News Release
Tuesday, September 15, 2015

Contact:
Mike Vietti, National World War I Museum and Memorial, 816-888-8122, mvietti@theworldwar.org

National World War I Museum and Memorial Named
One of Top 25 Museums in the United States by TripAdvisor

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – TripAdvisor, the world’s largest travel site, named the National World War I Museum and Memorial among the top 25 museums in the United States as part of its 2015 Travelers’ Choice awards.

The National World War I Museum and Memorial, which houses the most diverse collection of World War I objects in the world, earned a No. 21 ranking from TripAdvisor among the more than 35,000 museums in the U.S. The Museum was one of only five recognized on the top 25 list from the Midwest and the only museum from Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa or Arkansas to receive the distinction. The recognition is the second for the Museum, which improved two places from its No. 23 ranking in 2014. Less than 1 percent of organizations listed on TripAdvisor earn Travelers’ Choice status.

“Once again, we are thrilled to share this terrific recognition with the entire Kansas City community,” said Dr. Matthew Naylor, National World War I Museum and Memorial President and CEO. “We are incredibly proud that America’s only official World War I museum and memorial resides here in Kansas City because of the continued and tremendous support from area residents.”

Travelers’ Choice awards honor top travel spots worldwide based on the quantity and quality of reviews and ratings for museums worldwide, gathered over a 12-month period.

“Honoring nearly 600 institutions worldwide, the Travelers’ Choice awards have recognized the favorite museums that serve as cultural treasure troves for our community of millions,” said Barbara Messing, chief marketing officer for TripAdvisor. “These world-class museums provide an enriching experience that can be both inspiring and educational for travelers around the globe.”

In the midst of the Centennial commemoration of World War I (1914-19), the National World War I Museum and Memorial is on pace to break its previous attendance record (235,271) set in 2014. The Museum currently offers several exhibitions in conjunction with the Centennial, including Sand to Snow: Global War 1915, A Centenary of Australian War Art and Drawn to War - The Political Cartoons of Louis Raemaekers.

Noteworthy upcoming events at the Museum include the inaugural Night at the Tower (Saturday, Sept. 19 – limited tickets available via theworldwar.org), the second annual KC Games for Good from the Kansas City Plaza Rotary Club (Saturday, Sept. 19, Noon-5 p.m.) and the latest event in the monthly In the Know series (Sunday, Sept. 20, 2 p.m.) featuring Kip Linberg from the U.S. Army Chemical Corps Museum discussing the development of chemical warfare in history.

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.

###