



THE NATIONAL
WWI MUSEUM
AND MEMORIAL

News Release

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Contacts:

Elaina Boudreau, BELA Communications, (913) 660-0548, eboudreau@belapr.com

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

**Memorial Day Weekend Events Honor Nation's
Heroes at the National World War I Museum and Memorial May 26-29**

**The Museum Invites the Public to Discover Personal Connections to WWI through
Research Stations**

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

Summary of Memorial Day Weekend Events

- * Free admission for veterans/active duty military and half-price admission for the general public (Friday-Monday, May 26-29)
- * Research Stations featuring Fold3.com, Ancestry.com, the Museum's online collections database, records from the American Battlefield Monuments Commission records and the National Archives to help individuals find their World War I connection (Friday-Monday, May 26-29)
- * Vintage military vehicle display of nearly 20 vehicles from World War II, Korean War and Operation Desert Storm (Saturday, May 27; 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.) and the Vietnam War (Friday-Monday, May 26-29; 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.)
- * *Fields of Battle, Lands of Peace* walking tours with acclaimed photographer Michael St Maur Sheil (Saturday-Sunday, May 27-28; 10:30 a.m./3:30 p.m. & Monday, May 29; 3:30 p.m.)
- * Hands-on History program where people of all ages are invited to handle Great War artifacts (Saturday, May 27; 2 p.m.)
- * 35th Infantry Division Band Concert (Saturday, May 27; 2 p.m.)
- * Finding Your WWI Connection program with Dr. Mitch Yockelson of the National Archives in Washington D.C. (Sunday, May 28; 2 p.m.)
- * Pancake breakfast benefitting the National World War I Museum and Memorial (Monday, May 29; 9-11 a.m.)
- * Congressman Emanuel Cleaver II, Kansas City Mayor Sly James expected for public Memorial Day Ceremony in the Memorial Courtyard **featuring keynote address from internationally renowned photographer Michael St**



Maur Sheil, whose contemporary portraits of WWI battlefields are on exhibit in the Memorial Courtyard
(Monday, May 29; 10 a.m.)

- * More than 100 New “Walk of Honor” Bricks to be dedicated during ceremony featuring Dr. Mitch Yockelson, the Heartland Men’s Chorus, an Honor Guard presentation from Ft. Leavenworth and new honorees
(Monday, May 29; 2 p.m.)
- * Opportunity to view recently opened special exhibitions: [Revolutions! 1917](#), [Fields of Battle, Lands of Peace: The Doughboys 1917-1918](#), [Vive l’Amérique: French Children Welcome Their American Ally](#) and [Posters as Munitions, 1917](#).

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (DATE, 2017) – As the commemoration of the Centennial of World War I (2014-19) continues, the National World War I Museum and Memorial 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. Additionally, the Museum invites the public to “find your World War I connection” and discover how the Great War affected your family through records, photographs and more with a variety of programs throughout the 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, May 26-29). The Museum offers several 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 renowned photographer Michael St Maur Sheil. St Maur Sheil’s exhibitions of contemporary photographs of World War I battlefields have been seen by millions of people across the world and are currently featured in the exhibition [Fields of Battle, Lands of Peace: The Doughboys 1917-1918](#) at the Museum.

Free admission for veterans and active duty military personnel is made possible by U.S. Bank. Half-price admission on Friday is courtesy of Sports Radio 810 WHB. Additional support for Memorial Day Weekend activities was provided by Armed Forces Insurance and the Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund of Kansas City, Mo.

WORLD WAR I RESEARCH STATIONS

When: All Day, Friday-Sunday, May 26-29

Where: Outside J.C. Nichols Auditorium Lobby

What: Find your connection to World War I during Memorial Day weekend through research stations at the Museum. With access to multiple databases including, Fold3.com, Ancestry.com, the Museum’s online collections database, the American Battlefield Monuments Commission and the National Archives, discover how the Great War affected your family through records, photographs and much more. FREE to the public.

VIETNAM ERA BELL UH-1 IROQUOIS “HUEY” HELICOPTER DISPLAY

When: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday, May 27 – Monday, May 29

Where: Rectangular Drive 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 27

Where: Southeast Lawn outside 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 II, Korean War and Operation Desert Storm. MVPA members will be available to answer questions about their collection. Availability subject to weather. FREE to the public.

