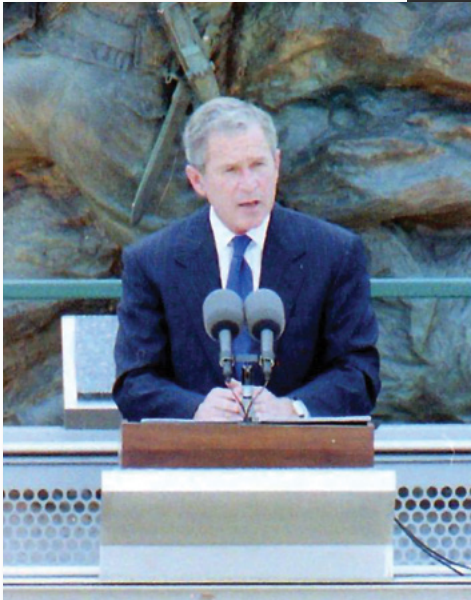




NATIONAL D-DAY MEMORIAL

HONORING
VALOR,
FIDELITY,
& SACRIFICE
FOR A QUARTER CENTURY



*“You have raised a fitting memorial to D-Day,
and you have put it in just the right place.
Not on a battlefield of war, but in a small Virginia town.”*

– President George W. Bush, June 6, 2001

**NATIONAL D-DAY MEMORIAL DEDICATION
JUNE 6, 2001**



THE NATIONAL D-DAY MEMORIAL OPENED ON JUNE 6, 2001

—the 57th anniversary of the Allied landing in Normandy—in Bedford, Virginia, the community that experienced America's highest-known loss on D-Day. In 2026, we salute 25 remarkable years of honoring the heroes who faced insurmountable odds to secure freedom for the world.

To reflect on two and a half decades of achievements, the National D-Day Memorial invites you to a series of events in celebration of this milestone anniversary; while our efforts continue to inspire all generations with extraordinary stories of valor, fidelity, and unimaginable sacrifice.



DICKSON ARCHITECTS AND ASSOCIATES:
ARCHITECT

COLEMAN-ADAMS CONSTRUCTION, INC.:
GENERAL CONTRACTOR

JIM BROTHERS:
PRINCIPAL SCULPTOR

MATT KIRBY:
SCULPTOR

RICHARD PUMPHREY:
SCULPTOR

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, MAY 7 - FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

BOWER CENTER FOR THE ARTS | FREE ADMISSION

THE LIFE AND ART OF CHARLES M. SCHULZ

Curated by the Charles M. Schulz Museum and Research Center in Santa Rosa, California, U.S.A, this traveling exhibition explores the legendary cartoonist's personal history and service in WWII, his role as the sole inspiration and artistic talent behind *Peanuts*, and Schulz's work to help establish the National D-Day Memorial as the Memorial's first capital campaign chair. Check dday.org for hours.

MONDAY, MAY 25
MEMORIAL DAY

10AM | BOBBIE G. JOHNSON PAVILION

D-DAY SOCIETY HOSPITALITY SUITE

Enjoy coffee, pastries, and the company of fellow D-Day Society members and Memorial staff before the Memorial Day ceremony.

11AM | ELMON T. GRAY PLAZA | FREE ADMISSION UNTIL NOON

HONORING THE FALLEN: MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE

This poignant observance pays tribute to the fallen men and women who gave their lives in service to our Nation. View the Faces of the Fallen portrait display, memorializing individuals who died on June 6, 1944, during the Normandy invasion.

THURSDAY, JUNE 4

4:30PM | BOWER CENTER FOR THE ARTS D-DAY SOCIETY RECEPTION

This private viewing of *The Life and Art of Charles M. Schulz* exhibition, honoring the Memorial's first capital campaign chair, is exclusively for our D-Day Society members.

FRIDAY, JUNE 5

11AM | FLEDA A. RING EDUCATION Q-HUT | FREE WITH REGULAR ADMISSION THE MECHANIZED ARMY PANEL DISCUSSION

Combining armor, motorized transport, and traditional infantry, the Allies—especially the U.S. Army—restored mobility to offensive drives in rapid, combined-arms advances in WWII. Experts and enthusiasts will explore the first truly mechanized force in history.

6PM | BOBBIE G. JOHNSON PAVILION D-DAY SOCIETY RECEPTION

Mingle with Medal of Honor recipient Drew Dix and artist Henry Kidd while enjoying patriotic music and delicious heavy hors d'oeuvres. Artwork sales to benefit the National D-Day Memorial.

5:30PM | GEORGE "JIMMY" GREEN CIRCLE USS *OSPREY* PLAQUE UNVEILING

D-Day Society members are invited to the first look at the Memorial's new narrative plaque sharing the story of the USS *Osprey*, which saw the first casualties of D-Day on the eve of the invasion.

