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**Press Release**

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## **Wake Forest (N.C.) Teacher Wins Contest to “Send a Deserving Teacher on an Adventure!” from National World War I Museum and Memorial**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Earlier in the fall semester, the National World War I Museum and Memorial launched a contest to “Send a Deserving Teacher on an Adventure!” and Bettina Pope of Wake Forest (N.C.) High School was announced as the winner today among more than 2,000 entrants across the country.

The contest was structured around the general public nominating a deserving teacher to send them on an adventure, which includes travel, hotel accommodations and a special personalized visit to America’s official World War I museum and memorial for a teacher and a guest.

Pope is currently in her 23<sup>rd</sup> year of teaching high school English in North Carolina and her 19<sup>th</sup> year at Wake Forest High School, located in Wake County outside of Raleigh. Pope’s primary subject is sophomore English/English II, which focuses on world literature in North Carolina. Additionally, Pope teaches an African American literature class. Pope plans to visit the Museum in the spring of 2018.

“I am incredibly excited to win the contest,” said Pope. “When I found out I was the winner of the trip to Kansas City, I kept repeating, ‘Me?! Me?!’ and I was just blown away. This is such a wonderful and humbling opportunity. I can’t wait to visit Kansas City and explore the National World War I Museum and Memorial!”

[The contest](#), which ran from Aug. 22 – Sept. 8, featured more than 2,000 entrants from all 50 states across the country. The public was tasked with nominating a current teacher who had “positively affected the lives of students.”

“At the National World War I Museum and Memorial, we strive to educate the public about the Great War’s lasting effects,” said National World War I Museum and Memorial President and CEO Dr. Matthew Naylor. “Teachers are the key component in the public understanding that World War I is the defining event of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and beyond. We are thrilled to recognize Ms. Pope for her efforts during the past 23 years and look forward to rewarding her dedication and commitment with a special visit to one of the world’s great museums.”

The National World War I Museum and Memorial has earned recognition from a host of organizations, including being named one of the top 25 museums in the U.S. by Yelp and TripAdvisor, one of the top 12 military museums in the world by CNN and one of the top 10 military museums in the U.S. by *USA Today*.



As part of its mission, the Museum offers a host of free resources to teachers and the general public, including lesson plans, primary source material, professional development opportunities, a teacher fellowship program, an educational newsletter and much more. Visit [theworldwar.org/learn](http://theworldwar.org/learn) for more information.

**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 comprehensive 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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