

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 20, 2018

**FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL WWII MEMORIAL TO HOLD  
3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL TEACHERS CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON, DC**

*Teachers Conference is an extension of nonprofit organization's education efforts to honor and preserve the national memory of World War II and to create the next "Greatest Generation" of tomorrow.*

**Washington, D.C.** – Nearly 50 educators will be making the journey to Washington, DC next week for the Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Teachers Conference at Georgetown University Hotel and Conference Center. The 5-day conference will take place from Tuesday, July 24 to Saturday, July 28, 2018. The theme for this year's conference is "Struggle for National Unity in World War II: Perspectives and Lessons," addressing the complex, and sometimes contradictory, theme of unity viewed through the historical experience of Americans in World War II.

The conference will feature sessions by fellow educators and other experts familiar with WWII history; tours of sites of WWII significance; personal discussions with WWII veterans; and a remembrance ceremony at the WWII Memorial. During the conference, participants will be exposed to a broad spectrum of WWII history resources and tools aimed at educating current and future generations about the everyday men and women whose character, courage, creativity, determination, and innovation not only led to the winning of the war, but also transformed America.

African American female WWII veteran Vivian "Millie" Bailey will speak to the group of educators about her personal experiences during the war. Mrs. Bailey, now 100-years-old, joined the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (later the Women's Army Corps) in 1942 and was commissioned as an officer soon thereafter, serving as the commander of her unit. Jewish American WWII veterans Dr. Jack Goldstein and Sigmond "Sig" Alman will join the teachers for a special tour of the National Museum of American Jewish Military History before sitting down with the group for a discussion about their personal experiences during WWII. Dr. Goldstein flew in 25 combat missions of Germany in the Army Air Corps, 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force, 381<sup>st</sup> Bomb Group, 535<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron. Mr. Alman served with the Navy on the USS Monterey (CVL 26), an aircraft carrier in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, as a radar operator in the Combat Information Center.

At the heart of the Friends' Teachers Network and Conference program is the concept of community service. Friends hopes conference participants will return to their schools and communities with the ability and desire to empower America's young people with a heightened sense of community, civic engagement, and personal responsibility to renew the spirit of unity and shared purpose, which defined the character of our country during the war years. Therefore, each participant will be expected to enlist their students to fulfill a community service obligation within their communities in the year following the conference.

**About Friends of the National World War II Memorial ([www.wwiimemorialfriends.org](http://www.wwiimemorialfriends.org)):** Founded in 2007, the Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to honoring and preserving the national memory of World War II and to creating the next "Greatest Generation" of tomorrow. To meet this mission, Friends sponsors an annual public lecture series featuring prominent historians; hosts an annual teachers conference in Washington, DC; and collects and archives video interviews of World War II veterans and other members of the Greatest Generation. Additionally, Friends has the lead responsibility in planning, staging, and funding five or more major national commemorative events annually and is currently sponsoring a national four-year World War II 75th anniversary commemoration. Friends relies on private support to breathe new life into the Memorial and to ensure that it continues to serve as a living lesson for all Americans.

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For media inquiries:

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