

Missouri Bicentennial projects offer learning resources about state

Missouri's bicentennial year brought many organizations together to create new and expand digital resources for learning about the state's history. Students, teachers, researchers and the public at-large will find learning aids in many different subjects, including a new registry of past Missouri Artists, a digital exhibit that explores Missouri's Struggle for Statehood, and curriculum that teaches the history of Missouri courts.

History timelines, a Missouri Constitution quiz and online history exhibits are among the free resources available to help people understand Missouri and its past of more than 200 years.

The Missouri Timeline, developed by staff of the State Historical Society of Missouri, begins with ancestral Missouri from 1250 to present-day and offers photos, artworks, maps, manuscripts, documents and other images from the Society's vast collections with narrative text accompanying each entry year. Missouri Encyclopedia and Historic Missourians are a growing digital resource that expanded this year to commemorate the bicentennial.

"Many hours of staff and volunteer time have developed these resources to broaden the public's understanding of the culture, people, institutions,

places and events that continue to shape Missouri," said Beth Pike, who has been working on the planning of Missouri's bicentennial year and helped to create the Missouri Timeline project. "While these digital resources were created and/or expanded to commemorate Missouri's 200th year of statehood, these links will continue well past the bicentennial year and, hopefully, engage people of all ages to learn from our past and to think about how we want to be as Missourians in the future."

A new online resource Making Missouri created by the Missouri Historical Society in St. Louis offers primary sources, video content and custom plans for grades K-12. Another curriculum developed for elementary schools Four Years to Statehood comes from Missouri Council for History Education and covers the years between Missouri's first petition to become a state and its final admission to the Union.

Additional Missouri history educational resources from Missouri Humanities Council, Missouri Secretary of State, The Supreme Court of Missouri, Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Missouri Legislative Library and more can be found on the Educational Resource page on missouri2021.org.



WGU Missouri makes \$75,000 available in scholarships for Veterans Day

In recognition of Veterans Day and to honor service members for their sacrifice and commitment to our country's future, WGU Missouri will be offering \$75,000 in scholarships to veterans, active-duty military personnel and their immediate family members who are interested in furthering their education.

The "Military Appreciation Scholarship" is available for those interested in pursuing a bachelor's or master's degree from WGU Missouri in any of the online, non-profit university's 60+ programs in IT, business, K-12 education, and health professions, including nursing.

Each "Military Appreciation Scholarship" is valued at up to \$2,500 per student and will be applied at the rate of \$625 per six-month term, renewable for up to four terms. The scholarship is open to new students who have been officially admitted to WGU Missouri and qualify as active-duty military personnel, a reservist, a veteran or a military spouse or child. Scholarships will be awarded based on a candidate's academic record, financial need and current competency, as well as other considerations.

"WGU is thankful for each and every member of the military—and their supportive families—for their selfless dedication to serving our country," said Dr. Angie Besendorfer, Chancellor of WGU Missouri. "One way we're proud to give back to those who give so much is through our Military Appreciation Scholarship. In addition to the military-exclusive scholarship offering, WGU's degree programs are also approved for VA education benefits under the GI Bill—and because of our

low, flat-rate tuition, that means veterans are usually eligible for benefits that make their program effectively tuition-free."

WGU has been named one of the top Military Friendly® Schools for 11 consecutive years by Military Advanced Education and Transition Magazine. More than 17,200 WGU students are currently affiliated with the military, approximately 11 percent of the student population. Earning a bachelor's or master's degree from WGU can help them transition into a rewarding, high-paying civilian position upon graduation.

WGU Missouri's programs are competency-based, providing flexibility and workforce-focused degree programs active-duty military members, veterans, and their families need. Designed to meet the needs of adult learners, competency-based education allows students to move quickly through material they already know so they can focus on what they still need to learn, rather than basing progress on a number of credit hours. Faculty members work one-on-one with students as mentors, offering guidance, support and individualized instruction. While the university's degree programs are rigorous and challenging, competency-based learning makes it possible for students to accelerate their programs, saving them both time and money.

For more information about WGU Missouri, the Military Appreciation Scholarship or how the university supports service members and their families, visit wgu.edu/militaryappreciation.

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