, so we need to move quickly to gather what we can from who we can." By sponsoring a seat in the Museum's Solomon Victory Theater, home to the extraordinary 4D experience *Beyond All Boundaries*, O'Neill has taken an active role in supporting that mission.

Her personal hero and father, 1st Lt. Gus Blass (see photo) served in the 24th Reconnaissance

Squadron, 4th Calvary Regiment. Later in life, the Purple Heart recipient took it upon himself to write a book of his experiences during World War II for his children and grandchildren. He knew it was vital to share the importance of freedom. O'Neill and the Museum are proud to honor Blass and other WWII veterans within the Solomon Victory Theater.

Deborah G. Lindsay
IMO (1) Harry John Grosser, USAA
(2) William F. Grosser, USAF
(3) Robert S. Lindsay, USN
(4) Forrest Villarrubia, US Marine PTO
(5) Tom Blakey 1920-2015 D-Day Veteran 82 Airborne
(6) Bert Stolier US Marines PTO
2nd Division
Louise H. Moffett Family Foundation
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Lupin Foundation
Madison/Querbes Family
IMO CAPT C.W. Robinson, Jr.
Ben A. Martinez Jr.
(1) IHO Ben A. Martinez, Jr.
(2) IHO Urban "UB" Martinez
(3) IHO John William Water
(4) IHO William J. Wegman
(5) IHO Jose D. Martinez
(6) IHO John L. Martinez
(7) IHO Frank H. Roark Jr.
Col. and Mrs. David F. Matthews
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Mr. and Mrs. Paul C.P. Mcllhenny
IMO (1) Armond K. Goodwin
(2) Paul W. Mcllhenny
Candy McKey
IHO Dr. John D. McKey Sr.
Arthur J. Moore
Arthur J. Moore 29th Infantry
Bruno S. Rinas
Jacqueline Morris
Lorise N. Naquin
(1) IMO Irvin and Angel Templet
(2) IHO Lorise and Lucy Naquin

Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Newhall III
IHO (1) Adair B. Newhall
(2) C. Ashton Newhall
Robert P. Nimtz
In Memory of Paul Nimtz, Ray Eilenfeldt
James P. Noll
In Memory of Loren Clyde Johnson, Archaeologist Newport, MN
Vickie and Ron Norick
IHO James H. Norick, USN
Mark P. Norman
IMO Mark W. Norman
The Peevy Family
IMO Virgil Edwin Peevy
George A. Pontikes Jr.
IHO General Michael P. Cokinos
B.E. Quinn III
IHO Joseph N. Tolle
Toska and Barry Quinnies
(1) Toska Quinnies
(2) Barry Quinnies
Barbara L. Richardson
IHO (1) Dewey Tillman Lisenbee, Pacific Theater, US Marine Corp
(2) Samuel Benjamin Lisenbee, Pacific Theater, US Marine Corp
(3) Lee Roy Lisenbee, Pacific Theater, US Marine Corp
(4) L.C. Lisenbee, Pacific Theater, US Marine Corp
Patrice K. Richardson
IMO a True American, Captain EW
Richardson, B24 Pilot and POW
Todd Ricketts
Michael A. Morris
IHO of Bruno S. Rinas
Rex and Helen Ritchie
Walter Harris, WWII 17th Airborne Div
Oakwood, Ohio

Mr. and Mrs. Laurance Rockefeller Sr.
IHO (1) Laurance S. Rockefeller, US Navy
(2) Edward Tipper D-Day 101st Airborne Div
Martin and Joan Rosen Foundation
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Leon Rosen, Bombardier Pacific
Martin Rosen, Army, Europe and Pacific
Rotary Club of Metairie
Rotary Club of the Westbank Foundation
Rotary Westbank/Gretna, LA
Bill and Trudy Rutledge
(1) Bill Rutledge
(2) Trudy Rutledge
Christine Greeley Schalles
IHO US Marine Corps., Lt. Col. Robert W. Greeley, Wake IS POW 1941-1945
Gwen Schneider
IHO Bruce F. Schneider WWII Veteran
Edward H. Schulz
IMO Bunnie Schulz Bullard, TX
John Selling
Harry Selling DOB 5-29-20, B-17 Pilot Shot Down, POW, Dad and Hero Loved By All
The Wilson Sexton Foundation
IMO John T. Sexton WWI
DeeDee and Eliot Simon
IMO (1) Norman Simon
(2) Donald J. Wingbermuehle
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP
IMO Joseph H. Flom
Pamela and Charles R. Smith
IHO Charles R. Smith
Daniel D. Smith
IMO Commander Walter F. Smith, US Navy
Theodore G. Solomon Sr. and Doris Carwie Solomon
(1) Theodore G. Solomon, Sr.
(2) Doris Carwie Solomon

