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“MIGHTY MO” HOSTS GRAIN VALLEY MARCHING BAND PERFORMANCE AT PEARL HARBOR

Pearl Harbor, HI – (November 27, 2013) – Visitors to the Battleship Missouri Memorial this morning were treated to a special performance by the Grain Valley (MO) High School Marching Band.

Called the “Marching Eagles” and comprised of nearly 100 students from Grain Valley, Missouri, the band entertained hundreds of visitors onboard the USS *Missouri* – America’s last battleship – with a spirited performance of up-tempo, celebratory music on the eve of the Thanksgiving holiday.

The USS *Missouri* – the “Mighty Mo” – has strong ties to its namesake state. It was on January 29, 1944 when Margaret Truman, daughter of President Harry Truman, christened the USS *Missouri* as the great battleship was launched from the Brooklyn Navy Yard and sent to protect America’s freedom in the Pacific Theatre. On September 2, 1945, on the order of President Truman, the USS *Missouri* served as the site where General Douglas MacArthur and the Allied Forces accepted Imperial Japan’s surrender to end World War II and restore world peace.

On visits to the USS *Missouri*, President Truman and his family made it a point to eat at least one meal a day with the crew in the Mess Hall, leading to the name of the “Truman Line” in his honor.

School bands, choirs and performance groups from across the country and overseas are always invited to perform at the Battleship Missouri Memorial. The Music Exhibition Program, organized by USS *Missouri*’s Education Department, welcomes performing groups throughout the year to pay honor and tribute to the “Mighty Mo” and her veterans in live performances at the battleship.

Battleship Missouri Memorial

The Battleship Missouri Memorial is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. General admission, which includes choice of an optional tour, is \$22 per adult and \$11 per child (4-12). Military, *kama’aina* (local resident) and school group pricing is available. For information or reservations, call (toll-free) 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” and the sinking of the USS Arizona in Pearl Harbor and ends with Imperial Japan’s surrender aboard the 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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Please credit images to the Battleship Missouri Memorial



Link to download image: <http://i.imgur.com/UIGHLUK.jpg>

Caption: Students of the Grain Valley Marching Band stood grounded on Pier Foxtrot 5, where the *Missouri* is berthed, while visitors lined the railings of the ship to gaze down and enjoy the moving performance.



Link to download image: <http://i.imgur.com/icUasmj.jpg>

Caption: Comprised of nearly 100 students, the Grain Valley Marching band traveled overseas from Grain Valley, Missouri to pay tribute to the USS *Missouri* and her veterans.

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