

PACIFIC HISTORIC PARKS

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Media Contact

Carlton Kramer

Phone: 808-781-3302

Email: ckramer@pacifichistoricparks.org

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE LAUNCHES TWO NEW CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

HONOLULU, HI – The National Park Service is proud to announce the launch of its new children's programs at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center.

This year, it is expected that 1.6 million visitors will come to the WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument at Pearl Harbor, making it the largest visitor destination in Hawaii. Families from all over the world come to this historical setting to see for themselves where World War II began for the United States on December 7th, 1941.

Parents with children from two to six years of age can now participate in the Visitor Center's new Keiki Ranger Activity Book. This new Keiki Ranger Activity book features a checklist of important sites of the Visitor Center, a coloring outline of the USS *Arizona* Memorial, a maze map of the Pacific, and counting exercises for discovering an important date that they should never forget.

For children between the ages of seven to twelve, the National Park Service has developed a new Junior Ranger Scavenger Hunt booklet, a tool that helps parents educate their children on the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center, the USS *Arizona* Memorial, the events that lead to America's entry into WWII, and provides interesting information on Hawaii. A 22-page, four-color booklet, the Junior Ranger Scavenger Hunt is now available upon request from the National Park Service Tickets and Information Desk near the main entrance of the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center.

"The National Park Service welcomes thousands of families each week as they travel to see the Pearl Harbor Historic Sites," says Paul DePrey, Superintendent of the WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument. "The National Park Service and Pacific Historic Parks created these two new children's programs to enhance family visitation to the USS *Arizona* Memorial and to provide parents with an educational tool for their children. Upon completion of the Keiki or Junior Ranger programs, children will receive an official Junior Ranger badge along with a certificate of completion."

About Pacific Historic Parks

Formed in 1979, Pacific Historic Parks (PHP) is a non-profit cooperating association with the National Park Service whose mission is to support and fund educational and interpretive programs for the WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument at Pearl Harbor; American Memorial Park on Saipan; War in the Pacific National Historical Park on Guam; and Kalaupapa National Historical Park on the island of Molokai.

Today, funding is generated through PHP's online retail sales and park site bookstores, audio tour programs, public membership support and fundraising campaigns. Recently, PHP successfully led a \$56-million capital campaign to rebuild the USS *Arizona* Memorial Visitor Center. The new center was renamed the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center and was dedicated on December 7, 2010. For more information, visit www.pacifichistoricparks.org or call (808) 954-8777.

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