

WOMEN IN MILITARY SERVICE FOR AMERICA MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, INC.

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Special Event Notice
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Memorial Day Ceremony at the Women's Memorial

The Women's Memorial 17th annual Memorial Day ceremony will be held at 4 p.m., May 26, 2014. The ceremony, one of the major Memorial Day programs in the nation's capital, is free and open to the public and includes formal military honors, a keynote address, wreath-layings and the Memorial's signature event, the scattering of rose petals in tribute to departed comrades. Members of the public are invited to join in the personal tribute segment of the program.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Director, Center for Women Veterans, Elisa Basnight, will deliver this year's keynote address. An Army veteran and 1991 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Ms. Basnight was appointed to her current position in October 2013. A lawyer, she served in the corporate arena for many years, as well as in the public service area assisting transitioning servicemembers from military to civilian jobs. She has served on a variety of local, state and federal commissions and task forces related to girls, women and veterans.

Also at the Memorial for Memorial Day commemorative activities is a special exhibit that pays tribute to the women who have served in Afghanistan and Iraq. *A New Generation of Warriors* speaks to the wartime experiences of these women through the memorabilia of 101st Airborne Division soldier CPL Jessica Ellis, who was killed in action on Mother's Day, May 11, 2008, in Baghdad, Iraq. Also on display is the special *In-Memoriam Book* located in the Memorial's Hall of Honor. The book, a living memorial that is updated as necessary, includes the picture, awards and decorations and biographical information of the 159 military women who have lost their lives in these wars. Lastly, in commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the dedication of the National World War II Memorial, that memorial has come to the Women's Memorial through some 90 images by acclaimed photographer Stephen R. Brown and are on exhibit. The exhibit features rare images of the memorial's construction and its monumental features. The exhibits are free and open to the public. __

For more information, call 703-533-1155 or 800-222-2294. The Women's Memorial, located at the gateway to Arlington National Cemetery, is readily accessible by Metro (Blue Line) and paid parking is available.

The Women In Military Service For America Memorial is the nation's only major memorial honoring all servicewomen, past and present. Featuring an exhibit gallery, theater and Register of women who have served, the Memorial is open to the public, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., daily.