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Universal Studios' *Battleship* Brings USS *Missouri* Back To Life

Hawaii's Biggest "Battlestar" is Re-Born

Pearl Harbor (May 17, 2012) — On May 18, the Battleship *Missouri* will once again answer the call of duty in Universal Studios' *Battleship*, an epic-scaled action-adventure movie that unfolds across the seas, in the skies and over land as our planet fights for survival against a superior force. Inspired by Hasbro's classic naval combat game, *Battleship* stars Taylor Kitsch, Brooklyn Decker and international superstars Liam Neeson and Rihanna.

The star power packed in the movie is rivaled only by the firepower of the *Missouri*. The 45,000-ton Iowa-class battleship served over three engagements, World War II, Korea and Desert Storm, and her nine legendary 16 inch-barrel guns which were capable of hurling projectiles as heavy as Volkswagens Beetles over 23 miles. The magic of film brings these, and all of the *Missouri*'s armaments back to life in dramatic fashion as she once again strives to bring peace to the world.

While this is not the *Missouri*'s first on-screen appearance – she was featured in the movies Pearl Harbor and Under Siege as well as a host of TV productions – this is perhaps her most substantial onscreen role.

“The *Missouri* has never been one to shy away from the spotlight. She cemented herself in history on Sept. 2, 1945 as the site of Japan's unconditional surrender to the Allied Forces ending World War II,” said Mike Carr, President and COO of the Battleship Missouri Memorial. “The partnership between Universal and the *Missouri* has been a tremendously positive experience for us. Through Universal, the *Missouri* once again took to the open seas in January 2010 as she was towed outside of Pearl Harbor far enough to allow filming without having land in the shot. This was the first time in more than a decade that she was in the open seas.”

Soon visitors to the historic battleship will also be able to find out exactly how Universal was able to turn the nearly 900 foot *Missouri* into a fully functioning film set with a *Battleship* the Movie Tour featuring filming areas from the movie.

(more)

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“This tour offers an experience that you won’t be able to get anywhere else,” said Dean Kelly, Visitor Experience Manager at the *Missouri*. “We’re taking our guests and plopping them right onto the set as they walk the same corridors as Admiral Shane, Alex Hopper, Raikes and the crew.”

The Battleship *Missouri* Memorial is open daily from 8 am to 4 pm or from 8 am to 5 pm. during summer months (June, July and August). General admission, which includes choice of a guided tour, is \$22 per adult and \$11 per child 4-12. Military, kamaaina (local resident) and school group pricing is available. For more information or to reserve a tour, call (toll-free) 1-877-MIGHTYMO (1-877-644-4896) or visit USSMissouri.org.

The Battleship Missouri Memorial, located a mere ship’s length from the USS Arizona Memorial, completes a historical 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 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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