On February 26th, the 9/11 Tribute Center once again celebrated the creativity and dedication of teachers at the 7th annual Teacher Awards. The 9/11 Tribute Center has a strong educational mission and recognizes classroom teachers as allies in our work of teaching children about the terrorist attacks and their aftermath. Although our website provides resources for teachers to use in their classrooms, our Teacher Awards allow us to celebrate and bring attention to the teachers that have built their own unique projects, conversations, or experiences into their classrooms. This year we had dozens of submissions from teachers around the nation. Teachers found ways to integrate 9/11 into a variety of curriculum areas: history, language arts, media and visual and performing arts, psychology, ethics, city planning and community service. There were ten winning projects: 4 winners are from NYC, 2 from upstate NY, 3 from NJ and 1 from North Dakota.

New York State Regent Lester Young Jr. gave the keynote address. He shared his own experiences as a NYC school administrator in the aftermath of both attacks — Feb. 26, 1993 and September 11, 2001. He expressed his beliefs on why it is so important to remember and how our response to the attacks shaped our New York and national identity.

The awards have been made possible by contributions from seven 9/11 family foundations—The Brooke Jackman Foundation; The Christopher Slattery 9/11 Memorial Foundation; The Greg Richards, Larry Polatsch, 2014 ANNUAL TEACHER AWARDS

The 2014 Annual Teacher Awards at the 9/11 Tribute Center.

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SEARCH AND RESCUE DOGS

NYPD officer Robert McArdle, a member of the NYPD ESU K-9 Unit, gave a talk and demonstration on the work of canines after the attacks at the World Trade Center. The talk was aimed at educating the general public about the role of dogs after disasters, introducing a dialogue about 9/11 in a constructive manner, giving a background on the role dogs played in searching for victims at the World Trade Center.

Officer McArdle presented the Search & Rescue Dog program with his partner Clancy. Officer McArdle, who has spent 20 of his 32 years with the Department in the K-9 Unit, talked about the powerful bond between police officers and their canine partners. In September 2001, McArdle responded to the World Trade Center rescue site with his canine partner, Baron. McArdle had also just begun training a new canine partner, TC, named for the Trade Center, when the attacks occurred. They stayed at the World Trade Center until May of 2002.

9/11 Tribute Center volunteer Caitlin Langone thanked Officer McArdle and Clancy for their dedication. She recounted how her father, NYPD ESU officer Tommy Langone, used to tell her wonderful stories about the NYPD dogs when she was a child. In her father’s memory, she became inspired to work with therapy dogs and is pursuing a graduate program in that specialty.

OUR NEW WEBSITE: TRIBUTEWTC.ORG

You may be surprised the next time that you visit the 9/11 Tribute Center website (tributewtc.org), because it has been completely updated. The website is now responsive, which means it looks great on iPhones, iPads and all mobile devices, adjusting to the size of whatever device you are using for maximum navigation and legibility.

The new website is easy to search, filled with imagery and video, clearly displaying our programs, exhibits and the mission of the 9/11 Tribute Center.

2014 ANNUAL TEACHER AWARDS (cont’d)

Scott Weingard Memorial Fund (GLS Memorial Fund); The family of Firefighter Michael D. Mullan; The Terence D. Gazzani 9/11 Scholarship Fund; The Terry Farrell Firefighters Scholarship Fund; and the Welles Remy Crowther Charitable Trust.

The winning teachers are:

Genevieve Berretta from PS 119, Brooklyn, N.Y. Fifth graders wrote narratives for “The Lantern,” a P. S. 119 literary magazine.

Steven Seltz from Urban Assembly School for Law and Justice, Brooklyn, NY. 12th grade global issues students researched terrorism in a democratic society.

Virginia Wolff from HS of Economics & Finance, Manhattan, NY. Students worked with visual arts to comprehend how 9/11 has changed our identity.

Michael Scherer from Franklin Delano Roosevelt HS, Brooklyn. How American values of civic virtue were experienced in the aftermath of 9/11.

Gregory Nacerino and Hugh Gallagher from Washingtonville Middle School, Washingtonville, NY. Students began the Washingtonville 9/11 Memorial Park Maintenance Club.

