

PRITZKER MILITARY

MUSEUM & LIBRARY

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
STRATEGIC FINDINGS REPORT
DECEMBER 2021

The Education Department
defines the Citizen-Soldier as

Americans who serve
their community and
contribute to the mutual
welfare of their fellow
citizens during times of
war and times of peace.

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Executive Summary

The following strategy report is a result of four teacher roundtable meetings conducted with 18 Illinois teachers in October 2021 and exploratory meetings with comparable education departments at the First Infantry Division Museum, Chicago History Museum, and the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center in November 2021. The report outlines an education strategy centered on six major conflicts in military history and 11 supporting themes to direct content development. Additionally, the report identifies eight significant delivery methods for educational content.

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Education Departments at:
First Infantry Division Museum at Cantigny
Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center
Chicago History Museum

INTERNAL USE ONLY

The Education Department is dedicated to teaching military history through the stories, sacrifices, and values of citizen-soldiers.





The Pritzker Military Museum & Library’s holdings are encyclopedic with no mission-based time periods of interest. In order to organize educational efforts, the Education Department will focus on six primary conflicts that are studied in standard and advanced primary and secondary school classrooms: American Revolution, American Civil War, World War I, World War II , Cold War, and Vietnam War. Educational Topics within the six conflicts will be guided by three sets of supporting themes: 1. Foundational Themes, 2. People-First Themes, and 3. Upshot Themes.

1. The authority of the department’s content is derived from the resources within the Museum and Library’s collection and industry partners across the United States. Individual Stories, collection items, and specific conflict events and anniversaries set the foundation of content development.

2.Education content will always be people first by placing individual stories and experiences into the context of military history. Stories of Women, Black and Indigenous people of color, and Latinx people express diversity of the American experience. Asian American and LGBTQ+ experiences are mandated by the state of Illinois for every school to include in their curriculum instruction.

3.Innovation, Civic Responsibility, and Social Impact are the three Upshot themes for educational content. All three themes are mandated by Illinois Social Studies curriculum standards and C3 Framework for Social Studies. Upshot themes redirect education content away from outdated linear teaching styles and focuses on analysis, inquiry, and curiosity.

EDUCATION CONTENT THEMES

Updated 03/2022



EDUCATION CONTENT DELIVERY

Virtual Classroom Connections: 1 on 1 live lesson with a Museum educator exploring a pre-selected topic. These sessions typically last between 35 and 45 minutes with a Q/A. The connection is not recorded, and schools will incur a \$75 fee for each session booked. Virtual Classroom Connections will occur in the Virtual Learning Studio.

Student Webinars: Live broadcast that will often feature a guest scholar or staff member. Webinars are free, recorded, and uploaded to the PMML YouTube as a video archive. Teachers register in advance for webinars, and they are conducted in the Virtual Learning Studio.

Video Series: The Education Department will produce 6-episode documentary style video series that explore upshot themes within a conflict. Each episode will be no more than 10 minutes in length. They will be uploaded to the PMML education YouTube video archive, education website, and linked to corresponding curriculum lessons.

Enhanced Website: The Education Department will create an enhanced website experience for educators that includes a login wall and profile, tagged meta data, access to a video and media archive, and Museum curriculum.

Onsite Field Trips: Each exhibit at PMML will have a corresponding field trip experience. A standardized field trip will include a 15-minute inquiry-based activity and a self-guided student gallery guide.

Student and Teacher Programs: Education Department will develop additional programs including professional development, community service projects, collaboration with National History Day, and industry partnerships.

Education Podcast: The Department will produce two podcast series that explores specific themes within various conflicts. Each series targets a specific audience. 1- “Military Oddities” explores lesser-known military history topics. 2- Audio-documentary series (unnamed) features 6-episode seasons that are detailed explorations of the department’s upshot themes.

Curriculum Development: The Department will produce core *Big 6* curriculum and special exhibit curriculum that will be shared primarily through the website. Curriculum series should be limited to 3-5 lessons with supplemental media resources.



Virtual
Classroom
Connections



Student
Webinars



Video Series



Enhanced
Website



Onsite
Field Trips



Student and
Teacher
Programs



Education
Podcast



Curriculum
Development

2022



Virtual Learning Studio Launch

Virtual Learning Content will launch in January 2022.

Monthly Webinars will continue through the duration of the school year for a total of 9 each calendar year.

An assortment of Virtual Classroom Connections will be offered starting in February 2022. During the spring semester 4 topics will be offered including: Ask a Historian, Race to Victory: WWII Pacific Island Hopping, POW Experiences in Vietnam, and The Cold War reaches Space. An additional 4 topics will be created to cover the American Revolution, Civil War, and World War I.

Field Trip Experience

It is important to recognize that PMML is not yet a school field trip destination. Framing the Museum as an add-on experience is a vital step to building an audience. Reframing the experience requires that the hour-long guided tours be removed from standard operating procedures. Instead, students will have a 15-minute inquiry driven activity and a self-guided tour of the exhibits with the assistance of a student gallery guide.

2023



Education Podcast

PMML will launch two Education Podcasts. The first show, slated for 2023, is “Military Oddities” which explores less common military history topics. The second show in 2024 will introduce specific topics in military history through 8-episode seasons that do a deep-dive into the topic through an audio documentary style presentation.

Enhanced Website

The Education Department will launch an enhanced website to make curriculum accessible to teachers.

2024



Curriculum and Professional Development

Pritzker Classroom curriculum series and corresponding professional development covers each of the *Big 6* conflicts with a complete volume of lessons, essays, and activities with corresponding online content. By 2024, PMML will launch its inaugural military history professional development seminar for teachers using the curriculum series. The seminars will be led by a lead content scholar where teachers will explore content topics over the 3-day summer professional development program.

2025



Education Web Series

Like the current *This Week in History* web series, the Education video series will have an annual season of 6 episodes that explore specific topics within the department’s upshot themes. 2025 will be about student uprisings and protests during Vietnam. 2026 will be on women in the American Revolution.



K-12
Education



Virtual
Learning
Studio



Pritzker Military Museum & Library is known for its high-quality content for academic audiences. The objective of creating a unique education department brand is to specifically highlight content intended for K-12 audiences.

The department brand follows PMML brand guidelines, style guide, and industry standards. Two distinct logos are used: One for K-12 Education which is used for non-virtual content including classroom curriculum, lesson plans, and school field trips. The second is the Virtual Learning Studio logo. This logo will be used for all PMML virtual education content including virtual classroom connections, education podcasts, and webinars.

Branding CliffsNotes:

Colors: #9d2b31 (Red) and #deb446 (Yellow)

Font: Antonio (fonts.google.com/specimen/Antonio)

Use: Virtual Learning Studio logo should be used on all virtual education material. This material may include webinars, virtual classroom connections, and podcasts.

K-12 Education logo should be used on all non-virtual education material. Non-virtual education material includes curriculum, non-virtual programs such as National History Day and school field trips, and conference presentations.

Education branding should never be combined with alternative PMML branding. The only exception would be for exhibition specific branding or a single use of full logo branding (Pritzker Military Museum & Library).

Ideal positioning of the Studio and Education logos is at document center on 1" margins. Alternate positioning would be aligned document left on 1" margins. Never align logo document right.

Segmentation: The lightbulb graphic may be used separately from the graphic logo to call attention to important content within education material such as curriculum and PowerPoint presentations. The red PMML logo should not be used on education material without the corresponding Virtual Learning Studio or K-12 Education graphics.

