



THE AMERICAN  
CIVIL WAR CENTER  
*At Historic Tredegar*

**FREE Admission and Extended Hours During National Folk Festival  
First Anniversary Celebration Welcomes Visitors for FREE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Anedra Bourne**

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(804) 780-1865 ext. 16 or (804) 338-2383

**Richmond, Va.** – On Monday, October 15, The American Civil War Center *at Historic Tredegar* will celebrate the Center's First Anniversary featuring a keynote address by noted Civil War historian and Center Board Member, University of Richmond President Dr. Edward L. Ayers. Additionally, the Center's Board, Virginia Civil War Trails, and Virginia Tourism officials will unveil the nation's first multi-state Civil War Trails Gateway Map, part of the award-winning, nationally recognized Virginia Civil War Trails program.

The Center's landmark exhibit, *In the Cause of Liberty*, offers the nation's first interpretation of the war on a national scale offering a balanced story inclusive of the three main participant groups – Union, Confederate and African American. The 10,000-square-foot exhibit is housed in 1861 Tredegar Gun Foundry. The workers on this site produced naval guns for Union forces, crafted Confederate cannon, and used an African American labor workforce – both free and slave.

Complimenting the exhibit are the Center's nationally recognized education programs, which explore the nation's founding documents, life at Tredegar, and post-Civil War topics such as Jim Crow, Women's Suffrage, Reconstruction, and Civil Rights.

"We are so excited to share this unique interpretation of the Civil War through three perspectives – Union, Confederate and African American – with visitors from near and far," said John Motley, Board Chairman for the Center. "To date, our first year has welcomed visitors and students from throughout the nation as well as the United Kingdom, Germany, Australia, Sweden, and Canada to name a few." The appeal of our approach is further demonstrated by the success of the Center's annual giving program, which exceeded goals and expectations for the first year.

For details, please contact Anedra Bourne at (804) 780.1865 x16 or email [abourne@tredegar.org](mailto:abourne@tredegar.org).

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**The mission of The American Civil War Center *at Historic Tredegar* is to tell the whole story of the conflict that still shapes our nation. The Center is located at the Tredegar Iron Works, an 8.3 acre National Historic Landmark site by the James River in Richmond. The 1861 Gun Foundry is home to the 10,000-square-foot flagship exhibit, *In the Cause of Liberty*, the nation's first exhibit to explore the war's causes, course, and legacies from Union, Confederate and African American perspectives. The Center offers History Labs and digital history programming for students K-12, while the Tredegar Institute provides ongoing adult educational opportunities through community dialogues and symposia.**