7:30PM | ELMON T. GRAY PLAZA | TICKET PURCHASE REQUIRED *WHEN WE WENT IN: THE D-DAY EXPERIENCE IN LIGHT AND SOUND* OPENING CONCERT BY *LETTERS FROM HOME*

Back by popular demand with a new prelude honoring America's 250th! Created exclusively for the National D-Day Memorial by the Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology at Virginia Tech—*When We Went In* transforms the Memorial into a stunning, immersive, multi-media sensory experience. *Letters From Home* infuses the classic style of wartime music with a witty, modern edge, featuring high-energy singing and tap dancing.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (cont.)

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

THE 82ND ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY

11AM | ELMON T. GRAY PLAZA | FREE ADMISSION UNTIL NOON
REMEMBERING THEIR VALOR, FIDELITY, AND SACRIFICE:
THE 82ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE ALLIED LANDING IN NORMANDY

The 82nd anniversary of the Allied landing in Normandy and the 25th anniversary of the National D-Day Memorial will be marked by a special ceremony with the keynote address by U.S. Army Special Forces Medal of Honor recipient Drew Dix.

12:30PM | AT THE SCULPTURE *HOMAGE*
"YOU SHALL NOT BE FORGOTTEN"

Continuing the yearly tradition started by Normandy veteran Ash Rothlein in 2014, this touching remembrance takes place at the sculpture that portrays a grieving soldier paying tribute to a fallen comrade. Rothlein's own French Legion of Honor medal hangs from the sculpture each June 6, to honor those who gave their lives in Normandy.

12PM | MEDAL OF HONOR GARDEN
MEDAL OF HONOR PLAQUE DEDICATION

Presented by the president in the name of Congress, the Medal of Honor is the highest decoration bestowed upon members of the United States military, recognizing conspicuous acts of "gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life, above and beyond the call of duty." This new narrative plaque honors all those who merit this highest honor, including the four recipients of D-Day.

7:30PM | ELMON T. GRAY PLAZA | TICKET PURCHASE REQUIRED
WHEN WE WENT IN: THE D-DAY EXPERIENCE IN LIGHT AND SOUND
OPENING CONCERT BY *LETTERS FROM HOME*

Back by popular demand with a new prelude honoring America's 250th! Created exclusively for the National D-Day Memorial by the Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology at Virginia Tech—*When We Went In* transforms the Memorial into a stunning, immersive, multi-media sensory experience. *Letters From Home* infuses the classic style of wartime music with a witty, modern edge, featuring high-energy singing and tap dancing.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

TIME TBA | FLEDA A. RING EDUCATION Q-HUT | FREE WITH REGULAR ADMISSION
***D-DAY, OMAHA BEACH TRAVELING EXHIBIT* OPENING**

Created in 2024 by Tradition Studios, the *D-Day, Omaha Beach Traveling Exhibit* is designed to reach all ages with a visually stunning remembrance of D-Day and those who heroically served.

TIME TBA | BOBBIE G. JOHNSON PAVILION | TICKET PURCHASE REQUIRED
DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS SERIES
WITH KEITH ROCCO, DR. JOHN C. MCMANUS, AND KEVIN HYMEL

Keith Rocco, Exhibit and Art Director of the *D-Day, Omaha Beach Traveling Exhibit*, will be joined by historians Dr. John C. McManus and Kevin Hymel for a panel discussion for the opening of the exhibit at the National D-Day Memorial.

ALL EVENTS EXCEPT *THE LIFE AND ART OF CHARLES M. SCHULZ*
TO BE HELD AT THE NATIONAL D-DAY MEMORIAL.



**VIEW OUR FULL
EVENTS CALENDAR**

WHEN WE WENT IN: THE D-DAY EXPERIENCE IN LIGHT AND SOUND

OPENING CONCERT BY *LETTERS FROM HOME* | JUNE 5 & 6, 2026

After exceeding attendance estimates with its debut, *When We Went In: The D-Day Experience in Light and Sound* returns with a newly produced prelude in honor of America's 250th anniversary!

Created for the National D-Day Memorial by the Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology at Virginia Tech—*When We Went In* is an immersive masterpiece that transforms the Memorial's grounds into a stunning, multi-media sensory experience. Using the Memorial itself as the dramatic backdrop for the narrative, this outdoor show retells the story of the Normandy invasion through authentic, first-hand accounts of the men and women who lived through June 6, 1944. From the roar of aircraft and gunfire delivered in surround sound to moments of solemn silence, viewers will feel as if they are in the throes of the historical moment and the triumph of eventual victory.

