



Colonial Williamsburg

EMPLOYEE COMMUNICATION

Foundation marks Memorial Day Weekend with Free Admission for Military Families, Commemorative Service



WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (May 9, 2019) – Thanks to a \$100,000 grant from The Home Depot Foundation, active duty military, reservists, retirees, veterans, National Guard members and their immediate dependents receive free admission to Colonial Williamsburg’s Historic Area and two world-class art museums May 24-27.

The Honoring Service to America program has distributed more than 30,000 tickets since 2014 and is part of The Home Depot Foundation’s philanthropic mission to improve the homes and lives of service members, veterans and their families.

“Colonial Williamsburg’s non-profit mission and military outreach program make it a natural fit for this rewarding collaboration,” said John E. Ellington, director of finance and grants administration for the Home Depot Foundation. “We’re proud to support the Honoring Service to America program and provide military families with free Colonial Williamsburg admission for a fourth consecutive Memorial Day weekend.”

“Colonial Williamsburg’s legacy of supporting military families traces back to the Rockefeller’s personal support for American troops during World War II,” said Elisabeth Reiss, wife of Colonial Williamsburg President and CEO Mitchell B. Reiss, and leader of the Foundation’s military outreach efforts. “We are honored to continue this important legacy and are grateful to

The Home Depot Foundation for their continued support for the Honoring Service to America program.”

Honoring Service to America weekend-long admission tickets are available at all onsite ticketing locations. Service members need not be present for qualifying guests to receive the tickets, which are provided to dependent family members of currently deployed troops with appropriate identification. Veterans who separated before retirement can bring a copy of their honorable discharge paperwork, form DD 214, as identification of service.

The Foundation will host a commemorative memorial service honoring fallen service members at 10 a.m. May 27. A procession with the Colonial Williamsburg Fifes and Drums and Military Programs staff will begin at the Governor’s Palace and proceed to Bruton Parish Church, ending at the Capitol. Remarks, placement of wreaths and ceremonial musket volleys honor soldiers of the American Revolution, the Civil War and other conflicts. The service is free and open to the public.

Now on display at The Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg and included in regular and Honoring Service admission is the new exhibition, “[*To Arm Against An Enemy: Weapons of the Revolutionary War*](#),” which illustrates weapons used by American, British, French and Hessian troops during the French and Indian and Revolutionary Wars.

Military guests and their families are encouraged to visit Colonial Williamsburg’s military information desk at the Colonial Williamsburg Regional Visitor Center and the Liberty Lounge, a modest sanctuary for ticketed military guests and their families to relax and recharge in the Historic Area.

In addition to complimentary and discount admission for military families year-round Colonial Williamsburg is proud to offer military discounts on all Colonial Williamsburg hotels, dining, retail, conferences, golf and spa. Additional information on Colonial Williamsburg’s military outreach is available at www.colonialwilliamsburg.com/military.

For more information about the Honoring Service to America program and tickets visit www.colonialwilliamsburg.com/honoringservice or call 855-296-6627. More information is also available by following Colonial Williamsburg on [Facebook](#) and [@colonialwmsburg](#) on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).