



News for Immediate Release

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PA Civil War Road Show to Cross Mason-Dixon Line to Mark 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Antietam

Harrisburg – The Pennsylvania Civil War Road Show will make a special appearance at Antietam National Battlefield in Sharpsburg, Maryland, Sept. 14-17 as it joins with Virginia’s Civil War 150 HistoryMobile as part of the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Antietam.

Visitors will have the unique opportunity to tour both traveling exhibits to explore the Civil War’s impact on two states, one north and one south of the Mason-Dixon Line.

Fought on Sept. 17, 1862, the Battle of Antietam was the bloodiest one-day battle in the nation’s history. More than 23,000 soldiers were killed, wounded or missing after 12 hours of fierce combat. The battle ended the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia's first invasion into the North and led to Abraham Lincoln's issuance of the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation.

State Museum of Pennsylvania Director David Dunn will join dignitaries from Maryland and Virginia for an opening program at 10 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 14. The Pennsylvania Civil War Road Show and Virginia HistoryMobile will be open for visitors through Monday, Sept. 17.

Installed in a 53-foot expandable trailer, the Road Show tells the compelling personal stories of the many different ways Pennsylvanians experienced the American Civil War—on both the home front and on the battlefield. Interactive features include stereoscopic photographs, original compositions of Civil War-era music and sound effects, hands-on objects, and animated stories.

The Road Show was launched in April 2011 as part of Pennsylvania Civil War 150, a multi-year series of programming marking the 150th anniversary of the Civil War. To date, it has made 33 stops at fairs, festivals and special events and has welcomed nearly 98,000 visitors. Exhibit components from the Civil War Road Show will be installed at The State Museum of Pennsylvania after its final tour ends later this month.

Pennsylvania Civil War 150 is the state’s official program commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, being observed from 2011 to 2015. The PA Civil War 150 Committee, convened by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum

Commission (PHMC) in partnership with the Pennsylvania Heritage Society (PHS), the Senator John Heinz History Center, Pittsburgh, and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, is a statewide alliance of history, heritage, arts and cultural organizations from throughout the state.

PA Civil War 150's mission is to leverage the considerable strengths of these institutions and bring quality programming to the commonwealth's commemoration of the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War. PA Civil War 150 includes a wide array of statewide initiatives and facilitates numerous activities and events at regional and local levels.

Find more information online at www.PaCivilWar150.com.

Media contact: Howard Pollman, 717-705-8639

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