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**iHISTORY WW2 ANNOUNCES VIDEO CONTEST FOR TEENS TO BRIDGE  
GENERATION GAP BY INTERVIEWING WWII VETERANS**

*- Films to become part of permanent archives at Library of Congress -*

*- State-of-the-art video equipment awarded for best films -*

Although there are 1.2 million World War II veterans still living, this generation is rapidly disappearing and their untold stories of bravery and sacrifice deserve to be heard. To help teens connect with this important piece of our history and make it come alive, the Worthington Foundation and its partners have announced the [iHistory WW2](#) video contest, a national competition to inspire teen filmmakers to capture these stories on film before they are lost. Teens will honor veterans by having these interviews preserved in the permanent archives at the Library of Congress, and will have the chance to win coveted prizes for themselves and their school. The announcement was made today by Jeffrey Worthington, iHistory WW2 project director and CEO of the Worthington Foundation.

Between August 19, and November 20, 2013 aspiring young filmmakers (ages 13-18), who are currently enrolled in Junior High or High School or an accredited Home Schooling program, will record video interviews with WWII veterans about their experiences during the war. All interviews meeting the minimum standards and guidelines will then be archived at the Library of Congress as part of the [Veteran's History Project](#).

After the interviews have been submitted to the Library of Congress, the students will enter the second phase, where they will compete for prizes. At the [iHistory WW2](#) website, entrants will have access to editing resources and footage to transform their interviews into creative 3-5 minute documentaries. Eligible films will undergo a judging process comprised of online voting and a panel of qualified judges. Prizes will be awarded to the top five films that demonstrate excellence in editing and creative storytelling. The Grand Prize winner and the winner's school

will each receive a package which includes a Blackmagic Cinema Camera with a Rokinon 35mm T1.5 Cine Lens. Prizes for “Best Story” and “Best Editing” will include a Blackmagic Pocket Cinema Camera with a Panasonic Lumix 20mm f/1.7 G-Series Lens. First and Second prize winners will receive a lighting, audio recording, and tripod bundle. The total value of combined prizes is more than \$11,000. Students will have until November 20 to enter the contest. Winners will be announced in February.

To learn how to enter the contest and view the Official Rules, please visit:

<http://www.heroes-ww2.org/>

“We created this contest to mobilize young Americans to record history from the people who made it,” said Worthington. “It is our hope that this project will help bridge the generational gap and allow teens to engage with, and learn from, a rapidly disappearing generation.”

The *iHistory WW2* video contest website provides excellent resources for young filmmakers to get started. They will find tips on how to locate a veteran to interview, a list of relevant questions to ask, and filming techniques such as creating the proper backdrop and lighting. To help the students convert their veteran’s interview into a mini-documentary for the contest, the *iHistory WW2* website also provides editing software, public domain WWII footage, and royalty-free music.

*iHistory WW2* is part of The Worthington Foundation, an organization committed to using media to engage, assist, inspire, and educate America’s youth about history and our culture. This nonprofit organization was founded in 2010, with the mission of encouraging today's youth to research the past, and inspire them to take a greater interest in their future.

*iHistory WW2* is proud to be working in cooperation with the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project of the American Folklife Center in helping to preserve the legacy of American servicemen and women. The Veterans History Project was launched in 2000 and, to date, has collected nearly 70,000 veterans' oral histories, 30,000 of which are from WWII veterans.

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