The program begins each evening with an opening concert by crowd-favorite *Letters From Home*. Featuring high-energy singing and tap dancing performances by Erinn Dearth and Dan Beckmann, *Letters From Home* infuses the classic style of wartime music with a witty, modern edge.



WHEN WE WENT IN:
THE D-DAY EXPERIENCE IN LIGHT AND SOUND

THE LIFE AND ART OF CHARLES M. SCHULZ

AT BOWER CENTER FOR THE ARTS | MAY 7-AUGUST 7, 2026

Legendary cartoonist Charles M. Schulz's legacy is one of cultural influence through his beloved *Peanuts* comic strip and of humble service in World War II. His wartime experience left a lasting impression on him, so much so that he became the capital campaign chair of the National D-Day Memorial Foundation from 1998 until his passing in 2000.



The National D-Day Memorial is proud to bring *The Life and Art of Charles M. Schulz* to the Bower Center for the Arts in Bedford, Virginia. The traveling exhibition, curated by the Charles M. Schulz Museum and Research Center in Santa Rosa, California, U.S.A, explores Schulz's personal history and his role as the sole inspiration and artistic talent behind the most successful comic strip in history.

“I think any sensible person with a grasp of history would have to admit that D-Day was the most important day of our century. Without D-Day it’s possible that Europe could have remained for another 25 or 50 years in darkness. I’m glad I wasn’t there, and yet my admiration for the people who were knows no bounds.”

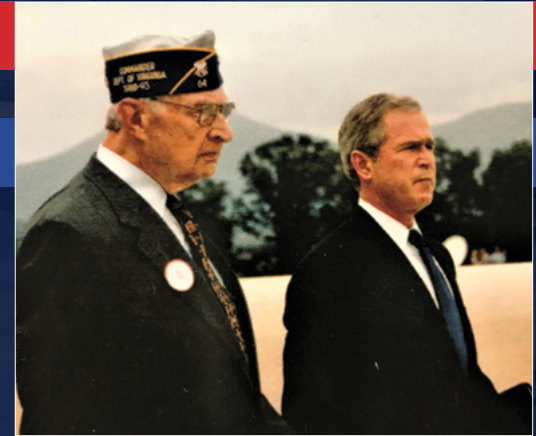
– Charles M. Schulz, 1999

PORTRAIT OF CHARLES M. SCHULZ IN HIS ARMY UNIFORM, C. 1945. ©
SFIPT, COURTESY OF THE CHARLES M. SCHULZ MUSEUM, SANTA ROSA, CA



ON JUNE 6, 1994—

the 50th anniversary of D-Day—Memorial founder John Robert “Bob” Slaughter was among the veterans joining President Bill Clinton on Omaha Beach. President Clinton later signed legislation designating the future National D-Day Memorial as the Nation’s monument to D-Day.



SLAUGHTER'S VISION WAS REALIZED with the dedication of the National D-Day Memorial by President George W. Bush on June 6, 2001. Hundreds of D-Day survivors were among the 24,000 in attendance.



IN THE ENSUING YEARS, the Memorial launched plaque and sculptural programs, broke ground on brick gardens and a veterans walkway, and dedicated Virginia's first Gold Star Families Memorial Monument, among other additions.



ON JUNE 6, 2019, 10,000 guests including more than 100 WWII veterans and the sitting vice president of the United States witnessed a stunning aerial tribute to mark D-Day's 75th anniversary.



THE MEMORIAL ENTERED A DECADE OF EXPANSION in 2017, which produced three Quonset hut facilities, a "Higgins boat" exhibit, and a walking trail to enhance the visitor and student experience.



EVERY STORY LIVES ON: a theme at the heart of our mission on the 80th anniversary and beyond. As the WWII generation passes on into memory, steadfast is our determination to remember the lessons and legacy of D-Day.

WHAT REALLY COUNTS...

25 YEARS OF SUCCESS IS MEASURED BY EVERY PERSON REACHED WITH THE D-DAY STORY



2,000,000+
Visitors to the Memorial

Since 2001



254,000 Students
Educated Through In-Person
and Virtual Programming

Since 2001



457,000 Digital
Views

Since 2017



56,000 Podcast
Downloads

Since 2022



22 Scholarships
Totaling Over **\$45,000**

Since 2018



**SUPPORT
OUR MISSION**



THE WORLD'S MOST COMPLETE ACCOUNT OF D-DAY FALLEN

THE NATIONAL D-DAY MEMORIAL NECROLOGY PROJECT

In the Memorial's early years, leaders searched for an accurate count of those killed on D-Day only to discover estimates varied widely, often confusing fatalities with casualties. Thus, the Memorial set out to do what had never been done: identify and remember, by name, every single Allied soldier, sailor, airman, and coastguardsman who died on June 6, 1944, in the Normandy invasion.

