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Author and Columbus' Own Wil Haygood to Launch Book on the Black Experience in Vietnam at National Veterans Memorial and Museum on Feb. 28

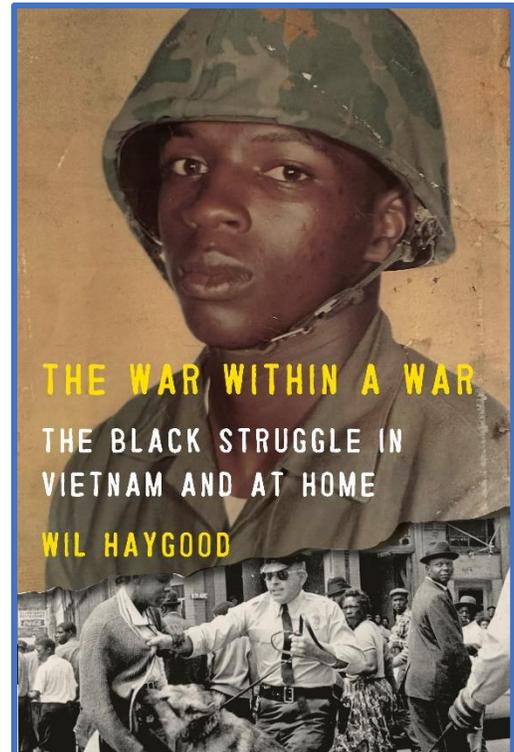
COLUMBUS, Ohio – The National Veterans Memorial and Museum (NVMM) will host acclaimed journalist and author Wil Haygood as part of the Columbus launch of his new book, *The War Within a War: The Black Struggle in Vietnam and At Home*. Haygood will discuss his book in a program beginning at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 28, at the NVMM. A book signing will follow the program. **Admission is free, but tickets are required. Tickets may be reserved at www.nationalvmm.org/events.**

Drawing on the lives of soldiers and officers, doctors and nurses, journalists and activists, artists and politicians, Haygood illuminates a generation caught between two battles: one on the front lines in Vietnam and another for justice and dignity in America. The book has received critical acclaim leading up to this month's launch.

"My writing and reporting career has been anchored to telling human stories from around the world," Haygood said. "Given that the subject of my new book is the Vietnam War, the National Veterans Memorial and Museum is the ideal venue to present this chronicle of men, women, and their awe-inspiring commitment to patriotism."

"Mr. Wil Haygood is a national treasure, and he selected the National Veterans Memorial and Museum as the perfect setting to share his riveting account of the African American Veteran experience, both in Vietnam and right here in the U.S., with his hometown audience," said Dr. Frederic Bertley, NVMM CEO. "As a storytelling museum that honors all Veterans, it is a privilege for NVMM to host one of the nation's preeminent authors to share this historic American narrative during Black History Month with our community and beyond."

The program will include reflections by Haygood, followed by a conversation with U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Steve Collins, one of the service members Haygood interviewed for the book. The program will conclude with an audience Q&A session prior to the book signing. Copies of the book will be available for purchase on site, courtesy of [The Book Loft](http://TheBookLoft). A percentage of the sales will be contributed to the NVMM in support of its mission to honor Veterans and elevate their stories.



The event will be recorded and re-aired by C-SPAN.

About Wil Haygood



Wil Haygood

Wil Haygood is an American journalist and author who has written ten nonfiction books. His chronicle of White House butler Eugene Allen was adapted into the film, *THE BUTLER*, which starred Oprah Winfrey and Forest Whitaker and was directed by Lee Daniels.

Haygood - who traveled into several war zones as a journalist - is a John Simon Guggenheim Fellow, a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow, as well as a professor at Miami University (Ohio). Among his many honors are the Scribes Book Award, the Deems-Taylor Book Award, the Ella Baker Award - named after the Mississippi civil rights activist - and the Freedom Summer of 1964 Award.

About the National Veterans Memorial and Museum

[The National Veterans Memorial and Museum](#) seeks to honor all Veterans, elevate their stories, and amplify the power of service for everyone, everywhere. The Museum takes visitors on a narrative journey telling individual stories and sharing experiences of Veterans from all military branches throughout history.

The National Veterans Memorial and Museum pays tribute to the sacrifices of men and women in service and their families. History is presented through a dynamic, participatory experience with photos, letters and personal effects, multi-media presentations, and interactive exhibits. Together, these elements link our national story of service to the larger context of the world.

Veterans, active-duty military and Gold Star Families always enjoy free admission to the NVMM, thanks to the generous support of Nationwide.

The NVMM is located at 300 W. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Sponsorship support for this program was generously provided by Larry and Donna James.

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