



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Manufacturing Victory: The Arsenal of Democracy
Opens at the Mercer Museum on Saturday, February 2, 2019
New exhibit highlights Home Front contributions to World War II

DOYLESTOWN, PA – The Mercer Museum is pleased to announce the February 2, 2019 opening of a new exhibit, *Manufacturing Victory: The Arsenal of Democracy*, highlighting contributions made on the American Home Front during World War II.

Produced by The National WWII Museum in New Orleans, *Manufacturing Victory: The Arsenal of Democracy* is an immersive exhibit that follows the industrial journey that took the United States from a nation perilously unprepared for war to a global superpower that led the Allies to victory in World War II. This national touring exhibit is made possible by presenting sponsor HP with additional support provided by Citi and Motorola Solutions, and will be at the Mercer Museum's Martin & Warwick Foundation Galleries from Saturday, February 2, 2019 until Sunday, May 5, 2019.

Manufacturing Victory includes compelling artifacts, photographs, oral histories and interactive multimedia components that immerse guests in the story of America's industrial war engine. These stories tell of the Home Front's efforts to produce tanks, planes, ships and guns with staggering speed and unparalleled energy.

"With the 75th anniversary of D-Day rapidly approaching, and more World War II veterans being lost each day, this exhibit encourages us to remember the contributions and sacrifices of America's 'Greatest Generation,' including those from Bucks County who helped us win the war," says Mercer Museum Vice President of Collections and Interpretation Cory Amsler.

Accompanying the *Manufacturing Victory* exhibit, the Mercer Museum will feature a sampling of their WWII-era collections, most of which have never been exhibited. These collections showcase notable Bucks County industries during the war, military service personnel and life on the Home Front.

The accompanying local artifacts include uniforms, dog tags, a captured Japanese rifle, ration books, posters and WWII-era images of Doylestown by local photographer Milton Rutherford of Rutherford's Camera Shop.

The new exhibit will be enhanced with a three-month long calendar of Mercer Museum community programs highlighting various aspects of the World War II Home Front experience, including Meet the Curator tours, lectures and multimedia presentations, and a documentary film premiere on the role of African-American women in the war effort.

Mercer Museum Vice President of Community Services & Marketing Marjan Shirzad notes, "We are looking forward to highlighting important stories of the World War II Home Front throughout this exhibit through our community programs. These programs pay tribute to all types of World War II heroes, each with their own tales of triumph and hardship. By telling the stories of life on the Home Front in Bucks County, focusing on the bravery of female war correspondents or shedding light on the untold stories of African-American women in the war effort, we proudly offer our community so many opportunities to come together and strengthen their understanding of history at the Mercer Museum."

Members of the Bucks County Historical Society will be the first to see the new exhibit during the members-only preview party on Friday, February 1, 2019.

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About the Mercer Museum & Fonthill Castle

Located in Doylestown, Bucks County, PA, the Mercer Museum and Fonthill Castle are historic castles celebrating the legacy of Henry Chapman Mercer (1856-1930), American archaeologist, anthropologist, ceramicist and scholar. Both sites are operated by the Bucks County Historical Society.

The Mercer Museum, one of Bucks County's premier cultural attractions and a Smithsonian affiliate, features both local and national seasonal exhibits as well as a core museum collection of over 50,000 pre-Industrial tools. This permanent collection offers visitors a unique window into pre-Industrial America through sixty different crafts and trades, and is one of the world's most comprehensive portraits of American material culture.

The Mercer Museum is located at 84 South Pine Street in Doylestown, PA and is open year-round. For up-to-date schedule and admission information, please visit mercermuseum.org or

call 215-345-0210.

The National WWII Museum tells the story of the American experience in *the war that changed the world*—why it was fought, how it was won, and what it means today—so that future generations will know the price of freedom and be inspired by what they learn. Dedicated in 2000 as The National D-Day Museum and now designated by Congress as America’s National WWII Museum, it celebrates the American spirit, the teamwork, optimism, courage and sacrifices of the men and women who fought on the battlefield and served on the Home Front. The 2018 TripAdvisor Travelers’ Choice Awards ranks the Museum No. 3 in the nation and No. 8 in the world. For more information, call 877-813-3329 or 504-528-1944 or visit nationalww2museum.org. To see artifacts and images from the exhibit and learn more about America’s arsenal of democracy, visit manufacturing-victory.org

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