

MEDIA ALERT
June 6, 2018

Lizzie Oglesby, Manager of Public Relations and Marketing
loglesby@VirginiaHistory.org 804.342.9665

Virginia Museum of History & Culture Celebrates 4th of July with Citizenship Ceremony



Richmond, VA — In celebration of the 242nd anniversary of American independence and their year-long centennial commemoration of the end of World War I, the Virginia Museum of History & Culture (VMHC) will host an Independence Day Celebration on July 4, 2018, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. This full day of patriotic festivities will include a large-scale citizenship naturalization ceremony, a community concert, and more.

“This will be a grand day of ceremony and celebration,” said president and CEO Jamie O. Bosket. “Whether you come to watch 100 people officially join this great nation, or you bring your friends and family to see the numerous artifacts on display related to Virginia’s leading role in our nation’s independence – there is something for everyone to enjoy.”

The naturalization ceremony, held in partnership with the U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia and the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), is the highlight of the Independence Day celebration. Family-friendly activities for all ages will run throughout the day.

10:30 AM NATURALIZATION CEREMONY – FREE

- 100 candidates for citizenship from nearly 50 countries will take the Oath of Allegiance on the front terrace of the museum
- Ceremony will be officiated by the Honorable Roger L. Gregory, Chief Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

ALL DAY FAMILY-FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES

- Scavenger hunt in the museum galleries
- Sign the “Declaration of Independence”
- Meet WWI reenactors
- Play games from the past & make red, white & blue crafts
- Step into history with our greenscreen photobooth
- Can you pass the citizenship test? Take our quiz & find out
- Bring chairs or blankets to picnic on the VMHC’s front lawn where concessions will be for sale

Activities in the galleries are included with suggested admission to the museum.

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS ON DISPLAY

- *WW1 America*
- *The Commonwealth & The Great War*
- *Inside Looking Out: The Art of Queena Stovall*
- *The Story of Virginia*

Through the generosity of the Boeing Company, admission is free for active duty military and immediate family, and free for retired military, for the duration the special exhibition, WW1 America, through July 29.

TOURS

- 30-minute highlight tours will be offered and are included with suggested admission to the museum.

The Virginia Museum of History & Culture, owned and operated by the Virginia Historical Society - a private, non-profit organization established in 1831 - is the oldest cultural organization in Virginia, and one of the most distinguished history organizations in the nation. For use in its state history museum and research library, the historical society cares for a collection of nearly nine million items representing the ever-evolving story of Virginia. Located at 428 North Boulevard, the galleries and shop are open daily 10am to 5pm. The research library is open Mon.- Sat. 10am to 5pm. For more information visit VirginiaHistory.org.

###

Virginia Historical Society

428 N Boulevard
Richmond, Virginia 23220

PO Box 7311
Richmond, Virginia 23221

804.340.1800
VirginiaHistory.org