History Center’s We Can Do It! WWII Exhibition Hits the Road
-The 500-square-foot exhibit will visit 18 organizations across Western Pa. during the next three years-

PITTSBURGH, March 24, 2017 – The Senator John Heinz History Center, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, has developed a new traveling exhibition, We Can Do It! WWII, sponsored by Erie Insurance, The Eberly Foundation, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

The traveling exhibition will visit 18 cultural institutions throughout Western Pa. over the next three years, opening at the Beaver Area Heritage Museum from April 22 through June 11. The exhibit is provided free of charge to members of the History Center Affiliates Program, a collection of more than 125 historical organizations throughout the region. Each of sites will host the 500-square foot exhibit for approximately six weeks.

The We Can Do It! WWII traveling exhibit explores Western Pennsylvania’s incredible impact on the home, industrial, and battle fronts during World War II.

Visitors to the exhibit will learn about the development of the jeep, a uniquely American invention produced by the American Bantam Car Company in Butler, Pa., and hear the stories behind Rosie the Riveter and the local Tuskegee Airmen whose contributions helped to turn the tide of the war.

History Center Affiliate Program institutions will also be encouraged to display WWII-related items from their collections as part of the exhibit, which includes artifacts, previously unseen photographs, and large museum panels highlighting Western Pa.’s contributions to WWII.

The exhibit will showcase four lifelike museum figures of local WWII heroes:
- General George C. Marshall
- Tuskegee Airman Lt. Carl J. Woods
- Iwo Jima hero Sgt. Michael Strank
- The Westinghouse Company-inspired Rosie the Riveter

The History Center will preview the exhibit on its fourth floor this Friday, March 24 through Sunday, March 26 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For additional information, photos, public program listings, and much more, please visit www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

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The Senator John Heinz History Center, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and the largest history museum in Pennsylvania, presents American history with a Western Pennsylvania connection. The Western Pennsylvania Sports Museum is a museum within a museum, comprehensively presenting the region’s remarkable sports story through hundreds of artifacts and interactive experiences for visitors of all ages. The History Center and Sports Museum are located at 1212 Smallman Street in the city’s Strip District, and are open every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The History Center’s museum system includes the Sports Museum; the Fort Pitt Museum in historic Point State Park; and Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village, a National Historic Landmark located in Avella, Pa. in Washington County. More information is available at www.heinzhistorycenter.org.

The *We Can Do It! WWII* traveling exhibition is sponsored by:

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The History Center’s *We Can Do It! WWII* traveling exhibit explores Western Pennsylvania’s incredible impact on the home, industrial, and battle fronts during World War II.
The *We Can Do It! WWII* traveling exhibit features four lifelike museum figures, including Sgt. Michael Strank, a Conemaugh, Pa. (near Johnstown) resident who fought in the Battle of Iwo Jima and became part of Joe Rosenthal’s iconic Associated Press photograph.

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