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Achievements and Gratitude: A Year-End Update from Your Friends of the National World War II Memorial Thank You for Your 2024 Support - Together, We're Keeping History Alive!

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sacrifices are never forgotten. 2024 Accomplishments – Made Possible by You This year, the National World War II Memorial in Washington, DC welcomed over 5

million visitors from across the nation and around the globe, serving as a timeless symbol of sacrifice, freedom, and unity.

Greatest Generation Commemorative Coins In partnership with the United States Mint, we proudly supported the 2024 Greatest Generation Commemorative Coin Program—a tribute to those who defended liberty

and democracy. With nearly \$1 million raised, proceeds will help with the Memorial's

maintenance, repairs, and educational and commemorative programming, ensuring

With the support of a \$2 million grant from Lilly Endowment Inc., Friends

successfully restored the Circle of Remembrance and added President Franklin D.

Roosevelt's D-Day Prayer in 2023. These enhancements came to life in 2024 through

solemn name readings and powerful ceremonies marking the 80th anniversaries of

D-Day and the Battle of the Bulge. These events reinforced the Memorial's role as a

this sacred site continues to inspire future generations.

Preserving and Enhancing the Memorial

space for reflection, remembrance, and education. **Commemorating the Greatest Generation** Throughout 2024, Friends hosted in-person and virtual ceremonies on V-E Day, Memorial Day, V-J Day, Veterans Day, and Pearl Harbor Day.

We also marked the 80th anniversaries of D-Day and the Battle of the Bulge, and

celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Memorial's dedication with moving wreath-

layings, name readings, and tributes to the 16 million Americans who served during

WWII, including the 400,000 who made the ultimate sacrifice.

It was a privilege to welcome dozens of WWII veterans to these commemorations, and we invite you to view these special moments, available on our website. **UNITY Award Presentation**

We proudly honored Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, the "Mother of the WWII

Memorial," with the 2024 Brigadier General Charles E. McGee Unity Award during

the Memorial's 20th Anniversary Commemoration. Her leadership and vision helped

make this Memorial a reality. Be sure to watch this inspiring tribute on our website.

Teaching the Lessons of Yesterday to Unite the Generations of Tomorrow Education remained at the heart of our mission in 2024.

understanding of World War II's lasting impact.

inspire future generations.

Our Monthly Virtual Conference Series featured WWII veterans, war orphans, authors, and historians, bringing extraordinary WWII stories to life through free, interactive programs. These sessions, available in perpetuity on

our website and YouTube channel, ensure that their lessons continue to educate and

Classroom visits led by Resident Historian Alex Kershaw reinforced the values of

courage, sacrifice, and unity, providing students with engaging, personal insights into

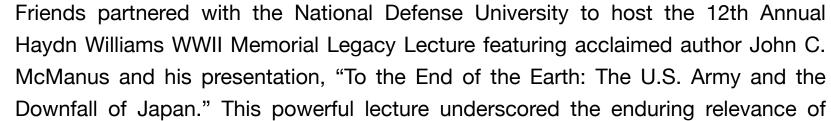
WWII history. Friends also expanded learning resources by publishing monthly

The 9th Annual Summer Teachers Conference empowered educators with tools and

resources to inspire service projects and enrich their curricula, fostering a deeper

essays and Top 10 WWII Significance Lists authored by the Resident Historian, offering fresh perspectives on the war's defining moments. The Jack C. Taylor / Enterprise Rent-A-Car WWII Memorial Education Endowment plays a pivotal role in ensuring these programs remain accessible online for years to come, preserving history and promoting education for future generations.





Travel, Connection, and Community

Looking Ahead to 2025

remembrance and reflection.

Memorial, and educate future generations.

Together, let's honor the past and inspire the future.

WWII history.

Haydn Williams WWII Memorial Legacy Lecture

Allied forces as they liberated Europe. The "Last Battles" tour explored the Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxembourg, immersing travelers in the final months of the war and the stories of resilience and triumph. Both journeys, led by Friends' Resident Historian Alex Kershaw, provided deeply moving and educational experiences, strengthening connections to the history we are dedicated to preserving. Exciting new tours for 2025 are already in the works! Friends also partnered with the National Archives to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge with a program featuring discussions with

veterans Colonel Frank Cohn and Harry Miller. This powerful event honored their

We further preserved WWII stories by recording veteran interviews, celebrating

milestone birthdays, and sharing profiles on social media to inspire pride and

courage and sacrifices, preserving their stories for future generations.

Friends offered two unforgettable travel programs in 2024. The "Victory in Europe"

tour took participants to London, Normandy, and Paris, retracing the heroic steps of

gratitude. Our dedicated volunteers remained central to our mission, assisting with ceremonies, name readings, and outreach efforts. Their devotion demonstrated the enduring power of community and remembrance.

As we enter the new year, we remain committed to preserving the legacy of the

Greatest Generation, teaching history's lessons, and uniting generations in

Your ongoing support powers our mission and ensures the stories of World War II continue to inspire. If you feel moved to strengthen this effort, we invite you to make a donation today to help us continue our commemorative programs, preserve the

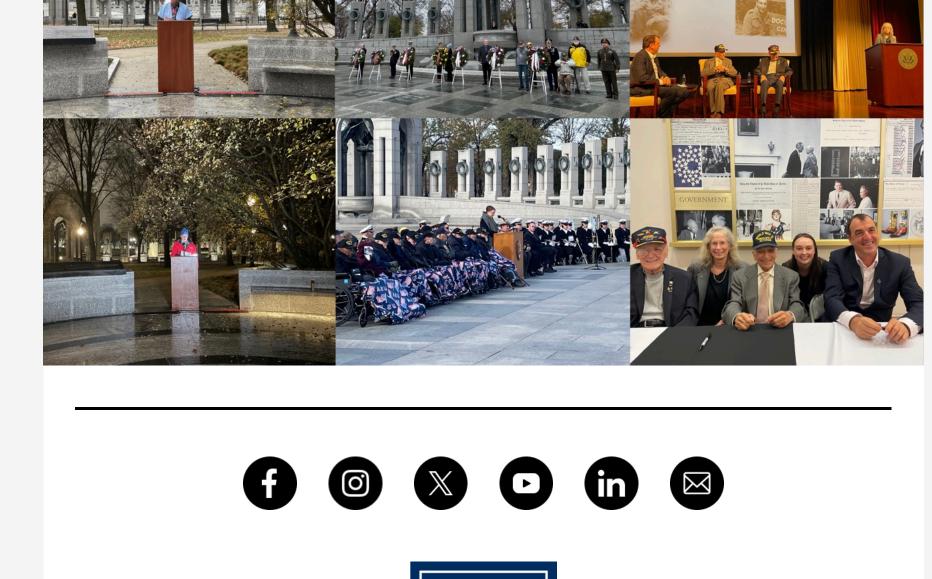
We can't wait to see you—in person or online—at the World War II Memorial in 2025.

With gratitude and hope,

Your Friends at the National World War II Memorial

Honor Their Legacy—Donate Today!







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