



National Coast Guard Museum

4 Million Reasons to Celebrate!

The National Coast Guard Museum Association, Inc. announced commitments of over \$4 million in pledges from private and corporate sponsors during a special event at the Houston Museum of Natural Science.

The pledges for construction of America's first National Coast Guard Museum were announced as President George H. W. Bush and other noted supporters from across

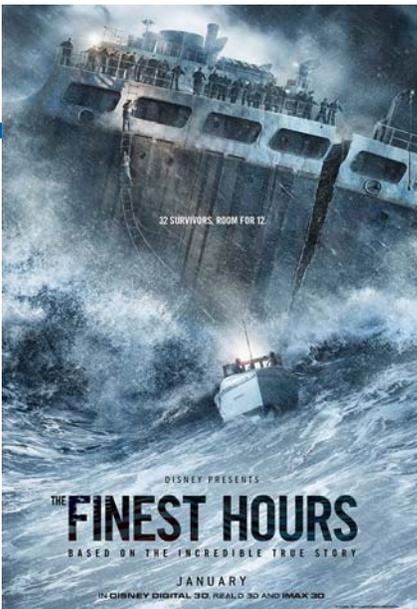
the country hosted an advanced screening of Walt Disney Pictures' production of "The Finest Hours." The advanced screening of the film, which chronicles a dramatic Coast Guard rescue off the coast of Cape Cod in 1952, was not a fundraising event. Instead, the invitation-only screening was intended to raise awareness about the museum. The awareness was certainly raised, marking a tremendous success.

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Boysie Bollinger, Chairman and CEO, Bollinger Enterprises LLC, James J. Coleman, Jr. and Richard J. Grann.

J.D. Power III, founder of the marketing firm J.D. Power and Associates and Susan Curtin with President and Mrs. Bush.



Disney Picture's The Finest Hours

Do not miss your opportunity to see this important, historic film on the big screen! Disney's blockbuster film "The Finest Hours" is the unforgettable story of the Coast Guard's courageous mission, which is directed by Craig Gillespie and stars Chris Pine, Academy Award® and Golden Globe® nominee Casey Affleck, Ben Foster, Holliday Grainger, John Ortiz and Eric Bana. On Feb. 18, 1952, a massive storm splits the SS Pendleton in two, trapping more than 30 sailors inside the tanker's sinking stern. Engineer Ray Sybert bravely takes charge to organize a strategy for his fellow survivors. As word of the disaster reaches the Coast Guard in Chatham, Mass., Chief Warrant Officer Daniel Cluff orders a daring rescue mission. Despite the ferocious weather, Bernie Webber takes three men on a lifeboat to try and save the crew against seemingly impossible odds.

Disney Picture's The Finest Hours.

Leadership in the Finest Hours

Richard J. Grahn



Richard J. Grahn is the President and CEO of the National Coast Guard Museum Association, Inc.

The National Coast Guard Museum Association, Inc. was thrilled to be among the invitees to an advanced screening of the Walt Disney Pictures' production of "The Finest Hours" at the Garde Arts Center in New London. We were so pleased that the Coast Guard Academy and Institute for Leadership (IFL) could bring this event to New London, and were excited to see their training of Coast Guard leaders of character.

Academy cadets, officer candidates and local community leaders learned how singular acts of courage and leadership like those featured in "The Finest Hours," in times of crisis, are not easily made. The challenges faced by Bernie Webber and the crew of the CG36500 in 1952, as highlighted in the film, are similar to those that will test the young men and women in the audience as they serve our nation and their community.

Because we were unable to charge admission to the event, we elected to use the seating generously provided to us by the IFL to invite a variety of leaders from the community, who we believed would appreciate the leadership training program opportunity and who share in our cooperative effort to bring a world-class National Coast Guard Museum to New London. These community leaders spanned the political, educational, civic, religious, nonprofit and business spectrum and enjoyed viewing the Coast Guard Academy's leadership training in action.

Our National Coast Guard Museum on our New London waterfront will be dedicated not just to Coast Guard history and heroism, but also to teaching the very leadership principles that were discussed. We see this as a small example of what is soon to come to our region once the fundraising is done, the museum is constructed, and doors are open.

Private donations from across the nation will constitute the majority of funds required for construction. Those donations will result in a museum that will be open to all without any admission charge, with an educational component invaluable to attendees young and old. We look forward to creating exhibits in the museum that will inspire our future generations to exercise the leadership qualities so vividly displayed in "The Finest Hours."

Semper Paratus and thank you, U.S. Coast Guard, for giving America heroes like Bernie Webber and his crew.

