

# THE NATIONAL WWI MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL

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## News Release

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## **Memorial Day Weekend Events to Honor Nation's Heroes at the National World War I Museum and Memorial May 27-30**

**Free admission for Veterans/Active Duty Military Personnel &  
Half-Price Admission for the General Public All Weekend**

### **Summary of Memorial Day Weekend Events to Honor Our Nation's Heroes at the National World War I Museum and Memorial May 27-30**

- \* **Free admission for veterans/active duty military and half-price admission for the general public (Friday-Monday, May 27-30)**
- \* **Vintage military vehicle display of nearly 20 vehicles from World War I, World War II, Korean War and Operation Desert Storm (Saturday-Sunday; 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.) and Vietnam War (Saturday-Monday; 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.)**
- \* **Hands-on History program where children of all ages are invited to handle Great War artifacts (Saturday, May 28; 11 a.m.)**
- \* **Storytime: Poppies family-friendly event (Saturday, May 28; 1 p.m.)**
- \* **Wounded Warriors Family Support High Five Tour vehicle display (Sunday-Monday, May 29-30; 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.)**
- \* **USFAA Truman Chapter Ruck March, free spectator event on the North Lawn of the Museum (Monday, May 30; 8 a.m.)**
- \* **Pancake breakfast benefitting the National World War I Museum and Memorial (Monday, May 30; 9-11 a.m.)**
- \* **Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II, Kansas City Mayor Sly James, Jackson County Executive Frank White expected for public Memorial Day Ceremony in the Memorial Courtyard featuring keynote address from former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Kansas City native General (Ret.) Richard Myers (Monday, May 30; 10 a.m.)**
- \* **Nearly 100 New "Walk of Honor" Bricks to be dedicated during ceremony featuring Rear Admiral (Ret.) Stanton Thompson, former Arlington National Cemetery "Old Guard" member and former Director of the Army Center for Lessons Learned Colonel (Ret.)**

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Thomas Roe, patriotic songs and presentation of all new honorees (Monday, May 30; 2 p.m.)

- \* **Opportunity to view recently opened special exhibitions *They Shall Not Pass | 1916*, [The Volunteers: Americans Join World War I 1914-1919](#) and [Images of the Great War: European Offensives 1914-1916](#).**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** (May 23, 2016) – The National World War I Museum and Memorial is America’s only museum dedicated to examining the personal experiences of the Great War and its enduring impact. As the commemoration of the Centennial of World War I (2014-19) continues, the Museum serves as a fitting place to honor and recognize the men and women who sacrificed their lives while serving their country during Memorial Day weekend.

Admission to the Museum is free for veterans and active duty military personnel, while admission for the general public is half-price all weekend (Friday-Monday). The Museum offers nearly 10 events during the course of the weekend for people of all ages and interests, including a free public ceremony at 10 a.m. on Memorial Day featuring former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Kansas City native General (Ret.) Richard Myers.

Free admission for veterans/active duty military personnel is made possible by Park University. Half-price admission on Saturday is courtesy of Lead Bank. Additional support for Memorial Day Weekend activities was provided by Armed Forces Insurance, the Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund of Kansas City, Mo., and KFKF.

## **Vietnam Era Bell UH-1 Iroquois “Huey” Helicopter Display**

**When:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, May 28 – Monday, May 30

**Where:** Southeast Lawn at the National World War I Museum and Memorial

**What:** The Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter #243 will provide an iconic Bell UH-1 Iroquois “Huey” helicopter for display. Free to the public.

## **Vintage Military Vehicle Display**

**When:** 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, May 28 – Sunday, May 29

**Where:** Southeast Lawn at the National World War I Museum and Memorial

**What:** The Military Vehicle Preservation Association (MVPA) will display nearly 20 vintage military vehicles from World War I, World War II, Korean War and Operation Desert Storm. MVPA members will be available to answer questions about their collection. Free to the public.

## **Hands-on History**

**When:** 11 a.m., Saturday, May 28

**Where:** Near Paul Sunderland Glass Bridge at the National World War I Museum and Memorial

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

## **Storytime: Poppies**

**When:** 1 p.m., Saturday, May 28

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

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**What:** Inspired by John McCrae's poem "In Flanders Fields," American Moina Michael gave rise to the use of the poppy as a symbol of remembrance. Come hear her story and make your own poppy pin in this family friendly event. Free to the public.

## **Wounded Warriors Family Support High Five Tour Vehicle Display**

**When:** 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sunday May 29 – Monday, May 30

**Where:** South Walkway Entrance, Walk of Honor Section at the National World War I Museum and Memorial

**What:** During a four month tour, a 2016 Ford Shelby GT350 will travel more than 26,000 miles across the United States, traveling to more than 100 cities and making stops in 48 states. People of all walks of life are invited and encouraged to show their support for military families by signing the tour vehicles with a message of support. Free to the public.

## **Ruck March**

**When:** 8 a.m., Monday, May 30

**Where:** North lawn at the National World War I Museum and Memorial

**What:** The Truman Chapter of the U.S. Field Artillery Association hosts a 5k and 15k Ruck March. A Ruck March, also called a "forced march" or a "hump," involves walking at a fast clip over rugged terrain with a weighted backpack. In the Armed Forces, participants carry at least 45 lbs. in their backpack, in addition to their helmet, canteens, shoulder harness and weapon. Free for spectators.

## **National World War I Museum and Memorial Benefit Pancake Breakfast**

**When:** 9-11 a.m., Monday, May 30

**Where:** Over There Café at the National World War I Museum and Memorial

**What:** Enjoy some flapjacks (or biscuits and gravy!) in a unique setting during a pancake feed with proceeds benefiting the National World War I Museum and Memorial. The meals are \$8 for adults and \$5 for children and include a beverage.

## **Memorial Day Ceremony**

**When:** 10-11 a.m., Monday, May 30

**Where:** Memorial Courtyard (in front of Memory Hall) at the National World War I Museum and Memorial

**What:** A formal public program to include:

- \* Remarks from dignitaries including U.S. Missouri Fifth District Representative Emanuel Cleaver, II, Kansas City, Missouri Mayor Sylvester "Sly" James (a former U.S. Marine) and Jackson County Executive Frank White
- \* Keynote address from former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Kansas City native General (Ret.) Richard Myers
- \* Musical performances from the American Legion Band and vocalist Molly Hammer
- \* Honor Guard presentation from Whiteman Air Force Base

## **Walk of Honor Dedication Ceremony**

**When:** 2 p.m., Monday, May 30

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

**What:** More than 100 new Walk of Honor granite bricks will be dedicated during a special ceremony. Entertainment will include performances from the Lyric Opera performance group Veterans Who Love to Sing + Singers Who Love Veterans, remarks from Rear Admiral (Ret.) Stanton Thompson and former Arlington National Cemetery "Old Guard" member and former Director of The Army Center for Lessons Learned Colonel (Ret.) Thomas Roe. The Walk of Honor, now more than 10,000 bricks strong, is divided into three sections: bricks dedicated solely to those who served in World War I; bricks dedicated to veterans of any military service; and bricks that honor civilian friends, family or

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organizations. Walk of Honor bricks are dedicated twice each year during Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies.

## **Memorial Day Weekend Hours and Parking**

The National World War I Museum and Memorial will be open from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Friday-Sunday and from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. on Monday. To accommodate expected high Memorial Day weekend attendance, a parking shuttle service will be available on Monday, May 30 from the West Yards Garage at Union Station from 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

## **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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