



**Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Announces 2019 *The Wall That Heals* Tour Schedule**  
*Vietnam Veterans Memorial Replica Wall and Mobile Education Center spreads healing legacy of The Wall and educates about the impact of the Vietnam War*

For Immediate Release

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Washington, D.C. – The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) has announced *The Wall That Heals* national tour schedule for 2019. *The Wall That Heals* exhibit includes a three-quarter scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial along with a mobile Education Center. The 2019 tour will begin on February 28, 2019 in San Antonio, Texas and visit 34 communities during the year. The traveling exhibit honors the more than three million Americans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces in the Vietnam War and it bears the names of the more than 58,000 men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam.

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is one of the most visited memorials in our nation’s capital, with nearly 5.3 million visitors each year. However, many Americans have not been able to visit what has become known to many as “The Wall.” VVMF, the nonprofit organization that built The Wall in 1982, wants to give all veterans and their family members across America an opportunity to see the Memorial.

“We received more than 100 applications to host *The Wall That Heals* in 2019 and we are excited to announce the cities that we’ve selected as hosts for next year. *The Wall That Heals* mobile exhibit provides thousands of veterans and their family members the chance to visit The Wall and honor and remember those who have served and sacrificed,” said Jim Knotts, president and CEO of VVMF. “Hosting the exhibit gives veterans an opportunity for healing and provides an educational experience for the whole community on the impact of the Vietnam War on America.”

*The Wall That Heals* 2019 Tour dates include:

- San Antonio, Texas                      February 28 – March 3
- Casa Grande, Ariz.                      March 7 – March 10
- Peoria, Ariz.                                March 14 – March 17
- Bellflower, Calif.                        March 21 – March 24
- Windsor, Calif.                            March 28 – March 31
- Florence, Ore.                              April 4 – April 7
- Costa Mesa, Calif.                        April 11 – April 14
- Stillwater, Okla.                         April 18 – April 21
- Lewisville, Texas                        May 2 – May 5

- Durant, Okla. May 9 – May 12
- Oakley, Kan. May 16 – May 19
- Bentonville, Ark. May 23 – May 27
- Paragould, Ark. May 30 – June 2
- Lathrop, Mo. June 6 – June 9
- Arvada, Colo. June 20 – June 23
- Bourbonnais, Ill. June 27 – June 30
- West Dundee, Ill. July 4 – July 7
- Greenfield, Ind. July 11 – July 14
- Marion, Ohio July 18 – July 21
- To be announced soon July 25 – July 28
- Conway, N.H. Aug. 8 – Aug. 11
- North Reading, Mass. Aug. 15 – Aug. 18
- Bellingham, Mass. Aug. 22 – Aug. 25
- East Meadow, N.Y. Aug. 29 – Sept. 1
- Plymouth, Pa. Sept. 5 - Sept. 8
- Manitowoc, Wis. Sept. 12 – Sept. 15
- To be announced soon Sept. 19 – Sept. 22
- Ocean View, Del. Oct. 3 – Oct. 6
- Indiana, Pa. Oct. 10 – Oct. 13
- Tarboro, N.C. Oct. 17 – Oct. 20
- Rock Hill, S.C. Oct. 24 – Oct. 27
- Pooler, Ga. Oct. 31 - Nov. 3
- Stephenville, Texas Nov. 7 – Nov. 10
- Columbia, Miss. Nov. 14 – Nov. 18

The 2019 national *The Wall That Heals* tour is hauled through a partnership with the Truckload Carriers Association (TCA) and the trucking industry and is generously sponsored by USAA.

Nearly 400,000 people visited an all-new *The Wall That Heals* exhibit in 2018. Since its debut in 1996, the exhibit has been on display in more than 500 U.S. communities in addition to an April 1999 tour of the Four Provinces of Ireland and a visit to Canada in 2005. Hosting *The Wall That Heals* provides a community with a multi-day experience that includes an educational experience for local schools and organizations on the history of the Vietnam era and The Wall. The current schedule and more information can be found at: [www.thewallthatheals.org](http://www.thewallthatheals.org).

### **About The Wall replica**

The three-quarter scale Wall replica is 375 feet in length and stands 7.5 feet high at its tallest point. With the replica at this size, visitors are able to experience The Wall rising above them as they walk towards the apex, a key feature of the design of The Wall in D.C.

Like the original Memorial, *The Wall That Heals* is erected in a chevron-shape and visitors are able to do name rubbings of individual service member's names on The Wall. The names are

listed in order of date of casualty and alphabetically on each day. Beginning at the center/apex, the names start on the East Wall (right-hand side) working their way out to the end of that wing, picking up again at the far end of the West Wall (left-hand side) and working their way back in to the center/apex. The first and last casualties are side by side at the apex of the Memorial.

The replica is constructed of Avonite, a synthetic granite, and its 144 individual panels are supported by an aluminum frame. Modern LED lighting from the top of The Wall provides readability of The Wall at night.

### **About the mobile Education Center**

*The Wall That Heals* is transported from community to community in a 53-foot trailer. When parked, the trailer opens with exhibits built into its sides, allowing it to serve as a mobile Education Center telling the story of the Vietnam War, The Wall and the divisive era in American history.

The mobile Education Center displays includes: digital photo displays of “Hometown Heroes” - service members whose names are on The Wall that list their home of record within the area of a visit; digital photo displays of Vietnam veterans from the local area honored through VVMF’s *In Memory* program which honors veterans who returned home from Vietnam and later died as a result of their service; video displays that teach about the history and impact of The Wall and of the collection of items representative of those left at The Wall in D.C.; educational exhibits told through items in the collection; a map of Vietnam and a chronological overview of the Vietnam War. The exhibits tell the story of the Vietnam War, The Wall and the era surrounding the conflict, and are designed to put American experiences in Vietnam in a historical and cultural context.

### **About VVMF**

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund (VVMF) is the nonprofit organization that built the Vietnam Veterans Memorial (The Wall) in Washington, D.C. in 1982. VVMF continues to lead the way in paying tribute to our nation’s Vietnam veterans and their families. VVMF’s mission is to honor and preserve the legacy of service in America and educate all generations about the impact of the Vietnam War and era through programs, ceremonies and education materials. To learn more about VVMF, visit [www.vvmf.org](http://www.vvmf.org) or call 202-393-0090.

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For more information:  
Heidi Zimmerman  
202-765-3773  
[hzimmerman@vvmf.org](mailto:hzimmerman@vvmf.org)