



# AMERICANISM eBulletin

An electronic update from the Americanism Commission



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## **World War One Centennial Commission National Education Plan and Resources**

Resolution No. 11 approved by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in May 2016 titled *World War I Centennial Commission Education Plan* (a resolution brought forth by the Committee on Youth Education and the Americanism Commission) commends the World War One Centennial Commission for its tactical, vital and creative national education plan. The plan reflects visionary and collaborative approaches to educating young students, teachers and adults across the nation about World War I.

The World War One Centennial Commission seeks to broaden teacher and student experiences, enhance learning about all things World War I, and help veterans connect with young students by urging local posts to reach out to teachers so as to seek opportunity for discussing their military experiences, post histories, and Americanism. Whether one wishes to teach young students about World War I or simply want to learn more for other academic, professional or personal purposes, the World War One Centennial Commission invites teachers, students, veterans and Americans all across the nation to explore and use their educational tools and resources.

The Americanism Commission hopes you will take time to read, use and share the information and resources provided by the World War One Centennial Commission on the following page, and seek opportunity to help educate young students and other Americans about the importance of what is becoming one of the most forgotten pieces of American history - World War I.



## THE UNITED STATES WORLD WAR ONE CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

Over 100 years ago, the United States mobilized 4.7 million doughboys, marines, sailors, and for the first time, women in uniform, to help “make the world safe for democracy.” The U.S. World War I Centennial Commission was created by an Act of Congress in 2013 to commemorate the Centennial of World War I (WWI). The WWI Centennial Commission has set up a special landing page for veterans and military service organizations and their communities at [www.ww1cc.org/veterans](http://www.ww1cc.org/veterans). You may also learn about progress on America’s National World War One Memorial at [www.ww1cc.org/memorial](http://www.ww1cc.org/memorial).

### Education Initiatives.

All history has a starting point. Within the core mission of the WWI Centennial Commission lies the responsibility to educate Americans about the generation who endured the Great War. With that goal in mind the Education Team at the WWI Centennial Commission has undertaken the process of educating both young students and adults on the importance of one the most forgotten pieces of American history. By the time the WWI Centennial Commission sunsets in July 2019 they will have reached 20 million students across the country, and millions more American adults through their various programs. Specific programs links and more information may be found below:

**Who They Were:** <https://www.nhd.org/who-they-were>

This program helps students, as well as everyday Americans, find out more about their local servicemen and women from the First World War. It is conducted through the WWI Centennial Commission’s partner, National History Day.

**Teacher Trainings from the Gilder Lehrman Institute:** <https://www.gilderlehrman.org/teacher-seminars>

In partnership with the Gilder Lehrman Institute, the WWI Centennial Commission will support thorough and substantive teacher trainings across the country through 2019.

**Education Newsletter:** <https://www.theworldwar.org/education/archive>

In partnership with the National World War One Museum and Memorial the WWI Centennial Commission creates bi-monthly resource newsletters on various topics related to the First World War.

**World War One Commission Education Resources Page:** <https://www.worldwar1centennial.org/educate-home.html>

**The WWrite Blog.** Literature/poetry from and about the era as well as present day contributions: <https://www.worldwar1centennial.org/index.php/articles-posts.html>

**Community Veteran and Military Service Outreach.** A veteran coming home today from Afghanistan or the Middle East would find they have much in common with the doughboys, sailors, marines, and women of 100 years ago. Technologies and comforts may change over time, but the veteran experience remains the same. The WWI Centennial Commission seeks to broaden teacher and student experiences, enhance learning about all things World War One, and connect current veterans with students by urging local posts to reach out to teachers to discuss veteran experiences, post histories, and Americanism. Your efforts in contributing to understanding the veteran’s experience and helping students appreciate history can help create better citizens

For more information about these education initiatives of the WWI Centennial Commission, you may contact David W. Hamon at (540) 379-8584 or [david.hamon@worldwar1centennial.org](mailto:david.hamon@worldwar1centennial.org).