

# 2020!

## INSPIRING THINGS HAPPENED DURING

## 2020 GRATITUDE REPORT

### The Lessons of Our Past Continue to Inspire Our Work

It was March 2020, a year ago this month, when the full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic became clear. It launched a year of change and challenge. In the midst of horrific loss, there is much to be grateful for. We are reminded daily of how interconnected we are; how what we do as individuals and as communities can protect the lives of our loved ones and our neighbors. The lessons of our past truly helped us find our strength, our resilience to overcome.

Thank you! Though each of you faced the challenges of COVID-19 in very personal ways, our museum family was uplifted by your ongoing support and commitment. It is with our deepest gratitude that we report on what you helped us achieve.

As we begin 2021, empowered by your support, we feel ready to face the challenges ahead of us. We will not forget the lessons learned throughout 2020, nor will we forget your support.

Mahalo



Elissa Lines, Executive Director

### THEN:



**STEAM 2020**  
READY FOR TAKEOFF

The first quarter of 2020 included our first ever STEAM Day, a free, public program, made possible because of your support, welcoming more than 1,300 students and families to engage in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics activities.

### NOW:



On March 18, 2020, we closed the Museum, following orders from federal and local officials. While our doors were closed and we were all stuck at home, life shifted online! Pearl Harbor at Home was born, providing Museum activities at home. And, our Monthly Webinar program launched, providing a means to connect “face-to-face” with Museum exhibits, historians, veterans, and leaders. Community participation in these programs has been overwhelming! In November, we reopened to the public, welcoming visitors through our historic hangars five days a week.

# YOU ENSURED OUR WORK CONTINUED

Because of your support, our work continued. Here are a few of the ways we continued our mission to preserve and inspire our community during the past year.

## Commemorating 75 Years since the End of WWII



Over the summer, our community commemorated 75 years since the Instrument of Surrender was signed, ending WWII in the Pacific, in a ceremony that took place on the deck of the USS Missouri. Thousands of you, including 60 WWII veterans, tuned in for the ceremony from home. During these events, 15 WWII warbirds completed 3 historic flyovers of Pearl Harbor and the USS Missouri.

## Pearl Harbor, delivered at Home



In addition to our new weekly newsletters and monthly webinars, our Education team unveiled a new virtual field trip program, Virtual Classroom Visits. These programs engage schools all over the country in STEM learning, deepening their experience using the leadership and historical resources available through the Museum. Throughout the past year, most of these offerings have been provided free of charge, when they were needed most, thanks to the support of our donors and members.



*"[The digital programs] are a wonderful extension of the Museum's preservation and commemoration effort, and will surely inspire listeners, wherever they are."* —Museum Member

Thanks to you,  
we completed a  
**\$500,000 matching challenge from the Ray Foundation, raising**  
**\$1,000,000**



## For Love of Country

During our virtual For Love of Country Gala on December 5th, we announced a \$500,000 matching challenge from the Ray Foundation. Today, we are pleased to announce that you completed this challenge in full, providing \$1,000,000 in support to protect America's first Aviation Battlefield of World War II. Because of you, we will continue to honor the global peace that arose from the end of conflict, and remember the exemplary men and women of our Greatest Generation, who banded together to ensure their legacy was one of hope. Our deepest gratitude for making this work possible.