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North Carolina and World War I Exhibit Surpasses 300,000 Visitors
Award-winning exhibit continues to make history.



RALEIGH, N.C. – The North Carolina Museum of History’s [North Carolina and World War I](#) exhibit is having a banner week. Not only did the groundbreaking exhibit continue to shatter attendance records, but this past weekend it was honored with a North Carolina Museums Council (NCMC) Award of Excellence.

Last week, the award-winning exhibit **surpassed the 300,000-visitor milestone** (since its opening day in April 2017), further cementing its status as the most-visited temporary exhibit ever created by the North Carolina Museum of History.

Planned, produced and built entirely in-house, the 6,500-square-foot exhibition is believed to be the largest of its kind among state history museums. Visitors of all ages have experienced the immersive, highly sensory presentation of this exhibit. From interactive videos to mural-sized photographs to battlefield sounds and special lighting effects, they find something new at every turn. The re-created battlefield environment—complete with seven-foot-high trench walls and cavelike “funk holes”—puts guests in the boots of Tar Heel soldiers on the western front.

“World War I veterans—soldiers and nurses—feared that their service and sacrifice would be forgotten by future generations,” said Jackson Marshall, deputy museum director and lead curator for the World War I exhibit. “But North Carolinians from across the state have come to see the exhibition in record numbers, proving that we all want to remember and honor their memory.”

In addition to passing the 300,000-visitor mark, *North Carolina and World War I* continues to gain outside recognition. The North Carolina Museums Council honored the exhibit with an [NCMC Award of Excellence](#) during their annual conference at the Greensboro Historical Museum on March 18.

The exhibition was lauded for its design, educational value and professional practices. Ken Howard, director of the North Carolina Museum of History, accepted the award at a ceremony.

“It’s a great privilege to be recognized by colleagues and peers from across the state,” said Howard. “The museum staff has done a tremendous job creating an exhibit that is much more of an experience, than just artifact cases and text on a wall.”

Leading up to the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day on November 11 of this year, the museum will feature another round of exciting events and educational programs related to the WWI exhibit, including on-site centenary events on June 16, September 29 and November 11.

The [North Carolina and World War I](#) exhibit and the museum are free, as is parking on the weekends. Major supporters of the exhibit are the North Carolina Museum of History Foundation and MOHA (the Museum of History Associates), members of the museum support group. For more information about the exhibition, please visit ncmuseumofhistory.org/NCWW1.

IMAGE: North Carolina and World War I exhibit

Courtesy of the North Carolina Museum of History

[Access image here](#)

Additional images available upon request

About the N.C. Museum of History, a Smithsonian Affiliate

The N.C. Museum of History is located at 5 E. Edenton Street in downtown Raleigh. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. The museum collects and preserves artifacts of North Carolina history and educates the public on the history of the state and the nation through exhibits and educational programs. Each year more than 400,000 people visit the museum to see some of the 150,000 artifacts in the museum collection. The Museum of History, within the Division of State History Museums, is part of the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

For information about the N.C. Museum of History, call 919-807-7900 or access ncmuseumofhistory.org or follow on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), or [YouTube](#).

About the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

The N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (NCDNCR) is the state agency with a vision to be the leader in using the state’s natural and cultural resources to build the social, cultural, educational and economic future of North Carolina. NCDNCR’s mission is to improve the quality of life in our state by creating opportunities to experience excellence in the arts, history, libraries and nature in North Carolina by stimulating learning, inspiring creativity, preserving the state’s history, conserving the state’s natural heritage, encouraging recreation and cultural tourism, and promoting economic development.

NCDNCR includes 27 historic sites, seven history museums, two art museums, two science museums, three aquariums and Jennette's Pier, 39 state parks and recreation areas, the N.C. Zoo, the nation's first state-supported Symphony Orchestra, the State Library, the State Archives, the N.C. Arts Council, State Preservation Office and the Office of State Archaeology, along with the Division of Land and Water Stewardship. For more information, please call 919-807-7300 or visit www.ncdcr.gov.

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