FIELDS OF BATTLE, LANDS OF PEACE TOURS

When: 10:30 a.m. & 3:30 p.m., Saturday-Sunday, May 27-28; 3:30 p.m. Monday, May 29

Where: Tours begin at Guest Services inside the National World War I Museum and Memorial

What: Join award-winning photojournalist and curator Michael St Maur Sheil on a brief walking tour of the special centennial outdoor exhibition *Fields of Battle, Lands of Peace: The Doughboys 1917-1918*. Hear the stories behind the incredible contemporary photographs. Book purchase suggested and reservation required. Limited space available. FREE to the public.

2017 BATTLEFIELD TOUR: THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME

When: Noon, Saturday, May 27

Where: R.A. Long Education Center

What: What's it like to experience the battlefields of World War I in person? Find out details of the upcoming commemorative journey to breathtaking places in Europe with the National World War I Museum and Memorial and Battlefield Tour guide/photojournalist Michael St Maur Sheil. Museum staff will be on hand to answer questions. FREE with RSVP.

HANDS-ON HISTORY

When: 2 p.m., Saturday, May 27

Where: Near Paul Sunderland Glass Bridge inside 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.

35TH INFANTRY DIVISION BAND CONCERT

When: 2 p.m., Saturday, May 27

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

What: The Museum proudly welcomes the 35th Infantry Division Band for a rousing concert to commemorate those who have served and perished in our country's armed forces. Comprised of professional musicians, educators, and college students, the 35th ID Band performs for more than 100,000 citizens annually, sharing the Army's story with the public through music. FREE to the public.

BANK OF AMERICA CELEBRATION AT THE STATION

When: 3 p.m., Sunday, May 28 (concert begins at 8 p.m.)

Where: North Lawn outside the National World War I Museum and Memorial

What: Kick off your summer with the largest free Memorial Day weekend event in the Midwest. The Kansas City Symphony, led by Music Director Michael Stern, performs patriotic favorites against the backdrop of Kansas City's historic Union Station. Celebration at the Station concludes with a fireworks display over the Liberty Memorial at the National World War I Museum and Memorial. FREE to the public.

FINDING YOUR WWI CONNECTION

When: 2 p.m., Sunday, May 28



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

What: Many Americans had family members who served overseas during the Great War. Others had family members who were German or Austrian immigrants affected by U.S. immigration policies during wartime. In this introductory session to WWI research, Dr. Mitch Yockelson will offer some hints and tips on how to go about researching relatives that may have served or been affected during the war. Information on how to request copies of military service files via the National Archives will also be available. Presented in partnership with The National Archives at Kansas City. FREE with RSVP.

NATIONAL WORLD WAR I MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL BENEFIT PANCAKE BREAKFAST

When: 9-11 a.m., Monday, May 29

Where: Over There Café, inside the National World War I Museum and Memorial

What: Enjoy some flapjacks (with hashbrowns and sausage/bacon) in a unique setting during a pancake feed with proceeds benefiting the National World War I Museum and Memorial. The meals are \$9 for adults and \$5 for children (12 and under) and include a beverage.

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

When: 10-11 a.m., Monday, May 29

Where: Memorial Courtyard outside 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 and Missouri Mayor Sylvester “Sly” James (a former U.S. Marine), a keynote address Michael St Maur Sheil, musical performances from the Heartland Men’s Chorus and the 1st Infantry Division Wood Wind Quintet and an Honor Guard presentation from Ft. Leavenworth. FREE to the public.

WALK OF HONOR DEDICATION CEREMONY

When: 2 p.m., Monday, May 29

Where: J.C. Nichols Auditorium inside 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 includes a performance from the Heartland Men’s Chorus, remarks from archivist, military historian and author Dr. Mitch Yockelson and an Honor Guard presentation from Ft. Leavenworth. 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 organizations. Walk of Honor bricks are dedicated twice each year during Memorial Day and Veterans Day ceremonies. FREE to the public.

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 Saturday, May 27 and Sunday, May 28 from 9:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. from the West Yards Garage at Union Station and on Monday, May 29 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.

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