

THE NATIONAL WWI MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL

News Release

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Veterans Day Weekend Events to Honor Those Who've Served Our Nation at National World War I Museum and Memorial

Free Admission for Veterans and Active-Duty Military
Half-Price Admission for General Public Friday-Sunday, Nov. 11-13

2016 Veterans Day Weekend Highlights

- * Free admission for veterans and active-duty military personnel Friday-Sunday, Nov. 11-13
- * Half-price admission for the general public Friday-Sunday, Nov. 11-13
- * Museum will virtually “share a poppy” through social media to honor veterans at <https://www.facebook.com/theworldwar> and <https://twitter.com/thewwimuseum>. The public is encouraged to honor those who served by sharing this universal symbol of sacrifice, remembrance and resilience
- * 10% off all poppy-related items in the Museum Store, including the [Museum's Online Store](#) Friday-Sunday, Nov. 11-13
- * Donation Drive for Disabled American Veterans/Red Racks Thrift Stores (Friday, Nov. 11, 9 am - 3 pm)
- * Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II, Mayor Sly James (a former U.S. Marine), Missouri State Senator Ryan Silvey expected to attend free public Veterans Day Ceremony in the Museum's J.C. Nichols Auditorium. Keynote address by Assistant Chief of Staff Col. Norma J. Bradford; performances by the Kansas City Symphony Chorus and American Legion Band of Greater Kansas City Wind Ensemble (Friday, Nov. 11, 10 a.m.)
- * Nearly 100 new “Walk of Honor” Bricks dedicated during ceremony in J.C. Nichols Auditorium (Friday, Nov. 11, 2 p.m.)
- * *The World Remembers* – display of nearly 600,000 names of soldiers from 12 nations who sacrificed their lives in 1916 during WWI (Friday, Nov. 11 – final day)
- * Hands-on History – This family friendly program invites kids of all ages to handle Great War artifacts (Saturday, Nov. 12, 11 a.m.)
- * Folk musician John McCutcheon live performance (Saturday, Nov. 12, 7 p.m.)

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KANSAS CITY, Mo. (Nov. 7, 2016) – As the commemoration of the centennial of World War I (2014-19) continues, [The National World War I Museum and Memorial](#) will honor veterans and active-duty military members with free admission during Veterans Day Weekend, Friday-Sunday, Nov. 11-13, and half-price admission for the general public. A slate of events and activities are planned, including a free, public ceremony on Veterans Day, Nov. 11.

To continue the nearly 100-year tradition of wearing a poppy on Veterans Day as a universal symbol of sacrifice, remembrance and resilience, the Museum will virtually “share a poppy” with the public via its social media platforms (<https://facebook.com/theworldwar>, <https://twitter.com/thewwimuseum> and <https://www.instagram.com/nationalwwimuseum/>) for Veterans Day Weekend.

Inspired by John McCrae’s poem, “[In Flanders Field](#),” Moina Michael decided to wear a red poppy in honor of veterans. She began the U.S. custom of selling the Flanders Fields Memorial Poppy in November 1918, a practice soon adopted by other nations around the world. The poppy emblem was chosen because of the poppies that bloomed across the most war-torn battlefields of Flanders in World War I. The poppy is intended to inspire the world to return to peace after the “war to end all wars” and serves as a perpetual tribute to those who have served.

Veterans Day Weekend at the National World War I Museum and Memorial is supported through the generosity of the Jackson County Executive, Jackson County Legislature, the Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund of Kansas City, Mo., and KFKF. Details about Veterans Day Weekend events and activities are below:

Discount Admission

When: Friday-Sunday, Nov. 11-13

Where: National World War I Museum and Memorial

What: Free admission for veterans and active-duty military personnel; half-price admission for the general public.

