



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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**Encouraging Women to Pursue Careers in Science, Technology, Engineering
and Math Is Focus of Program at Virginia War Memorial**
Memorial Teaming with U.S. Army Women's Museum
To Explore Opportunities for Women in Military and Civilian Careers

(Richmond, Va.) The Virginia War Memorial will present a special program entitled, *Women in STEM: Respecting the Past, Navigating the Future*, Tuesday, March 31 from 5:30-7 p.m.

The program is free and the public is encouraged to attend.

Co-produced with the U.S. Army Women's Museum at Fort Lee to commemorate March as Women's History Month, the program will highlight the current educational emphasis on encouraging women to embrace opportunities in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) to build a more competitive civilian and military workforce.

According to Amanda Vtipilson, Education Curator at the U. S. Army Women's Museum, "Our program will focus on the accomplishments of women in STEM related fields. In the Army and other branches of the military, women have successfully worked in STEM related occupations for a very long time. Many of these women have used also these skills after separating from the service and entering civilian occupations."

Vtipilson noted that following a brief historical overview by members of the U.S. Army Women's Museum Education Team, Dr. Francoise Bonnell, the museum's director will moderate a panel discussion that will include participants from Fort Lee, DuPont, the Virginia Department of Education and VCU to give military and civilian business perspectives.

"We are pleased to partner with the Army Women's Museum on this program and hope that area teachers, guidance counselors, students, members of the technical and medical industries,

(more)

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human resource managers, and all who are interested in STEM will come and participate,” said Candi Shelton, Virginia War Memorial Education Director.

A reception with light refreshments will be held in the Grand Lobby of the Memorial’s Paul and Phyllis Galanti Education Center following the program, Shelton added.

For more information on the *Women in STEM* program, please visit www.vawarmemorial.org or call 804.786.2074.

About the Virginia War Memorial

The Virginia War Memorial’s mission is to *Honor Veterans, Preserve History, Educate Youth and Instill Patriotism in All*. Dedicated in 1956, the Memorial includes the names of the nearly 12,000 Virginia heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice during World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf and the Global War on Terror.

Situated on over four acres overlooking downtown Richmond and the James River at 621 South Belvidere St., the Virginia War Memorial also includes the Paul and Phyllis Galanti Education Center which houses military-related exhibits, programs and theaters showing the award-winning *Virginians At War* video series and the multi-dimensional film, *Into Battle*. For more information, call 804-786-2060 or visit www.vawarmemorial.org or www.facebook.com/virginiawarmemorial.

About the U. S. Army Women’s Museum

The U.S. Army Women's Museum, located at Fort Lee, VA is the only museum in the world dedicated to Army women. It was located at Ft McClellan, Alabama in 1955 until it was moved to its present location and reopened in May 2001. The Museum honors women's contributions to the Army telling their stories with interactive exhibits and videos throughout the gallery.

Admission to the Museum is free and open to the public. The Museum is located at 2100 A Avenue Fort Lee, Virginia and is open Tuesday – Friday 10am to 5pm and Saturday 11am to 5pm. For more information call 804.734.4327, email usarmy.lee.tradoc.mbx.lee-awmweb@mail.mil or visit our website www.awm.lee.army.mil or Facebook page www.facebook.com/usarmywomensmuseum.

About the Virginia War Memorial Educational Foundation

The Virginia War Memorial Educational Foundation is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization dedicated to the support of the educational and patriotic programs of the Memorial. Donations to the Foundation from individuals, corporations, veterans groups and other organizations may be tax-deductible and are encouraged and appreciated. For more information, please visit www.vawarmemorial.org and click on *Get Involved*.

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