Kirsten Kenny from Buffalo Academy of the Sacred Heart, Buffalo, NY. Kirsten and her students held inspiring discussions of faith, spirituality, and existentialism.

Deirdre M. Hurley from Bayonne High School, Bayonne, NJ. Students interviewed a survivor and then their own parents, creating oral histories.

Kathleen Menake from Passaic Valley Regional HS, Little Falls, NJ. Students tele-conferenced and interviewed people closely connected to 9/11 history.

Jill McCracken from Franklin-Delano Roosevelt HS, Franklin-Delano Roosevelt HS, Franklin-Delano Roosevelt HS, Franklin-Delano Roosevelt HS. Jill created a unit on contemporary terrorism, followed by a lesson on remembrance.

Carolyn Williams-Feoill from Shahan HS, Fargo, ND. Students researched and analyzed oral histories and 9/11 poetry, discussing virtue and faith.
9/11 MEMORIAL MUSEUM

Our partners, The National September 11 Memorial Museum, will open to the public on Wednesday, May 21, 2014. Prior to the public opening, a Dedication Period from Thursday, May 15 through Tuesday, May 20 will include special previews of the Museum for 9/11 family members, 9/11 rescue and recovery workers, active-duty first responders from agencies that lost members in the 9/11 attacks, 9/11 survivors and lower Manhattan residents or business owners. A ceremony within the Museum will begin the Dedication Period on May 15.

“We are honored that the first people to experience this Museum will be the men and women who came to our aid and protected us on 9/11, the families of the innocent victims killed that day, and the survivors who lived to tell the tale of an unimaginable horror so that we may learn from the past. The Museum is built upon their incredible stories,” 9/11 Memorial Chair Michael R. Bloomberg said.

The Dedication Period previews will be free, but reservations are required. To reserve your free ticket(s) to preview the Museum during the Dedication Period, visit www.911memorial.org/dedication. During the Dedication Period, the Museum will remain open 24 hours per day, which will serve as a small tribute to the thousands of Ground Zero rescue and recovery workers who worked around the clock in the aftermath of 9/11 as the city, the nation, and the world supported them. This will also help ensure the Museum is as accessible as possible to those who wish to visit.

9/11 Memorial President Joe Daniels said, “When the Museum opens to the public on May 21, millions will come to further understand the experiences, courageous actions, and terrible losses that we saw on 9/11 and in the aftermath. The Museum will forever remind us of the capacity we have to come together when the times require.”

The Museum includes two core exhibitions at the foundation, or bedrock, of the historic Trade Center complex. The memorial exhibition - called “In Memoriam” - pays tribute to the 2,983 men, women and children killed on 9/11 and in the February 26, 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center. The historical exhibition tells the story of what happened on 9/11 at the three attack sites and around the world. It also explores what led up to the terror strikes, examines the aftermath and shows how 9/11 continues to shape our world.

9/11 Memorial Museum Director Alice Greenwald said, “As much about 9/12 as it is about 9/11, the Museum provides a case study in how ordinary people acted in extraordinary circumstances, their acts of kindness, compassion, and generosity of spirit demonstrating the profoundly constructive effect we can have on each other’s lives by the choices we make, even in the face of unspeakable destruction. The 9/11 Memorial Museum takes you on a journey into the heart of memory as an agent of transformation, empowering each of us to seek a deeper understanding of what it means to be a human being living in an interdependent world at the start of the 21st century.”

Public admission reservations are available at 911memorial.org. 9/11 family members do not have to pay an admission fee to visit the Museum and will always be given priority entry. 9/11 rescue and recovery workers who are registered with the Memorial also visit for free.

