

# THE NEH SUPPORTS VETERANS

Through its *Standing Together* initiative, the National Endowment for the Humanities celebrates and supports American veterans in communities across the United States, helping them build successful lives in and outside of the military.



## THE NEH SUPPORTS VETERAN-LED DISCUSSION GROUPS IN COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

With the NEH's *Dialogues on the Experience of War* grants, local organizations host year-long discussion programs that equip veterans to reflect on their experiences. In Alabama, a *Dialogues* program held through Auburn University reached veterans in six rural communities, as well as two groups of veterans who are imprisoned. *Dialogues on the Experience of War* was established in 2016 and has since reached veterans in 21 states and the District of Columbia.

The NEH's *Literature and Medicine* program, a partnership with Maine Humanities, improves patient care by facilitating literary discussions among VA staff: a formal evaluation has demonstrated medium-to-great increases in empathy for patients (79%), cultural awareness (67%), and interpersonal skills (64%) among staff participants.

## THE NEH HELPS VETERANS BECOME SUCCESSFUL COLLEGE STUDENTS.

The NEH's early and continued support of the Warrior-Scholar Project helped the organization grow and serve more veterans. Today, the Warrior-Scholar Project helps veterans from across the nation transition from the military to college through intensive academic boot camps. Forty-two percent of veterans who complete the program end up enrolling in a *U.S. News and World Report* top-20 school, compared to only 1% of all veterans nationwide.

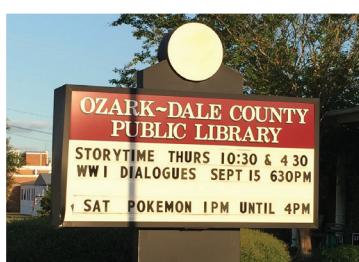
## THE NEH HONORS VETERANS' LIFE EXPERIENCES BY ENSURING THAT THEIR HISTORIES ARE COLLECTED AND PRESERVED.

NEH funding has helped the Richard I. Bong Veterans Historical Center in Superior, Wisconsin, preserve uniforms, memorabilia, letters, and oral histories related to veterans and the home front. Its collections are used in displays and other educational programs, such as through its traveling trunk program, which brings veterans' stories to elementary school students.

Using an NEH Common Heritage grant, the Lewiston-Auburn College at the University of Southern Maine created a series of digitization days honoring the experiences of Franco-American veterans in their community. Archivists helped digitize personal papers and mementos and the program concluded with a public dialogue and exhibition.

## THE NEH FUNDS LOCAL PROGRAMS FOR VETERANS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES.

Aquila Theatre's *Our Warrior Chorus*, funded through an NEH grant, provides veterans from across the country with intensive training in classics and theater. Veterans then return to their home communities where they create tailored programs that use classical texts to reflect on modern wars.



*"There was humor; there was seriousness. Most of the sessions went over by about 30 minutes."*

— Major General Claude A. "Lou" Hennies, Discussion Leader, *Dialogues on the Experience of War*



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