Emilia Soltis
IMO Joseph Steven Soltis USN
Frank & Paulette Stewart
Paul Tagliabue
IHO Italo Rancan
Patrick F. Taylor Foundation
IHO Buddy Jacobs
"The Roomies"
IHO Suzy and John Graham
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IMO William Fred Thomas
Time-Life Books
Marvin D. Toombs
IMO (1) Jean & Marvin Toombs, VA
(2) Carolyn & Jerry Hatfield
Ken Valach
IHO Harold Mgrublian
David R. Voelker
IHO Virginia W. Voelker
Mrs. Donald Lyon White
In Memory of Her Husband
National Association of Wholesale-Distributors
IHO Governor Pete Wilson

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

The National World War II Museum, Inc. and Subsidiaries
New Orleans, Louisiana

June 30, 2018
(with comparative totals for 2017)

	2018	2017
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	52,304,314	44,842,627
Investments	20,890,402	20,400,820
Unconditional promises to give:		
Capital Campaign,	13,301,268	17,090,815
net of allowances		
Endowment, net of allowances	3,446,064	2,390,165
Other, net of allowances	1,638,699	1,228,676
Notes receivable	13,138,530	12,819,876
Gift shop inventory	834,643	665,041
Other assets	7,039,557	3,929,352
Property and equipment,	194,226,125	173,872,030
net of accumulated depreciation		
Collections	13,062,884	12,564,559
Total Assets	319,882,486	289,803,961
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable trade	2,813,187	1,928,478
Construction projects payable	3,788,423	1,599,750
Accrued expenses	2,959,782	1,795,102
Deferred revenue	6,810,277	3,018,614
Line of credit	1,908,672	3,652,185
Notes payable	22,341,652	17,586,341
Total Liabilities	40,621,993	29,580,470
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted:		
Board designated	29,217,653	7,969,350
Undesignated	210,644,525	212,259,179
Total Unrestricted Net Assets	239,862,178	220,228,529
Temporarily restricted	20,465,199	23,173,597
Permanently restricted	18,933,116	16,821,365
Total Net Assets	279,260,493	260,223,491
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	319,882,486	289,803,961

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

The National World War II Museum, Inc. and Subsidiaries
New Orleans, Louisiana

For the year ended June 30, 2018
(with comparative totals for 2017)

	2018			2017
SUPPORT AND REVENUES	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Totals
Grants	237,433	4,724,191		4,961,624
Contributions:				
Capital Campaign		12,607,609		12,607,609
Endowment	1,000,000		2,111,751	3,111,751
Other	3,395,007	910,023		4,305,030
Tax credit incentives	500,000			500,000
Memberships	10,709,142			10,709,142
Admissions	18,309,062			18,309,062
Facilities and property rental	1,634,685			1,634,685
Sponsored events and conferences	12,818,490	968,058		13,786,548
Gift shop	3,709,640			3,709,640
Investment income	1,912,544	620,694		2,533,238
Sponsorships	207,280			207,280
Miscellaneous	1,099,581			1,099,581
Net assets released from restrictions	22,538,973	(22,538,973)		
Total Support and Revenues	78,071,837	(2,708,398)	2,111,751	77,475,190
EXPENSES				
Capital Campaign fundraising and other	1,822,577			1,822,577
Depreciation	8,139,025			8,139,025
Fundraising	2,605,931			2,605,931
General and administrative	4,279,765			4,279,765
Gift shop merchandise sold	1,890,682			1,890,682
Interest — amortized	271,221			271,221
Interest — other	474,356			474,356
Museum expansion	1,196,654			1,196,654
Programs and operations — personnel costs	13,748,571			13,748,571
Programs and operations — other costs	24,009,406			24,009,406
Total Expenses	58,438,188			58,438,188
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS	19,633,649	(2,708,398)	2,111,751	19,037,002
NET ASSETS				
Beginning of Year	220,228,529	23,173,597	16,821,365	260,223,491
End of Year	239,862,178	20,465,199	18,933,116	279,260,493

Female “chippers”
remove weld excess
at the Marinship
Corporation shipyards
near San Francisco, 1942.



