



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Battleship Missouri Receives Navy's Retention Excellence Award

Only decommissioned ship to ever receive the "Golden Anchor"

Pearl Harbor, HI (July 2, 2012) — The Battleship Missouri added another honor to its long list of achievements today as it was awarded the Navy's Retention Excellence Award. More commonly known as the "Golden Anchor," this award is traditionally given to active service naval vessels for meeting or exceeding crew retention goals. The Battleship Missouri first received this award in 2005 and is the only non-active vessel to ever receive this prestigious honor.

The Battleship Missouri Memorial was awarded the Golden Anchor for the multitude of services it offers to all branches of the military. Annually, the Missouri hosts hundreds of reenlistments, promotions, retirements and change of command ceremonies and has done so since opening to the public in 1999. In addition, the Missouri also hosts military training exercises and numerous commemorative ceremonies including the upcoming September 2 ceremony honoring the end of World War II.

"To even be considered for an award as prestigious as the Golden Anchor is a great privilege, this is an honor for all of us here at the Battleship Missouri Memorial," said Michael A. Carr, President and COO of the Battleship Missouri Memorial. "Our goal at the Missouri is to be a proud tribute to the U.S. Military and we hold these ceremonies to honor and thank the men and women who serve our country so valiantly."

Rear Admiral Patrick Driscoll, Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff for U.S. Pacific Fleet to present the award under the ship's iconic 16-inch guns. In celebration of the award a newly unveiled gold anchor sits at entrance of the Missouri.

For more information or to schedule a military ceremony aboard the Battleship Missouri, contact Mike Pagano at MikeP@USSMissouri.org or 455-1600 x225.

The Battleship Missouri Memorial, located a mere ship's length from the USS Arizona Memorial, completes a historic visitor experience that begins with the "day of infamy" that saw the sinking of USS Arizona in Pearl Harbor and ends with Imperial Japan's unconditional surrender aboard USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay. Following an astounding career that spans five decades and three wars, from World War II to the Korean conflict

(more)

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to the Liberation of Kuwait, the "Mighty Mo" was decommissioned and donated to the USS Missouri Memorial Association, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, which operates the battleship as a historic attraction and memorial. The association oversees her care and preservation with the support of visitors, memberships, grants and the generosity of donors.



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