

# 2022 SERVICE:

# Laying the Groundwork for 2023 and Beyond









The mark of a great nonprofit is the reach of its mission. Thanks to your support, we are gaining ground every day. In 2022, nearly half

In 2022, nearly half a million\* people accessed Virginia War Memorial programs on-site, online, and on air. **OUR MISSION** is to support the Virginia War Memorial in its efforts to **preserve** the stories of veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice, to **honor** all veterans and active-duty military, and to **inspire** love of country through education.

**OUR VISION** is that a global audience will recognize the valor and sacrifice of Virginia's military veterans in the pursuit of liberty, democracy, justice, and peace for all.

# PRESERVING the Stories of Veterans

Oral Histories — Grant funding from the Alfred duPont Trust has made it possible to begin the laborious process of transcribing what is possibly the largest single trove of veteran oral histories in Virginia, many from World War II veterans.





Virtual Shrine of Memory — A searchable database to identify any of the nearly 12,000 individuals remembered at the Memorial will soon be available on our website. The Shrine of Memory at the Virginia War Memorial honors the service of the Virginia men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in World War II, and in the wars in Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf. Those Virginians killed during the Global War on Terrorism in Iraq, Afghanistan, Lebanon, and other locations throughout the world are also memorialized.

The Virginians at War Documentary Film Series — This award-winning film series includes 26 films, telling the stories

of military and cultural history through firsthand accounts from veterans and families. They are available online at no cost and distributed to schools across Virginia with lesson plans. They bridge the gap between third-person textbook entries and first-person participant accounts.



Our 2022 documentary, produced by Cinebar Productions

Our 2022 documentary, *Known but to God: The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier*, marked the 2021 centennial of this beloved American monument at Arlington National Cemetery.

Our 2023 documentary, *One Week in October*, will focus on the 40th anniversary of the week in 1983 that included two fateful events: the bombing of the U.S. Marine Corps Barracks in Beirut and the U.S. invasion of Grenada during Operation Urgent Fury.

Mighty Pen Project — Now in its 10th year, this program offers intensive writing classes to help and encourage veterans to commit to paper their memories and reflections that tell the larger story of American military service around the world. The natural extension of this tuition-free writing program has been a playwriting class. Four one-act plays are selected from the class for our *War in Pieces* stage production. The cast for the 2023 production consists of more than 30 percent military veterans,













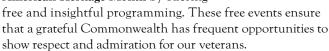
#### With Public Programs

Special commemorations on Memorial Day, 9/11 Patriot Day, Veterans Day, K-9 Veterans Day, POW/MIA Recognition Day, and Pearl Harbor Day feature musical programs, keynote speakers, and recognition for veterans and their families.

Hill of Heroes Day (above) is a community activity beginning in June and extending over the Independence Day weekend.

It is an inspirational tribute to our fallen veterans. American flags are planted on our grounds to recognize the nearly 12,000 names etched on our Shrine of Memory.

We observe African American History Month, Women's History Month, the Month of the Military Child, Asian American and Pacific Heritage Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, and Native American Heritage Month by offering



LEFT: Veteran Patients Week — Volunteers across the state wrote thank-you cards to remember our veterans receiving medical treatment.



#### With Exhibitions

Who They Were: Lives Worth Knowing profiled 32 individuals (6 shown below) whose names are etched on our Shrine of Memory.

This poignant exhibit was on view during 2022 and is now available to travel.





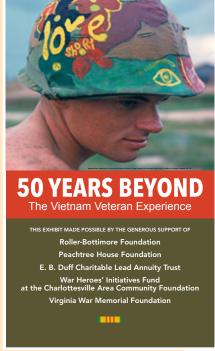






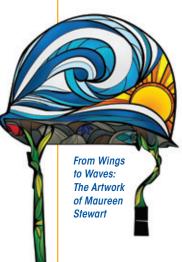




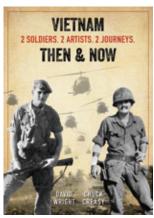


#### In the Veterans Art Gallery

Our changing exhibition program highlighting the work of veterans across all art mediums included:



Vietnam: 2 Soldiers. 2 Artists.
2 Journeys, Then & Now:
The Vietnam Art of David Wright
and Chuck Creasy (traveling
exhibition from the Monthaven
Arts and Cultural Center)





The Color of Freedom: Honoring the Diversity of America's Servicewomen (traveling exhibition from the Military Women's Memorial)

# Opening In the Veterans Art Gallery May 31, 2023:

Photography by Rich Davis, a Roanoke-based Navy veteran, whose work is primarily focused on landscape, night, and infrared photography My Art Is My Portrait: The Artwork of Charlie McConnell





### **INSPIRING Love of Country** through Education

SELECT HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022

**PROGRAMS** 

designed for students and teachers

**GUEST SPEAKERS** and partner organizations

**LIVESTREAMS** covering diverse topics ranging from the Battle of the Bulge to "The Evolution of the Unites States Flag," "The Conflict in Bosnia," "Holidays on the Home Front," "The American POW Experience," "Military Cuisine," and "Comics on the Battlefield" **COMMUNITY PROGRAMS** Schools awarded **ASSISTANCE GRANTS** for field trips

> **ADMIRAL JOHN MAROCCHI SCHOLARSHIPS** awarded to Virginia students entering an ROTC program at a Virginia university

\*400,000+ people accessed our programs: 250,000 online via vawarmemorial.org, YouTube, Vimeo, scholarscompass.vcu.edu, and other sites; 124,000 viewership of Memorial Day and Veterans Day commemorations: CBS6 Richmond, WTKR-TV Norfolk, and WDBJ Roanoke; 50,000 on-site; 5,000 community outreach.

#### **2022 Special Events**



We launched our At Ease on the Bus Insider Trips to give participants an opportunity to visit:

- Fort Lee, Fort Lee Ordnance The Tomb of the Training Center, U.S. Army Women's Museum, U.S. Army Quartermaster Museum, and Petersburg National Battlefield Park
- · Arlington National Cemetery and the U.S. Army Caisson Platoon
- Fort Belvoir and the National Museum of the U.S. Army



Our Leadership In America Speaker Series was strong in 2022 with four compelling talks:

- **Unknown Soldier:** A Century of Honor by Philip Bigler
- · From West Point to the World: The Army Museum Enterprise by Dr. James C. Kelly
- · Fat Boy and The Champagne Salesman by Rush Loving Jr.
- · China Rx: Exposing the Risks of America's Dependence on China for Medicine by Rosemary Gibson

Our annual Sips on the Skyline saluted Virginia's spirits industry, which includes many veteran-owned businesses.



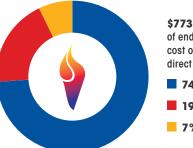


#### A Note about Our Financial Statements

As we went to press, the draft of the annual audit of our financial statements for the period ending December 31, 2022, had been reviewed. The numbers, which will be made available on our website when accepted by our board of directors, show a strong post-pandemic rebound. This was only possible because of the remarkable level of private support — from you and other like-minded people — for the Virginia War Memorial Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

Thank you.





\$773,550 - 2022 expenses net of endowment investments, cost of goods sold, and cost of direct benefits to donors

**74**% — Program expenses

19% — Management expenses

7% — Fundraising expenses