



## For Immediate Release

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### **CEDAR LAKE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION TO PARTICIPATE IN BLUE STAR MUSEUMS**

***The Cedar Lake Historical Association's Lake of the Red Cedars Museum is one of more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to military personnel and their families this summer in collaboration with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and the Department of Defense***

**Cedar Lake, IN – May 29, 2017** – Today, Cedar Lake Historical Association announced its participation in Blue Star Museums, a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 2,000 museums across America to offer free admission to the nation's active duty military personnel including National Guard and Reserve and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day 2017. The program also provides families an opportunity to enjoy the nation's cultural heritage and learn more about their community, especially after a military move. The complete list of participating museums is available at [arts.gov/bluestarmuseums](http://arts.gov/bluestarmuseums).

"The Blue Star Museums program is a great opportunity for the NEA to team up with local museums in every state in the nation to support our service members and their families," said NEA Chairman Jane Chu. "It means a lot to offer these families access to high-quality, budget-friendly opportunities to spend time together."

Museums are welcome to join Blue Star Museums throughout the summer. The effort to recruit museums has involved partnerships with the American Alliance of Museums, the Association of Art Museum Directors, the Association of Children's Museums, the American Association of State and Local History, and the Association of Science-Technology Centers. This year's Blue Star Museums represent not just fine arts museums, but also science museums, history museums, nature centers, and dozens of children's museums. Among this year's returning participants is the [Cedar Lake Historical Association's Lake of the Red Cedars Museum](http://www.cedarlakehistory.org).

#### **About Blue Star Museums**

Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 2,000 museums across America. The program runs from Memorial Day, May 29, 2017 through Labor Day, September 4, 2017.

The free admission program is available to **any** bearer of a [Geneva Convention common access card](#) (CAC), a [DD Form 1173 ID card](#) (dependent ID), or a [DD Form 1173-1 ID card](#), which includes active duty

U.S. military - Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, as well as members of the National Guard and Reserve, U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, NOAA Commissioned Corps - and up to five family members. Some special or limited-time museum exhibits may not be included in this free admission program. For questions on particular exhibits or museums, please contact the museum directly. To find participating museums and plan your trip, visit [arts.gov/bluestarmuseums](https://arts.gov/bluestarmuseums).

This is the latest NEA program to bring quality arts programs to the military, veterans, and their families. Other NEA programs for the military include the Creative Forces: NEA Military Healing Arts Network.

#### **About Cedar Lake Historical Association**

The Cedar Lake Historical Association brings together those interested in the history of Cedar Lake and those seeking to understand our traditions and heritage by operating the Lake of the Red Cedars Museum on the shores of Cedar Lake, Indiana. The Lake of the Red Cedars Museum consists of 14 period rooms featuring settings from lifestyles of the early 1900's and 11 special exhibits highlighting the history of Cedar Lake. To learn more about the Association and Museum, visit [www.cedarlakehistory.org](http://www.cedarlakehistory.org)

#### **About the National Endowment for the Arts**

Established by Congress in 1965, the NEA is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the NEA supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America. Visit the NEA at [arts.gov](https://arts.gov).

#### **About Blue Star Families**

Blue Star Families is a national, nonprofit network of military spouses, children, parents and friends, as well as service members, veterans and civilians, dedicated to supporting, connecting, and empowering military families. With our partners, Blue Star Families leverages data-driven insights to curate resources for military families, including career development tools, local community events for families, and caregiver support. Each summer since 2010, Blue Star Families has engaged tens of thousands of volunteers and served more than 4 million military family members. Blue Star Families also works directly with the Department of Defense and senior members of local, State and Federal government to bring the most important military family issues to light. With Blue Star Families, military families can find answers to their challenges anywhere they are. Visit [www.bluestarfam.org](http://www.bluestarfam.org).

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