



MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

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Infantry Museum Defends Title on *Georgia Gives Day*

NIM won top honors in 2013 campaign

Columbus, Georgia – November 6, 2014 *The heat is on!*

National Infantry Foundation staff and volunteers will be out in force, trying to win first place again on Georgia Gives Day. This is the third annual Georgia Gives Day, in which the Georgia Center for Non-Profits urges supporters to make online donations to their favorite non-profit organizations. This year's event is **Thursday, November 13**.

Last year, the National Infantry Foundation raised \$57,497 in donations and prize money – *more than any other organization in the state*.

In Columbus, The Community Foundation of the Chattahoochee Valley has again sweetened the pot by offering \$40,000 in incentive prizes.

Supporters must make their donations online at www.gagivesday.org for it to be counted in this friendly competition. They can search **National Infantry Foundation**, or scroll through the list of participating organizations in Muscogee County or by zip code. Donations of any amount are accepted. Donors will receive acknowledgement of their tax-deductible gift.

Visitors to the museum Thursday will have the opportunity to make their online donations in the museum's lobby with the assistance of foundation staffers. As a thank you, they'll receive a coupon for a free small bag of popcorn at the IMAX Theatre, and those who make donations of \$25 or more will be offered a unique gift item. Retired Master Sergeant Vincent Melillo – one of the original Merrill's Marauders – will be in the lobby from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to share stories and artifacts of his service in World War II. Rosie the Riveter will be on hand to greet visitors and answer questions.

The National Infantry Foundation is a private, 501(c)(3) organization charged with operating the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center. There is no admission charged to visitors. Its funding comes from donations, sponsorships and revenue generated by the IMAX Theatre, combat simulators, rentals and the Fife and Drum restaurant and catering.

"We'll really have to step up our game this year," said National Infantry Foundation President Ben Williams. "Everyone will be out to knock us off the pedestal. But that's a good thing. Everybody wins when the focus is on supporting non-profits."

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The National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center at Patriot Park, 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. As the only interactive Army Museum in the United States, 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 and 3-D IMAX® Theatre. For more information, visit www.nationalinfantrymuseum.org.