

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From: Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation
1535 Road 19
Powell, WY 82435
www.heartmountain.org

Contact: Bethany Sandvik, Operations Manager
Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation
bethanys@heartmountain.org
307-754-8000 ext. 101

Powell, WY, September 18, 2014

Heart Mountain Site receives Wyoming Humanities Council Grant

The Wyoming Humanities Council has once again provided funding for field trips to the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center and WWII Japanese American Confinement Site. The \$3,284.00 grant will benefit over 500 Wyoming school children and teachers during the 2014-2015 school year, covering a portion of admission and transportation costs. The Heart Mountain WWII Japanese American Confinement Site, located between Powell & Cody, Wyoming, includes an Interpretive Center, an Historic Walking Trail, and a National Landmark Site, all of which interpret the history of the Heart Mountain Relocation Center and the illegal imprisonment of the more than 14,000 Japanese Americans who were confined there during WWII.

The history of the unlawful Japanese Internment is often omitted from textbooks and is rarely taught in the classroom. Because it is also part of our local history, the Heart Mountain story is especially relevant to Wyoming residents. Through photographs, artifacts, oral histories, and interactive exhibits, the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center provides an overview of the history of wartime relocation of Japanese Americans. Special emphasis is given to the experience of incarceration, the diverse personal responses of Japanese Americans to their imprisonment, constitutional issues, violations of civil liberties and civil rights, and the broader issues of race and social justice in America.

“We are honored that the Wyoming Humanities Council continues to support the work that the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation does for Wyoming schools,” notes Brian Liesinger, HMWF Executive Director. “Last school year, we were able to serve 550 students from eleven Wyoming schools because of funding from the WHC.”

Grant funds will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis to schools. Wyoming teachers and principals ready to book groups for the 2014-2015 school year should contact Project Director, Kim Barhaug at (307) 754-8000 or kimb@heartmountain.org. Field trips scheduled for Fall 2014 are highly encouraged.

Located between Cody and Powell off of Highway 14A, the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center’s Winter hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesdays through Saturdays and by special appointment. Regular school group rates are \$5/person for instruction and \$4/person for self-conducted. For more information, please call (307) 754-8000 or visit www.HeartMountain.org.