

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

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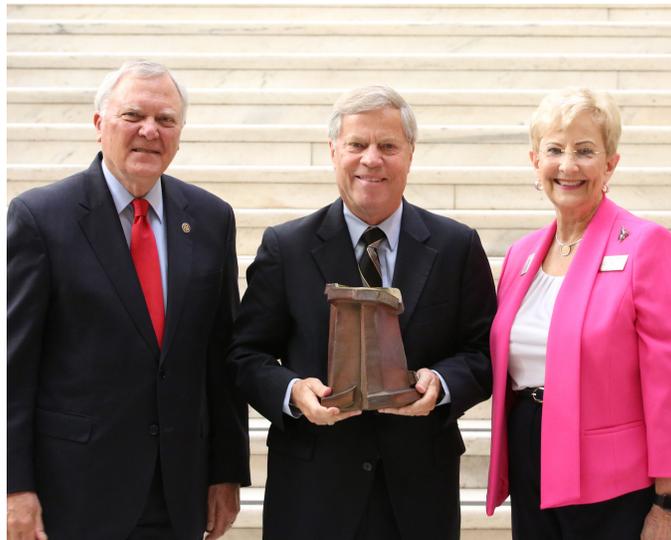
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## **National Infantry Museum Receives Arts and Humanities Award**

*Georgia Governor Nathan Deal presented awards in statehouse ceremony*



**Columbus, Georgia – October 10, 2017:** The National Infantry Museum Foundation is proud to receive the 2017 Governor’s Award for the Arts and Humanities. The awards were given by Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal and his wife, Sandra, during a ceremony in the statehouse last week.

“The First Lady and I are longtime supporters of the arts, humanities and expressions of creativity,” Deal said. “These awards recognize outstanding individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to Georgia’s economic, civic and cultural vitality. Our state’s creative industries provide some 200,000 jobs for Georgians and generate \$62.5 billion in economic impact. I congratulate the individuals and institutions being honored today and am grateful for their contributions to communities throughout Georgia.”

Foundation President Colonel (Retired) Greg Camp received the award on behalf of the National Infantry Museum and its Foundation. National Advisory Board member and long-time museum supporter Bob Poydasheff, who nominated the Foundation for the award, told the audience the National Infantry Museum’s various educational programs have had a profound

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impact on Georgia's schoolchildren and Army trainees as well. The museum was also lauded for enhancing the state's efforts to promote tourism and economic development.

"There were only 12 recipients of this award," COL Camp said. "Considering how many great organizations there are around the state making equally impressive contributions, we are humbled to be singled out."

The other recipients were:

Karen Berman, Milledgeville  
Valerie Boyd, Athens  
William Eiland, Athens  
Gilmer Arts and Heritage Association, Elijay  
Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport Art Program, Atlanta  
Virginia Hepner, Atlanta  
Kenny Leon, Atlanta  
The Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts, Valdosta  
Dr. Pearl McHaney, Decatur  
Janisse Ray, Reidsville  
Lois Reitzes, Atlanta

Each recipient took home a unique award, handcrafted by 12 Georgia potters. The awards are presented in partnership with the Georgia Council for the Arts and Georgia Humanities.

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*The National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center, a 155-acre tract linking Columbus, Georgia, and the Maneuver Center of Excellence at Fort Benning, is the first world-class site to pay tribute to the U.S. Army Infantryman and those who fight alongside him. Voted the #1 Free Museum in America in the 2016 USA Today Readers' Choice Awards, the museum showcases the contributions of the Infantry Soldier in every war fought by the U.S. by offering immersive participation and engaging visitors in the unique experiences of the Infantry Soldier. The complex also includes a parade field, memorial walk of honor, authentic World War II Company Street, Vietnam Memorial Plaza, combat simulators, a full-service restaurant and a Giant Screen Theater. For more information, visit [www.nationalinfantrymuseum.org](http://www.nationalinfantrymuseum.org).*