

# THE NATIONAL WWI MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL

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## News Release

Monday, October 5, 2015

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## National World War I Museum and Memorial's Inaugural *Night at the Tower* Successfully Raises Funds

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – The National World War I Museum and Memorial hosted the inaugural *Night at the Tower* on Sept. 19 with more than 300 in attendance for the event designed to raise funds to further the Museum's mission of remembering, interpreting and understanding the Great War and its enduring impact on the global community.

*Night at the Tower*, a progressive cocktail reception featuring themed food, spirits and entertainment representing countries from across the world, featured a one-of-a-kind performance from Quixotic – the largest collaborative show the organization has ever done in Kansas City.

"The National World War I Museum and Memorial was conceived and built by Kansas Citians nearly 100 years ago," said Museum President and CEO Dr. Matthew Naylor. "We continue to be awestruck by the ongoing generosity of area residents and supporting organizations who clearly value and understand the significance of America's official World War I museum and memorial being located in Kansas City."

Ollie Gates, Arzelia Gates and Gerald and Anita Gorman served as honorary chairs for *Night at the Tower* with Trudy Kopf Gabriel and Evelyn Craft Belger serving as event co-chairs. Committee members included: Sandra Aust, Amy Sue Bliss, Mara Cohara, Olivia Dorsey, Pam Grasis, Deborah Lindsay, Shellee Masnado, Nancy McGuire, Leo Nunnink, Stephanie O'Dear, Kimberlee Ried, Laura Rogers, Paul Sinclair, Linda Ward and Katherine Wurzer.

Waddell and Reed was the presenting sponsor of *Night at the Tower* with Ash Grove Cement, the Sunderland Family Foundation, Belger Cartage Service, Inc. and JE Dunn Construction supporting the event as premier sponsors. The grand sponsors were Frank and Evangeline Thompson with Sporting Kansas City and EDZ Systems contributing as region sponsors.

The second annual *Night at the Tower* event will be held on Saturday, Sept. 17, 2016.

### About the National World War I Museum and Memorial

The National World War I Museum and Memorial is America's leading institution dedicated to remembering, interpreting and understanding the Great War and its enduring impact on the global community. The Museum holds the most diverse collection of World War I objects and documents in the world and is the second-oldest public museum dedicated to preserving the objects, history and experiences of the war. The Museum takes visitors of all ages on an epic journey through a transformative period and shares deeply personal stories of courage, honor, patriotism and sacrifice. Designated by Congress as America's official World War I Museum and Memorial and located in downtown Kansas City, Mo., the National World War I Museum and Memorial inspires thought, dialogue and learning to make the experiences of the Great War era meaningful and relevant for present and future generations. To learn more, visit [theworldwar.org](http://theworldwar.org).

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