



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area to host public meeting on new Preservation Education Initiative

Frederick, MD - The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area (HCWHA), a certified heritage area encompassing parts of Carroll, Frederick and Washington counties, seeks public input on a new Preservation Education Initiative.

The project, funded by a grant from the [National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program](#) (ABPP), will develop a dynamic, online education portal that will provide high-quality classroom activities—linked to national standards—to teachers across the country. The project also aims to encourage student groups to make the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area their base camp for multi-day trips to the region. The goal of this new K-12 initiative is to increase student engagement with local battlefields, which will ensure that a “core history audience” will continue for generations to come.

A public meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 20th, starting at 10:30 AM, at the Frederick Visitor Center located at 151 S. East Street. HCWHA staff will provide an overview of the project and ABPP Grants Manager Kristen McMasters will speak about the agency’s mandate to preserve American battlefields for perpetuity. The January 20 meeting will give particular attention to the group tour planning aspects of the project and all parties interested in the student travel market are encouraged to attend. The public will be invited to contribute comments and ask questions about the project.

The materials developed for the project will use three existing resources—the Emmy-award winning documentary *Maryland’s Heart of the Civil War*, its [companion flipbook](#), and the [CrossroadsOfWar.org](#) website—as a foundation for teaching about the Civil War. Experienced museum education consultant [Beth Maloney](#) is working with educators at many of the Civil War sites in the Heritage Area to develop this content. Another public meeting will be held once the educational materials are at a later stage.

Additional funding for this project came from the [Delaplaine Foundation](#).

For more information about this public meeting or the Heart of the Civil War Preservation Education Initiative, please contact HCWHA staff at info@heartofthecivilwar.org.

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