Over more than two decades, our researchers have located and examined thousands of military and burial-related records, yielding more than 4,400 names of Allied service members killed in action on D-Day. Necrology Project research continues, with additional names added when evidence is sufficient to do so.

Recently, our team completed the necessary steps to confirm D-Day fatalities previously unknown to the Foundation. The names of these heroes will join the ranks of the thousands memorialized on our wall on June 6, 82 years after sacrificing their lives for freedom.

THE WESTERN WALL ENCLOSING GRAY PLAZA BEARS THE NAMES OF AMERICAN SERVICE MEMBERS KILLED ON JUNE 6, 1944, IN THE INVASION OF NORMANDY.



**VIEW THE
NECROLOGY DATABASE**

A PIECE OF HISTORY LANDS AT THE MEMORIAL

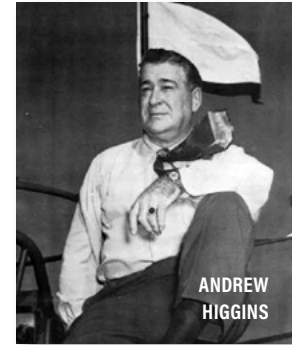
The National D-Day Memorial is now the permanent home of an authentic Landing Craft, Vehicle, Personnel (LCVP)—the iconic “Higgins boat” of World War II. Manufactured by Higgins Industries in August 1944, the Memorial’s LCVP is one of few surviving today. While not a veteran of the D-Day landings, the boat is symbolic of the all-important craft that ferried invading forces from troop carriers to the beaches on D-Day.

On Veterans Day 2025, the Memorial celebrated the completion of the “Higgins boat” shelter with a ribbon cutting, while announcing exciting plans to add a viewing platform and educational exhibit. This treasured artifact connects us directly to the story of D-Day—a tangible symbol of courage in the face of impossible odds, sacrifice in pursuit of freedom, and the ingenuity that turned the tide of history.



“If Higgins had not designed and built those LCVPs, we never could have landed over an open beach... Higgins is the man who won the war for us.”

– Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1964



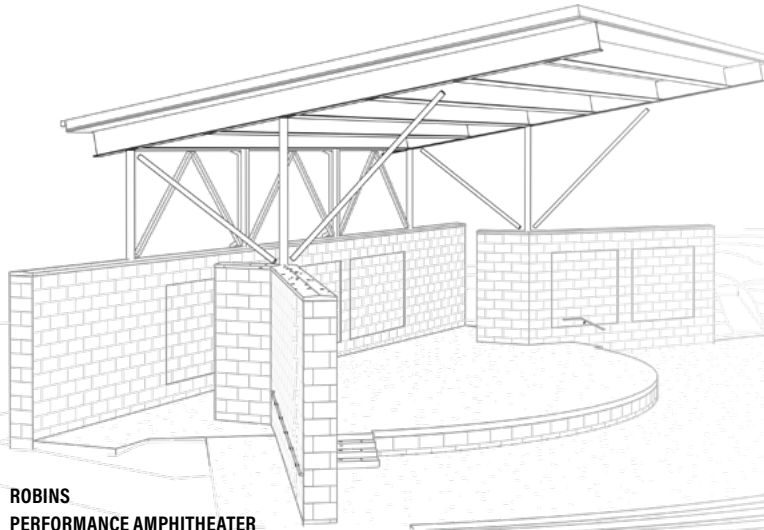
**LEARN MORE
ABOUT OUR LCVP**

25 YEARS AND GROWING

INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION IN NEW SPACES THROUGH PLANNED EXPANSION

ROBINS PERFORMANCE AMPHITHEATER

With space for 1,700 guests, the Robins Performance Amphitheater will be an ideal gathering space for large veteran groups and reunions, military and commemorative ceremonies, concerts, and community events. Named for supporters E. Claiborne and Mary Ellen Robins, this state-of-the-art outdoor venue will introduce the Memorial and its history to new audiences while serving as a resource for the region.



JOHN AND DORIS FOWLER FAMILY MOTOR POOL

Modeled after the motor pool buildings of the 1940s, the John and Doris Fowler Family Motor Pool will be home to a collection of restored World War II vehicles and artifacts, generously donated by supporter Lee Holland. The space will also include a library and conference room, temporary offices, and exhibit areas for the Memorial's ever-growing artifact collection.



**LEARN MORE ABOUT
OUR FUTURE EXPANSION**



NATIONAL D-DAY MEMORIAL

The National D-Day Memorial Foundation's mission is to preserve the lessons and legacy of D-Day. The Foundation maintains and operates the National D-Day Memorial in direct support of that educational mission.



**LEARN MORE
ABOUT OUR MISSION**

2001–2026