“ The challenges faced by Bernie Webber and the crew of the CG36500 in 1952, as highlighted in the film, are similar to those that will test the young men and women in the audience as they serve our nation and their community. ”



To learn more, visit

CoastGuardMuseum.org

4 Million Reasons

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The Disney movie is based on the bestselling book, "The Finest Hours," co-authored by Casey Sherman and Michael Tougias. Sherman attended the advanced screening and presented the evening's hosts, President and Mrs. Bush, with signed copies of the book.

The museum, which is now in the pre-construction design phase, will be a celebration of the Coast Guard's 225 years of service to the country, a salute to the courage and skill of its dedicated men and women, and a glimpse into its exciting and vital future, Grahn said.

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Joe Pyne, CEO of Kirby Corporation, recognized for outstanding support.



Mark Knoy, President & CEO, American Commercial Lines.



Kendra Lee, Chairman of the Board and CEO, Merichem Company.



The Finest Hours co-author Casey Sherman with President and Mrs. Bush.



L-R: James D. Power III, Susan Curtin, James J. Coleman, Jr., Barbara Bush, President George H. W. Bush, Secretary Norman Mineta, Richard J. Grahn, Cathy Cook and John Johnson.

Lawmakers Applaud Signing of Coast Guard Authorization Act

“This targeted change in federal law will ensure that the Coast Guard can provide its full support for establishing the museum.”

- Congressman Joe Courtney

Members of Congress, including Senators Richard Blumenthal and Christopher Murphy, and Representative Joe Courtney, are hailing passage of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2015, which includes language supporting the National Coast Guard Museum. President Obama signed the bill into law on February 8.

Senator Blumenthal applauded the bipartisan measure that re-authorizes funding for critical Coast Guard missions and operations for another two years. The bill includes language Blumenthal, Murphy and Courtney worked to secure that allows the Coast Guard to use federal appropriations for the National Coast Guard Museum in New London.

The authorization bill makes it possible for the Coast Guard to assist with the design and creation of the exhibits that will be displayed for visitors, which will be a tremendous boost for the national fundraising efforts already underway. Coast Guard expenditure on museum design and exhibits had been prohibited by federal law since 2004.

“The Coast Guard occupies a special place in Connecticut and we are excited to be the home of the planned National Coast Guard Museum in New London,” said Congressman Courtney, who represents Connecticut’s Second Congressional District. “By signing the bill into law, President Obama has joined Congress in standing firmly behind this effort.”

“It is long overdue that the federal government finally supports the work that New London has done to honor the Coast Guard’s distinguished service to our nation,” said Senator Blumenthal. “This National Museum in New London will respect and celebrate the Coast Guard’s proud history, an honor enjoyed by all other branches of our military. This bill, and the federal funding

that it will bring, moves the opening to the museum one large step closer to reality.”

“For as long as we have been a country, the United States Coast Guard has been one of the most important protectors of our coasts and our waterways,” said Senator Murphy. “When I visited with the cadets and officers in New London in January, I promised them that I would fight tooth and nail on the Appropriations Committee to make sure that the museum gets the federal support it needs.”

Watch Representative Courtney’s remarks on the House Floor in favor of the Coast Guard Authorization bill

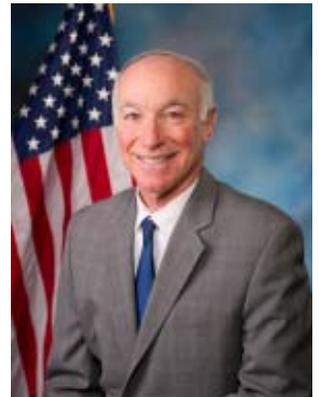
Senators Blumenthal and Murphy, and Congressman Courtney have been longtime advocates of the National Coast Guard Museum. The three lawmakers have introduced the United States Coast Guard Commemorative Coin Act to honor the men and women of the Coast Guard and to support the establishment of the National Coast Guard Museum.



Senator Richard Blumenthal



Senator Chris Murphy



Congressman Joe Courtney



Design Spotlight

GALLAGHER and Associates

When the directors of the National Coast Guard Museum Association started looking for a firm to design the exhibits and interior design for the National Coast Guard Museum, they wanted an experienced design firm that could bring the history and culture of the United States Coast Guard to life.

They found the ideal match of skill, experience, and creative vision with Gallagher & Associates, a world renowned museum planning and design team which was retained to design the museum content. Patrick Gallagher, the president and founder of the firm, has been at the forefront of museum design and exhibit planning for decades. Much of his work, in museums around the world, has centered on presenting historic themes using the latest technology to keep museums fresh and relevant.

The firm's work has included the the National World War II Museum in New Orleans, Louisiana, the National Museum of WWII Aviation in Colorado Springs, Colorado, the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia, and the International Spy Museum in Washington D.C.