10% Off Museum Store Poppy-Related Items

When: Friday-Sunday, Nov. 11-13

Where: National World War I Museum and Memorial and [Museum Store Website](#)

What: Rich in symbolism and remembrance, the poppy is synonymous with honoring those who served on Veterans Day. During Veterans Day Weekend, all poppy-related items will be discounted 10% in the Museum Store ([online](#) and in-store). With dozens of items ranging from beautiful Peggy Karr glassware to commemorative mementos to poppy seeds – the Museum offers gifts for people of all ages and interests.

Disabled American Veterans/Red Racks Donation Drive

When: Friday, Nov. 11 (9 a.m. - 3 p.m.)

Where: National World War I Museum and Memorial

What: In honor of Veterans Day, Red Racks – owned and operated by the Disabled American Veterans – is hosting a donation drive by providing donation bags to guests. Accepted items include household goods, toys, clothing, etc.

Society of the Fifth Division

When: Friday, Nov. 11 (9 a.m. - 3 p.m.)

Where: National World War I Museum and Memorial

What: The organization will offer an informational display as well as complimentary pins honoring Vietnam veterans.

Veterans Day Ceremony

When: 10 a.m., Friday, Nov. 11

Where: J.C. Nichols Auditorium at the National World War I Museum and Memorial

What: A formal program free to the public includes:

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- * Expected dignitaries include Kansas City, Mo. Mayor Sly James (a former U.S. Marine), Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II and Mo. State Senator Ryan Silvey
- * Keynote address from Col. Norma J. Bradford, Assistant Chief of Staff at the Army Reserve Affairs Combined Arms Center at Ft. Leavenworth
- * Musical performances from the Kansas City Symphony Chorus and The American Legion Band of Greater Kansas City Wind Ensemble
- * Presentation of colors from the Missouri National Guard
- * Benediction/Invocation by Chaplain Col. Barbara Sherer

Walk of Honor Dedication Ceremony

When: 2 p.m., Friday, Nov. 11

Where: J.C. Nichols Auditorium at the National World War I Museum and Memorial

What: Nearly 100 new Walk of Honor granite bricks will be dedicated during a special ceremony.

Complimentary Tours

When: 10:30, 11:30, 12:30, 1:20, 2:30, Saturday & Sunday, Nov. 12-13

Where: Start at Paul Sunderland Glass Bridge

What: Explore the Main Gallery with one of our knowledgeable Museum Guides on a tour (RSVP required)

Hands-on-History

When: 11 a.m., Saturday, Nov. 12

Where: Near the Paul Sunderland Glass Bridge

What: History is brought to life during this family-friendly program, where kids of all ages are invited to handle Great War artifacts.

Veterans Pen Celebration

When: 2 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 12

Where: J.C. Nichols Auditorium at the National World War I Museum and Memorial

What: Celebrating 70 years of service, the Veterans Voices Writing Project invites the public to attend a program featuring veteran/author Lou Eisenbrandt (“Vietnam Nurse: Mending and Remembering”) and the production “Voices of Veterans – 70 Years of Writing” from Arts & AGEing KC.

John McCutcheon in Concert

When: 7 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 12

Where: J.C. Nichols Auditorium at the National World War I Museum and Memorial

What: Folk musician John McCutcheon performs songs from his expansive catalog live in this one night only Veterans Day holiday event as he presents music, stories and remembrances. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Cash bar and small plates will be available. Tickets are \$25 for the public and \$22 for Museum and Cross Current Members. Tickets are available at theworldwar.org

Hesburgh Lecture – The 1916 Rising: Therapy for Ireland?

When: 2 p.m., Sunday, November 13

Where: Kansas City Irish Center

What: Notre Dame Professor of History Rory Rapple examines the context in which the 1916 Rising took place and the logic behind the actions of the rebels who were responsible for what contemporaries called “The Crazy Rebellion.”

Veterans Day Weekend Hours and Parking

The National World War I Museum and Memorial will be open from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. on Friday, November 11 (Veterans Day) and 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 12-13. To accommodate expected high attendance on Veterans Day (Nov. 11), a parking shuttle service is available from the West Yards Garage at Union Station (parking fees apply).

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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.

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