

PRITZKER MILITARY LIBRARY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 2, 2012

Contact: Nancy Houghton, Director of External Affairs
nhoughton@pritzkermilitarylibrary.org, 312.374.9333

Pritzker Military Library Announces 2012 Veterans Day Observance Activities

CHICAGO, November 2, 2012 — The Pritzker Military Library has announced its plans to observe Veterans Day 2012 with a full slate of programming designed to honor the sacrifices made by the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces.

"Veterans Day is a great day to help make people aware of the importance of honoring and appreciating our veterans," says Library President and CEO Kenneth A. Clarke. "At the Pritzker Military Library, we do that every day by preserving and sharing the stories of Citizen Soldiers, both past and present. This year, we are excited to partner with both local and national organizations to help spread that message."

The Library will open the day at 8:00 am with a morning colors and flag-raising ceremony in partnership with the Art Institute of Chicago. The event will take place at the museum's North Garden, at the Southeast corner of Michigan and Monroe, across the street from the Library's facility. The ceremony will open with a Veterans Day message and address by Brigadier General Richard L. Hayes, Jr., and will include participation by members of the U.S. Military. It will conclude with an address by Major General James Jackson (Ret.), a representative of the Department of Defense Vietnam War Commemoration.

"The Art Institute of Chicago is proud to host the Pritzker Military Library to honor our veterans for their service, and remember those who have made the greatest sacrifice on our country's behalf," said David Thurm, COO of the Art Institute. "This second annual flag-raising ceremony in our North Garden is an opportunity for our community to thank our veterans for fighting for the freedom we so cherish—and to keep in our thoughts the American service men and women overseas today."

Following the morning colors ceremony, the Library will host a reception and continental breakfast at 8:30 am. In furtherance of its mission of sharing the story of America's Citizen Soldiers with the widest possible audience, admission to all Veterans Day programming and admission to the Library is free of charge and open to the public on November 12. The Library's oral historians will be collecting 10-15 minute interviews from veterans and their families about their stories of service and the importance of observing Veterans Day.

At 1:00 pm, the Library will present a screening of the Vanilla Fire Productions documentary film "Until They Are Home," in its theater/auditorium. "Until They Are Home," narrated by film and television star Kelsey Grammer, tells the extraordinary story of the Joint MIA/POW Accounting Command (JPAC)—a special operations team whose job it is to find and account for soldiers lost in battle, and to bring their remains home for burial.

The Library will also be exhibiting artifacts at the Veterans Day Appreciation Event and Rally at Union Station's Great Hall, hosted by Fifth Third Bank Chicago. The public event will feature music, veterans service organizations, and care package assembly.

About the Pritzker Military Library:

The Pritzker Military Library, located at 104 S. Michigan Avenue in the Loop, directly across from Millennium Park and the Art Institute, collects and preserves materials related to the history of the American military and to the concept of the Citizen Soldier. 100% privately funded, it is the only organization of its kind in the United States.