

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 12, 2026

MEDIA CONTACT: Mark Cooper, 614.427.1102

mcooper@nationalvmm.org

NVMM Commemorates National Vietnam War Veterans Day with annual “Welcome Home” Ceremony

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The National Veterans Memorial and Museum (NVMM) is proud to commemorate National Vietnam War Veterans Day with its annual “Welcome Home” Ceremony, live from our Great Hall on Saturday, March 28, at 10 a.m. The ceremony opens with a procession of all Vietnam War Veterans in attendance, who are welcomed home to thunderous applause from the greater community for their service in a moving and powerful display of gratitude.

The ceremony will feature renowned journalist and author Wil Haygood reflecting on his recently released book, *The War Within a War: The Black Struggle in Vietnam and At Home*.

The “Welcome Home” ceremony is free, and tickets are available [here](#). The event will be streamed live online [here](#).



Wil Haygood
Author, Journalist

“We were privileged to host Mr. Haygood in February for the launch of his highly acclaimed new book on the Black experience in Vietnam,” said Dr. Frederic Bertley, CEO of the National Veterans Memorial and Museum. “This event at NVMM will be the perfect setting for Wil to share more stories from his book that resonate with all Veterans of that conflict. Our ‘Welcome Home’ ceremony is always an emotional and poignant tribute that honors those brave young men and women who answered the call to serve our country during that difficult time in our nation’s history. Now more than ever, Wil Haygood’s unparalleled narrative could not be more relevant.”

About 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.

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

Thanks to generous support from Nationwide, Veterans, Active-Duty military and Gold Star Family members always enjoy free admission to the NVMM.

Ongoing Support Provided by:

