

# NATIONAL VETERANS MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM

Honor | Connect | Inspire | Educate

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**Veterans Memorial in Downtown Columbus officially designated the  
“National Veterans Memorial and Museum”**

The [National Veterans Memorial and Museum](#) Act, which designates the Veterans Memorial and Museum in Columbus, Ohio, as the National Veterans Memorial and Museum, has been signed into law by President Donald J. Trump. The bipartisan bill was initiated by Congressman Steve Stivers (U.S. House Ohio 15) and Congresswoman Joyce Beatty (U.S. House Ohio 3) and unanimously passed the House of Representatives in November 2017. Senators Rob Portman (U.S. Senate Ohio) and Sherrod Brown (U.S. Senate Ohio) cosponsored the legislation in the Senate, which passed it on June 6, 2018. This museum will be dedicated to honoring America’s veterans and educating the American people about their sacrifice

Currently under construction in Downtown Columbus, [The Columbus Downtown Development Corporation \(CDDC\)](#) is managing the project, leading the design, construction, exhibit development and fundraising elements.

“The National Veterans Memorial and Museum will be a world-class destination, featuring an iconic design and meaningful exhibition programs,” said Guy V. Worley, President and CEO of CDDC. “With almost 21 million veterans alive today, it will serve as a civic landmark to honor, connect, inspire and educate visitors and Americans about the service and sacrifice of the country’s veterans and their families. We are grateful to Representatives Stivers and Beatty and Senators Portman and Brown for championing this legislation and making this designation a reality.

“Our veterans fought to protect our freedoms and ensure our way of life, and we are eternally grateful for their service to our country,” said Senator Portman. “It is important that future generations know about the selfless sacrifices made by so many men and women of the armed forces and their families.”

“Ohioans are grateful for the sacrifice and service of our veterans and their families,” said Senator Brown. “The National Veterans Memorial and Museum will honor all of America’s veterans and attract new attention to this important landmark.”

“This national designation represents what’s at the heart of the National Veterans Memorial and Museum – to celebrate the service and honor the sacrifice of all veterans and their families, regardless of branch, time or

location of service,” said recently named President and CEO, Lieutenant General Michael Ferriter (U.S. Army – Retired).

“Americans from all over the country will be able to come to Ohio honor and remember the sacrifice and service of our nation’s veterans at the National Veterans Memorial and Museum,” Stivers said. “I would like to thank all of the Members of the Ohio Delegation, as well as the Members of Congress from across the country who believed in this project and helped make this designation a reality. I am looking forward to celebrating the opening of America’s National Veterans Memorial and Museum soon.”

“The National Veterans Memorial and Museum will serve as a permanent landmark to the selfless service of so many brave Americans and as a memorial to all those who paid the ultimate sacrifice,” Congresswoman Beatty said.

This institution will be the first of its kind to focus exclusively on the veteran experience and the only place where the stories of American veterans, their families and the fallen – across all branches of service and all eras of conflict – will be told together.

“Individual stories and shared experiences of veterans will be the heartbeat running through each exhibit, celebrating the everyday heroes,” said Colonel Tom Moe, US Air Force (retired). “We want to focus the story here about the service of veterans, from Anchorage to Bangor to Miami to Austin and all points in between.”

The mission of the National Veterans Memorial and Museum is to:

- **Honor** Americans’ contributions to their country through military service.
- **Connect** civilians with veterans and their experiences.
- **Inspire** visitors to serve their community and nation as active, engaged citizens.
- **Educate** schoolchildren about the history and value of service via an interactive permanent exhibition that links directly to portions of educational standards.

## **About the National Veterans Memorial and Museum**

With nearly 21 million living veterans throughout the United States, from the Greatest Generation to recent heroes coming home from Afghanistan and Iraq, the time for America to remember and to honor its veterans is now.

The National Veterans Memorial and Museum (NVMM) is neither a war memorial nor a military branch of service museum. NVMM will take visitors on a narrative journey telling individual stories and shared experiences of veterans throughout history. It will pay tribute to the sacrifices of servicemen and women and their families. History will be presented in a dynamic, participatory experience with photos, letters and personal effects, multi-media presentations, and interactive exhibits. Together, these elements will link the national story to the larger context of world events since the country’s earliest days, and will demonstrate the importance of individuals in shaping history.

A first-in-class team has been involved in the development of this cultural institution. The Columbus Downtown Development Corporation has served as project manager, raising funds and leading the design, construction and opening efforts and managing a team of premier consultants, including Allied Works Architecture, Olin and Ralph Appelbaum Associates.

Construction began in December 2015, and the building is on schedule to open in fall 2018. Lieutenant General Michael Ferriter (U.S. Army, Retired), a three-star general with more than 35 years of service to his country that included three tours of duty in Iraq, was recently named the museum's first President and CEO.

While the opening of the museum is the first step, future plans for an educational online curriculum and an interactive, virtual tour experience will be key priorities moving forward.

Please visit [www.nationalvmm.org](http://www.nationalvmm.org) for more information.

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