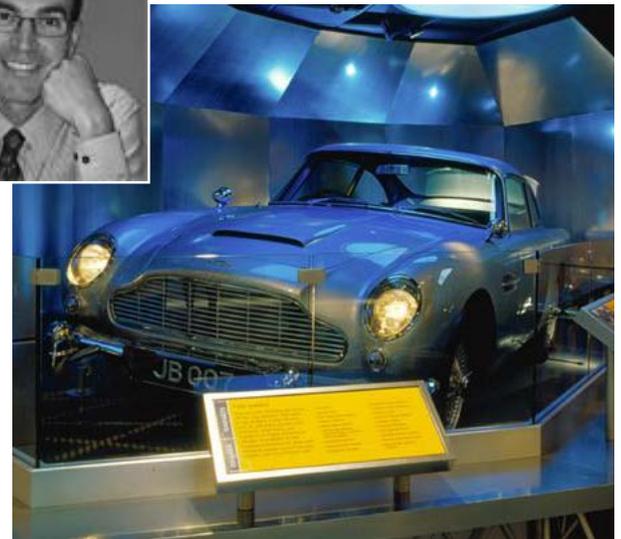
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“ We are thrilled to have retained Patrick Gallagher and his team to bring this **great national museum to life.** ”

CAPT Wes Pulver (USCG Ret.), *Executive Director*
National Coast Guard Museum Association, Inc.



Patrick Gallagher
President and Founder, Gallagher & Associates.



Gettysburg National Military Park
and Visitor Center.
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

International Spy Museum.
Washington, D.C.



The National
World War II Museum.
New Orleans, Louisiana

NCGMA Honors James J. Coleman for Outstanding Service

The Inaugural Alexander Hamilton Award Bestowed Upon Prominent New Orleans Business & Civic Leader



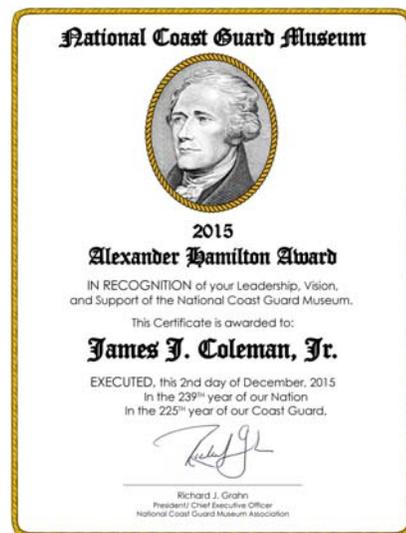
James J. Coleman Jr., right, was presented the Alexander Hamilton Public Service Award by Richard J. Grahn, President and CEO of the NCGMA.

The National Coast Guard Museum Association, Inc. recently had the great pleasure in presenting the inaugural Alexander Hamilton Award to James J. Coleman, Jr. in recognition of his seventeen years of outstanding service in support of the National Coast Guard Museum.

At a special ceremony hosted by the New Orleans Port Authority, Mr. Coleman was presented with the award named in honor of Hamilton, who established the Revenue Cutter Service, a predecessor of the U.S. Coast Guard, in 1790.

Mr. Coleman, who is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Coast Guard Museum, Inc., was recognized for his remarkable efforts and success in establishing the National Coast Guard Museum, which is being constructed on the historic downtown waterfront in New London, CT.

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Secretary Spotlight: The Honorable Norman Mineta



The Honorable Norman Mineta, Co-Chair of the National Coast Guard Museum Association, Inc.'s Secretary's Circle Advisory Board, was among those greeting President George H.W. Bush and former First Lady Barbara Bush at the museum-sponsored advanced screening of "The Finest Hours."

The January event at the Houston Museum of Natural Sciences was a resounding success, and Secretary Mineta was proud to be a part of it. He is also proud to serve as one of two Co-Chairs (along with former Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge) of the Secretary's Circle.

Mineta served as Transportation Secretary under President Clinton and George W. Bush and is among the 16 former secretaries and deputy secretaries of Transportation and Homeland Security who have joined in supporting the fundraising efforts to build the National

Coast Guard Museum in New London.

Secretary Mineta was first in line to join the Secretary's Circle. "I was humbled to be part of history as the U.S. Coast Guard transferred from the Department of Transportation to the Department of Homeland Security. Being the Secretary of the Coast Guard is a privilege you don't forget – it is our duty to make sure that the Coast Guard's rich history is made available to the citizens of America."

The formation of the Secretary's Circle marks the first time in U.S. History that a group of former cabinet secretaries, Republican and Democrat, have come together to support a national museum. Their active role in the museum project is a critical component to our fundraising efforts, and we thank them all for joining us.



Former Secretary of Transportation, The Honorable Norman Mineta, with President George H. W. Bush and Barbara Bush.

