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**Press Release**  
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## **National World War I Museum and Memorial Announces Appointment of UMB Financial Corporation's Ram Shankar to Board**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – The National World War I Museum and Memorial announced the appointment of Ram Shankar of UMB Financial Corporation to its Board of Trustees today.

“It’s fitting that the National World War I Museum welcomes Ram to the board as the international spotlight continues to shine on the Museum and Kansas City during the centennial commemoration of the Great War,” National World War I Museum and Memorial President and CEO Dr. Matthew Naylor said. “We’re excited to add Ram’s talents to our Board of Trustees and to gain his insight as we continue toward the conclusion of another record-breaking year of attendance and interest in the Museum.”

Shankar is the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for UMB Financial Corporation. His responsibilities include corporate and regional finance, corporate treasury, regulatory reporting, strategic planning and investor relations, as well as management and board reporting.

A native of India as well as a U.S. citizen, Shankar joined UMB in 2016 after nearly 20 years of financial services industry experience at First Niagara Financial Group, FBR Capital Markets and M&T Bank Corporation. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in electrical and electronics engineering from the Birla Institute of Tech & Sciences in Pilani, India and his Master of Business Administration from Rochester Institute of Technology.

Shankar joins the Museum’s board as the organization is on pace to break its annual attendance record for the fourth-consecutive year. Through August, the Museum’s attendance is nearly 15-percent ahead of its pace in 2016. Since 2013, the Museum has seen a nearly 60-percent overall increase in attendance.

The National World War I Museum and Memorial 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 personal experiences of the war. The Museum has maintained its status as Trip Advisor’s No. 1 attraction in Kansas City since 2007, ranks as one of TripAdvisor’s top 25 Museums in the United States, and was recognized as the No. 5 museum in the country by Yelp.

**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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