TRIBUTE GUIDE HONORS LOVED ONE

Lance Tumulty would have turned 45 years old on March 31st. On 9/11, he worked for EuroBrokers on the eighty-fourth floor of the World Trade Center’s South Tower. As they’ve done every March 31st since 9/11, friends and family will gather together that day at the home of his widow, Cynthia Tumulty-Ollemar, to celebrate Lance’s life. “We share stories about Lance,” Cynthia says. “He is always in our hearts, but March 31st is one of our special days of remembrance.” Friends and family write messages to Lance for a “balloon launch.” “Lance was Irish,” says Cynthia, “and his birthday was near St. Patrick’s Day, so the balloons are always green.” The green balloons float into the sky, with messages for Lance trailing from their strings. Cynthia’s daughters, Sara and Caroline, were only three years old and four months old when Lance perished. Growing up, the balloon launch helped them get to know their father, giving them memories to cherish.

As Cynthia and her daughters have grown older, they’ve found more meaningful ways not only to remember, but to help others, “sort of the way others helped us after 9/11,” she explains.

For the third year in a row, they had a team run in the Tunnel to Towers Run in New York City, “Team 27,” in honor of Lance, raising money to help the Stephen Siller Foundation. In June 2013, Cynthia became a 9/11 Tribute Center volunteer guide. She now shares her stories about Lance with visitors from across the country and around the world. “People often ask me if it’s hard to go there and talk about Lance. I’ve been living this for almost 13 years. It’s my life. It’s important for me to teach others about that day,” Cynthia says that volunteering for Tribute has given her “a sense of purpose,” and coming to the 9/11 Memorial brings her a sense of peace. It is, she says, “her place of remembrance.”

Cynthia has joined a volunteer community of people like her, all of whom were deeply impacted by the events of 9/11. Each tour incorporates a volunteer’s personal September 11th story, a historical account of what happened that day, a description of the Memorial and of the rebuilding at the World Trade Center. While tours follow a basic outline, each one is very different depending upon the experience and perspective of the volunteer. “I feel it’s part of my job to help people understand that there’s a family behind every one of those names on the Memorial.” Cynthia not only serves as a voice for Lance, but she is a voice for the nearly 3,000 names on the Memorial. For Cynthia, the choice to volunteer was an obvious one: “What better volunteer work could I do than something in honor of my husband?”
DONATIONS IN MEMORIAM

Paul A. Acquaviva, Esq.
Joanne Marie Ahladiotis
Yvonne Lucia Bonomo
Welles Remy Crowther
Laurence Damian Curia

FF Terrence Patrick Farrell
David Francis Ferrugio
Terence D. Gazzani
Lt. David Halderman
Brooke Alexandra Jackman

Rebecca Lee Koborie
Ronald Magnuson
FF Robert William McPadden
FF Michael D. Mullan
Laurence Michael Polatsch
Gregory David Richards
Christopher Paul Slattery
Richard James Stadelberger
Scott Jeffrey Weingard

DATES TO REMEMBER

Visit www.911families.org and select “Events” for a full list of upcoming events.

Haskell Brothers Memorial Golf Outing & Dinner
Thursday, May 22, 2014
Lido Beach Golf Club, Lido Beach, NY
Contact Ken, 516-783-4936 or 516-826-2127

Celebrating Stories of Hope – The Billy Esposito Foundation
Wednesday, May 28, 2014
Apella, New York, NY
Go to acaringhand.org for details

Captain Martin J. Egan 5-K Memorial Run
Sunday, June 1, 2014
Midland Beach picnic area, SI, NY
Call 718.966.9493 for details

Special Agent Leonard W. Hatton Memorial Golf Classic
Friday, June 6, 2014
Pebble Creek Golf Club, Colts Neck, NJ
Go to hattonclassic.com for details

Robert J. Shay, Jr. Memorial Golf Outing & 40th Birthday Celebration
Saturday, June 14, 2014
Staten Island, NY
Go to robshayjrgolfouting.com for details

Mark Bavis Leadership Foundation Comedy Night and Golf Outing
Sunday, July 13, 2014 - Monday, July 14, 2014
New Seabury Country Club, Mashpee, MA
Go to markbavisleadershipfoundation.org

9/11 TRIBUTE CENTER VOLUNTEER TRAINING PROGRAM
June 20th & 21st | August 1st and 2nd

September 11th Families’ Association
22 Cortlandt Street, Suite 801
New York, NY 10007