



Community Engagement

This year, our staff worked with students and educators from across the region. These schools represented 60 districts with a number of first time attendees. Our Tour Guides worked with 9,600 students and teachers both onsite and in the classroom. We also worked with a number of community groups including VA PTSD groups and senior centers.

Through social media and our website, we engaged with 1,403,636 community members online.



Vietnam Veteran and NJVVMF Volunteer Michael McMahon with school group

New Programs

By popular demand, we are now offering personal tours of the Memorial and Museum each day we are open. Our Vietnam Veteran Tour Guides are generously sharing their time, expertise and stories with visitors each day the Museum is open from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. They are also on site the first Saturday of each month starting at 11 a.m.. Their experiences offer unique insight into the history of the Vietnam Era and our site. Please plan your next visit while they are on site!

Our Memorials on the Move traveling kit is available to teachers to bring our site into their classrooms. Featuring 17 poster sized images and related lessons, students can analyze the symbolism and meaning behind the different parts of the Foundation's site. With many schools unable to travel to the site for class trips, this program allows brings the site to them along with the legacies shared by our Vietnam Veteran Tour Guides.

Our You Be the Curator traveling kits were expanded to include Soundtrack of a Changing Nation: The Music of Vietnam, an in-classroom experience based in our latest exhibition. Working with our website, students are assigned a song from a curated playlist taken from the exhibition. After listening to the song and exploring the lyrics, students create a photo exhibition with photos from the Vietnam Era that help breakdown the context and meaning of the song.



Social Studies Teacher Stacy Schiller uses a traveling kit at Raritan High School

Professional Development Programs

In February, our Classroom Connections series kicked off with Soundtrack of a Changing Nation: The Music of the Vietnam Era. In conjunction with our exhibition, the program gave teachers tools to bring the rich musical history of the Vietnam Era into their classrooms. Vietnam Veterans Joe Leone, Michael Ioli and Jim McGinnis along with Veteran John Antonellis shared their perspectives on how music shaped their tours of duty and lives after they returned home.

Our 17th Annual Interdisciplinary Forum on the Vietnam Era, hosted in partnership with the New Jersey Council for Social Studies (NJCSS), was a sold out success. The morning began with an inspiring presentation from Medal of Honor Recipient Paul “Bud” Bucha. Callie Wright, Educator for the VVMF presented on using literature about the Vietnam Era in the classroom. NJCSS Executive Director Hank Bitten shared his insight into teaching about Vietnam in the classroom during the Vietnam War.



Medal of Honor Recipient, Bud Bucha

In celebration of the Vietnam Era Museum's 20th Anniversary, this year's Forum featured our first annual Teacher of the Year Award, given to an Educator who has made an impact on the region's classroom curriculum by teaching about the Vietnam Era. Frank Dunn of Boonton High School was our first awardee. Recently retired, Frank, a Vietnam Era Veteran, has joined us as a Tour Guide.



Hank Bitten presenting about the impact of the Vietnam War on his teaching in the late 1960's



Frank Dunn, Teacher of the Year 2018



Burns Scholarship Recipients Ryan Kylat (Ocean Township High School) and Erin Tulko (Middletown High School South) with Vietnam Veteran and NJVVMF Volunteer Carl Burns

Public PROGRAMS

“
It's a place that people
can embrace, remember
and understand the
turmoil times, and that
it impacted the lives of a
Vietnam Veteran.
”

Jim Biringer, Vietnam Veteran,
NJVVMF Volunteer

An American Legacy

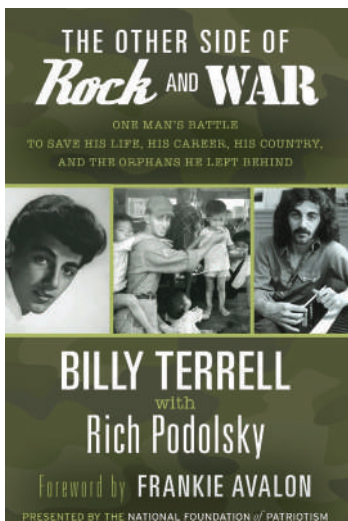
Thanks to a grant from the New Jersey Council for the Humanities we hosted Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis: Preservation and Grace and the American Legacy. Actress Jill Lawrence brought Mrs. Kennedy to life, conveying her personal and professional struggles and victories, a poignant portrait of the First Lady, wife, mother, and activist vividly came alive.



Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis: Preservation
and Grace and the American Legacy

Vietnam Voices: Books & Joe

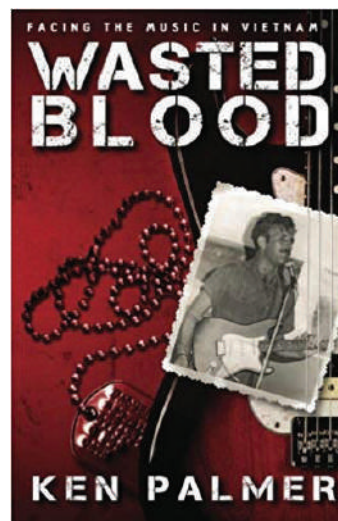
This fall, we launched our Vietnam Voices: Books & Joe series featuring Vietnam Veteran authors from around the region:



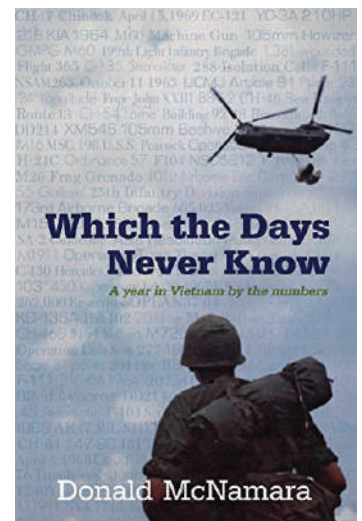
Billy Terrell
*The Other Side of Rock
and War: One Man's
Battle to Save His Life,
His Career, His Country,
and the Orphans He
Left Behind*



Joe Rosato
*Dog Tags and Wedding
Bands and Voices Over
Troubled Water*



Ken Palmer
*Wasted Blood: Facing
the Music in Vietnam*



Donald McNamara
*Which the Days Never
Know: A Year in Vietnam
by the Numbers*