



## About The 9/11 Tribute Museum

The September 11th Widows and Victims Families' Association a 501(c) 3 not-for-profit organization, supports victims of terrorism and their families through education, communication and peer support.

The 9/11 Tribute Museum opened in 2006 as a meaningful cultural destination where people can learn about the events of 9/11 from a personal perspective through a variety of programs and exhibitions, both onsite and online, and utilizes history as a means to inspire a better tomorrow. Since its opening, the 9/11 Tribute Museum has proudly welcomed 4 million+ visitors.

The Tribute Museum provides educational programming and a central place for the 9/11 community to gather and share their stories. More than 1,000 volunteers from the 9/11 community share their personal stories, within the Museum galleries and on walking tours of the 9/11 Memorial. The Tribute Museum offers "Person to Person History," connecting visitors with people who directly experienced the attacks -- family members who lost loved ones, survivors, Lower Manhattan residents and workers, rescue and recovery workers, police and firefighters. The Tribute Museum provides education of 9/11 and reminds people of the powerful positive difference our local and global communities can make when we stand together. The Tribute Museum provides an understanding of the loss and impact of 9/11 while demonstrating the resilience and recovery of New York City, the country and the world.

### **9/11 TRIBUTE MUSEUM PROGRAMS**

#### **STUDENT PROGRAMS**

The Museum offers programs to 8,000 students and teachers annually to help teach the impact of 9/11 for middle and high school students. The "educational toolkit" offers interactive video stories of people who were deeply affected by the attacks and reveal how they responded with humanitarian initiatives that strengthened their local and global communities. These stories encourage an understanding of the facts of this contemporary history and a focus on the extraordinary civic response. Throughout the year, 9/11 Tribute Museum offers workshops for teachers.

#### **COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & CHANGING EXHIBITIONS**

Changing exhibits explore specific aspects of community resilience, highlighting ways in which people have healed and are making meaning out of their experiences. Each exhibit is accompanied by a series of public programs; symposiums, lectures or workshops that explore each topic with greater depth and insight.

#### **9/11 COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

The September 11th Families' Association supports victims of terrorism through communication, representation, and peer support. Our mission is to unite the 9/11 community, present evolving issues, and share resources for long-term recovery. The Association maintains one of the largest active databases including 7,000 immediate family members of victims.

#### **ONLINE RESOURCES**

The 9/11 Tribute Museum offers changing online exhibits, teacher toolkits and virtual programs.



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## INSIDE THE 9/11 TRIBUTE MUSEUM

The Museum provides a cultural and historical context for understanding the events of 9/11 through the personal experiences.

**Lower Manhattan:** Where the World Meets: Surrounded on three sides by water, the tip of Manhattan has drawn people from around the world for more than 400 years. This small strip of land has long been at the center of the global trade in goods, services and ideas, affecting individual lives and influencing the course of national and global events.

**September 11, 2001 Gallery:** Video footage from the morning of September 11, 2001 shows the tragedy of the terrorist attacks and events that changed the world. Students who have no first-hand memory of the day learn about the events that shocked a nation and challenged the world. Artifacts, photographs, audio and video reveal powerful perspectives and personal accounts of the day.

**Response and Recovery Gallery:** From the moment the attacks began, people's most human desire to help proved stronger than their fears. People put personal safety aside and rushed toward the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, to offer help.

**Storytelling Gallery:** Hear the stories and meet the family members who lost loved ones, survivors, NYPD, FDNY, and PAPD first responders, recovery workers, volunteers and residents. Listen to their first-person experiences and learn about their inspirational journeys of healing.

**Remembrance Room:** Two thousand images chosen by family members create a living memorial for visitors to see and feel the vibrancy of the lives of the victims as well as the enormity of the loss.

**Rebuilding and Remembering Gallery:** As months turned into years, the communities and individuals affected by the September 11th attacks experienced many different personal journeys of challenge and healing. Strengthened by the resilience they had found in themselves and each other, they began re-envisioning their lives, rebuilding their communities, and transforming the landscapes of Lower Manhattan, Arlington, Virginia, and Somerset County, Pennsylvania.

**Service to the World:** Inspired by the generosity and kindness they received from all over the world, members of the 9/11 community have changed their own lives by reaching out to help others, developing foundations and service initiatives.

**Seeds of Service Gallery:** Being a responsible citizen in our global community means finding ways, both large and small, to make that community a better place. Visitors are invited to plant a seed of service by supporting an issue, making a donation or contributing their skills to a good cause.

**Education Program Gallery:** Tribute education programs share an in-depth learning experience of 9/11 for middle and high-school students. Students receive a basic grounding in the historical and humanitarian impact of 9/11 guided by age-appropriate discussion with a volunteer from the 9/11 community.



## Programs & Highlights

### Education Programs

Students from around the world participate in Tribute's various student programs to learn from and be inspired by the heroes of 9/11. Programs provide resources and workshops for teachers to incorporate 9/11 history and civic engagement in the classroom. School group guides specialize in age-appropriate discussion to convey an understanding and focus on the extraordinary civic response.

**"I have always advocated for teaching 9/11 in the classroom, but there are challenges. I was very happy and excited to be presented solutions." - Teacher Workshop participant**



### 9/11 Community Support

The Tribute Museum works with those who continue to suffer from the effects of 9/11 and provides a supportive environment promoting peer support for families, survivors and first responders. For 9/11 community members, sharing their stories with visitors helps them cope with post-traumatic stress and is an emotionally rewarding remembrance.

**"Becoming a guide and speaking to people gave me a platform to speak for those who could no longer speak, and gave me a purpose that I needed to realize that it was okay that I survived 9/11 "**

**-Jeanette, Survivor**

## Programs & Highlights

### Visitors from Around the World

The world meets at the 9/11 Tribute Museum to connect with family members who lost a loved one, survivors and first responders to hear their powerful, personal stories of courage, strength and resilience. Exhibitions explore the incredible rebuilding of communities and changes in a post-9/11 world. Visitors learn about the foundations created by families in the aftermath of 9/11 and are encouraged to plant their own digital seed of community service.

**"As a mother of two boys, I felt a particular empathy with this brave and wonderful woman who took us through the pain of that day, but ended with a story of hope, as the entire area is rebuilt and regenerated"**

**- Museum Visitor**



### 9/11 Community Volunteers

The Tribute Museum's volunteer program draws from the entire 9/11 community: family members who lost loved ones, survivors, Lower Manhattan residents and workers, rescue and recovery workers, police and firefighters. Volunteers participate in an in-depth training program to share their stories.

