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History Center Announces Special Event with Best-Selling Author Tim O'Brien this September

- *The Vietnam War veteran is best known for the seminal novel, "The Things They Carried"* -

PITTSBURGH, July 24, 2019 – The Senator John Heinz History Center, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, will welcome Vietnam War veteran and nationally acclaimed author **Tim O'Brien** for a special evening program on **Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 7 p.m.**

O'Brien is the award-winning author of "The Things They Carried" – considered to be one of the preeminent pieces of Vietnam War literature.

Drafted into the U.S. Army in 1968, O'Brien served in the Vietnam War from 1969 to 1970 and was awarded the Purple Heart after being wounded by shrapnel from a hand grenade. In the decades following the war, O'Brien drew inspiration from his experiences in Vietnam for his writings.

O'Brien was recently featured in the epic, 10-part PBS documentary "The Vietnam War," co-directed by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick.

During the History Center event, O'Brien will speak about his experiences in Vietnam and how they have influenced his life and writings. Following his presentation, O'Brien will sign copies of his books, which will be available for purchase.

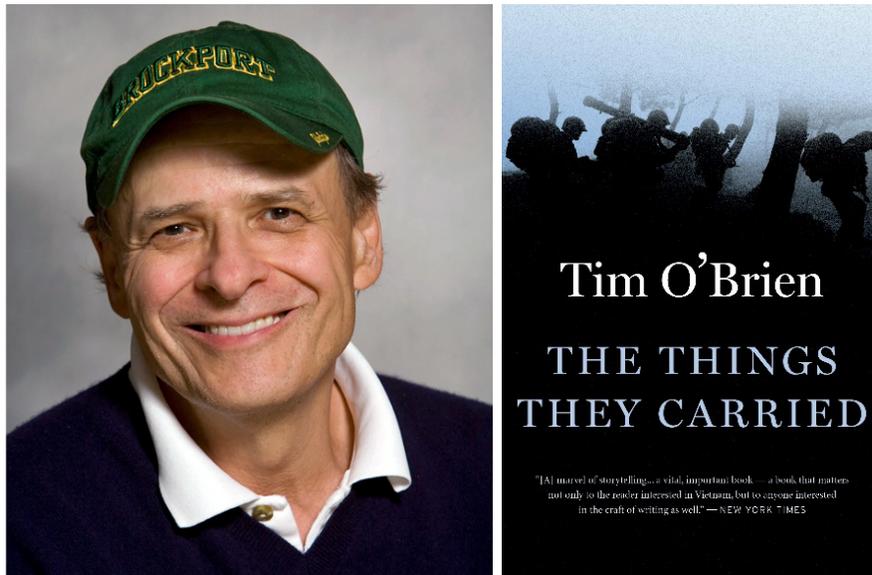
This program is presented in conjunction with ***The Vietnam War: 1945-1975*** exhibition on display at the History Center through Sept. 22, 2019. Developed in partnership with the New-York Historical Society, the exhibit uses powerful photography, fascinating artifacts, and more than 20 audio/visual displays to tell the deeply personal stories of the men and women who were impacted by the war, from the home front to the front lines.

Tickets to this program are \$20 for general admission and \$10 for veterans, active duty service members, students, and History Center members.

In addition, a limited number of VIP tickets are available for \$40 each. VIP tickets include the opportunity to meet O'Brien at a reception prior to the evening's program, a signed copy of "The Things They Carried," and light refreshments. The VIP reception is generously sponsored by Veterans Breakfast Club.

To purchase tickets, visit heinzhistorycenter.org/timobrien.

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 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.



On Sept. 18, the Heinz History Center will host award-winning author and Vietnam War veteran Tim O'Brien, best known for his book "The Things They Carried."

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