

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL WWII MEMORIAL TO HOST  
2ND ANNUAL TEACHERS CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON, DC**

*Conference is extension of Friends of the National WWII Memorial's continuing efforts  
to honor and preserve the national memory of the World War II.*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – The Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) will hold its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Teachers Conference at Georgetown University Hotel and Conference Center in Washington, DC from Tuesday, July 25 to Saturday, July 29, 2017. The theme for this year's conference is "*WWII: The Transformation of America.*"

The conference will feature nine sessions by fellow educators and other experts familiar with WWII history; four tours of sites of WWII significance; a panel discussion featuring WWII Veterans; a panel discussion featuring the men and women whose fathers were killed during WWII; and a remembrance ceremony at the WWII Memorial. Each participant who takes part in the full conference will receive a certificate for 26 continuing education credits.

Friends selected more than 50 educators, from the nearly 100 applicants, nationwide to participate in this 5-day conference. The educators hail from 18 different states and the District of Columbia and represent a cross-section of curriculum studies at the middle and high school and college levels.

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.

At the heart of the Friends' Teachers Network and Conference program is the concept of community service.

Friends expects conference participants to 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 and 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 required to have their students complete a community service project obligation within their communities in the year following the conference.

The Friends of the National World War II Memorial's education programs are generously supported by the *Jack C. Taylor / Enterprise Rent-A-Car WWII Memorial Education Endowment*. The late Jack Taylor served his country as a U.S. Navy fighter pilot in the skies over the Pacific in World War II. Then, as did so many members of The Greatest Generation, he returned home to raise a family and start a business. The company he eventually founded – Enterprise Holdings – grew from a tiny start-up to become one of the business world's great success stories. Enterprise Holdings remains a privately held and family owned business today, with the third generation of the Taylor family beginning to take leadership.

**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. 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 and staging five or more major national commemorative events annually and each summer sponsors a dozen free public performances of military bands at the Memorial. 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:

**Friends of the National World War II Memorial**

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