Institute for Leadership

National Coast Guard Museum Association featured guest during Disney's "The Finest Hours" Coast Guard Academy leadership event

The National Coast Guard Museum Association, Inc. joined ADM Thad Allen, the Coast Guard's 23rd Commandant, U.S. Sens. Richard Blumenthal and Chris Murphy and other distinguished guests on Thursday, January 28th for an advanced screening of the Walt Disney Pictures' production of "The Finest Hours" at the Garde Arts Center.



ADM Thad Allen.

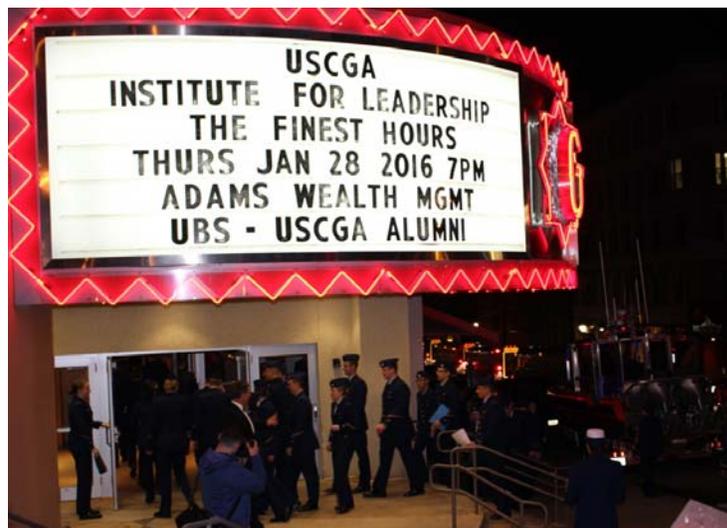
Hundreds of business and civic leaders and supporters of the nation's first National Coast Guard Museum were invited to the screening hosted by the Coast Guard Academy and Institute for Leadership (IFL). The entire Corps of Cadets was in attendance for the screening of the heroic Coast Guard rescue film, which was shown as part of a special leadership training event.

"We are so pleased that the Coast Guard Academy and Institute for Leadership (IFL) brought this event to New London," said Richard J. Grahn, president of the National Coast Guard Museum Association. "It was exciting to see their training in action."

Academy cadets and officer candidates were joined by the local community leaders to learn how singular acts of courage and leadership like those featured in "The Finest Hours," in times of crisis, are not easily made.

"The challenges faced by Bernie Webber and the crew of the CG36500 in 1952, as highlighted in the film, are similar to those that will test the young men and women in tonight's audience as they serve our nation and their community," Grahn said.

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In the News

Coast Guard Commandant Views "The Finest Hours"

The Maritime Executive

Boysie Bollinger donates \$1 million for Coast Guard museum

WorkBoat.com

Houston Event to Raise Awareness about National Coast Guard Museum

Military.com

#MyCoastGuardStory

We want to hear your stories!

The #mycoastguardstory Initiative is gathering stories from current Coast Guard men and women, veterans, reservists, auxiliary members and civilians who are sharing personal experiences of how the United States Coast Guard has impacted their lives.

“This is the first effort of its kind designed to tell the Coast Guard story through the eyes of thousands of people who have experienced Coast Guard heroism and service firsthand,” said Richard Grahn, President and CEO of the National Coast Guard Museum Association, Inc. “This is a critical first step toward preserving the Coast Guard’s legacy at the National Coast Guard Museum.”

“We are encouraging everyone to go on our facebook, instagram and twitter pages to share their story of what the Coast Guard means to them,” said Wes Pulver, Executive Director of the National Coast Guard Museum and former captain of the Coast Guard Barque EAGLE. “We are gathering stories from near and far, from young and old, from Coast Guard enlisted personnel, auxiliary, reservists and regular folks. By using the hashtag “mycoastguardstory,” we will be able to start building an extensive social media library open to everyone.”



“Seaman Craig has only been on board here for a little over a year and has already achieved so much more than what is expected of him,” said Petty Officer 1st Class Benjamin Gaines, the executive petty officer at ANT Cape May. “He shows up to work every day ready to get after it. His hard-charging attitude has really been an asset to the unit and lifted weight off of his shipmates’ shoulders.”

[#mycoastguardstory](https://www.facebook.com/mycoastguardstory)

Did you know?

The Coast Guard is the only military service that does not have its own national museum.* There are 87 national museums dedicated to honoring our military heroes in the United States.



THE TIME IS NOW!

For more information, visit CoastGuardMuseum.org

*Source: Dept. of Defense Operation and Financial Support for Military Museums. Fiscal Year 2012 Report to Congress, Sept. 2013.