

Two February Events Open Museum's 2014 Season

WHEATON, IL, February 4, 2014 — The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park will host two season-opening events this month, each free and open to the public:

- **History Speaks**
Saturday, Feb. 15
10 am to 4 pm

[Chicago Danztheatre Ensemble](#) will portray veterans of World War I through Desert Storm. Based on research using actual veterans' letters, diaries and photographs, each ensemble member will present a monologue and answer questions in the role of the veteran they represent.

Artifacts and archives from the veterans featured will be displayed. Staff from the museum's Collections Department and the Robert R. McCormick Research Center will discuss the items and answer questions from visitors.

The lobby will feature World War II reenactors and a WWII Jeep from the First Division Museum's Motor Pool. Uniforms and gear from all military conflicts represented by the actors will be available to inspect and even try on for size. The museum's authentic WWII-era "dog tag" machine will be operating for those wishing to purchase a vintage personalized tag.

- **Date with History: Author Yvonne Latty**
Wednesday, Feb. 19
7:30 pm (doors open at 6:45 pm)

In this celebration of Black History Month, Latty will discuss, "We Were There: Voices of African American Veterans, from World War II to the War in Iraq." Her collection of oral histories recognizes two dozen unsung military heroes of every stripe, from a black medic on Omaha Beach to a nurse who ferried wounded soldiers by helicopter during the Vietnam War. A book signing will follow Latty's presentation and copies of "We Were There" will be available for sale.

The event is part of the First Division Museum's popular series, *A Date with History*. The monthly programs feature an evening of lively discussion with authors, panelists, historians and special speakers.

The First Division Museum is open weekends in February, Friday through Sunday, from 10 am to 4 pm. Museum admission is free. Parking is \$5 per vehicle but is waived for Date with History events. Program details and a complete schedule of upcoming events are online at FirstDivisionMuseum.org.

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About the First Division Museum

The First Division Museum at Cantigny Park, part of the nonprofit Chicago-based Robert R. McCormick Foundations, promotes public learning about America's military heritage and affairs through the history of the "Big Red One"—the famed 1st Infantry Division of

the U.S. Army. It stands in tribute to all who have served our country in the armed forces. The museum's main exhibit hall transports visitors to the trenches of World War I, the beaches of World War II and the jungles of Vietnam. Outside, tanks are displayed from every era, along with personnel carriers and artillery. The Robert R. McCormick Research Center, open to the public, houses the museum's library, archival and photo collections. Visit the First Division Museum at Cantigny Park online at FirstDivisionMuseum.org.

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