



PATRIOTS POINT
NAVAL & MARITIME
MUSEUM

FISCAL YEAR

2024

ANNUAL
REPORT



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Meaghan Silsby
Foundation Director



Kayla Webber
Director of Community
Relations and Membership



Dear Friends of the USS Yorktown Foundation,

Picture a world where the freedoms that define our country—freedoms we often take for granted—were never defended. What if the brave men and women who fought so hard to protect the values that make our country unique had never answered the call? Without their courage and sacrifice, the very foundation of what it means to be American would look drastically different. At Patriots Point, we are reminded every day of the cost of freedom and why it matters so deeply, now more than ever.

Freedom is the thread that binds us together as a nation. We honor the courageous individuals who answered the call to serve, many of them young men, barely out of their teens, from every corner of America. They lived and worked on floating cities, like the Yorktown and Laffey, bound by a shared mission and a belief in something greater than themselves. Every story they left behind—whether of bravery, friendship, or simple duty—connects generations and keeps alive the values that have shaped our country.

This year, we were able to fund more than 650 scholarships, giving students from diverse backgrounds the opportunity to experience Patriots Point's educational programs. Additionally, we provided over \$220,000 in support for key initiatives, including the restoration of the Yorktown Library and essential repairs at the Vietnam Experience exhibit, ensuring their continued operation and preservation. Our support preserves and brings history to life, creating an experience that educates and inspires everyone who walks through our doors.

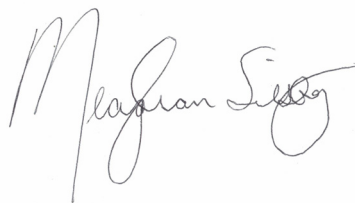
As we look to the future, we are filled with optimism and determination. We are dedicated to ensuring the continued growth of the museum, so that we can continue to educate future generations. By investing in these efforts, we are not only preserving the past but also launching tomorrow's leaders and keeping the stories of those who served alive for years to come.

Thank you for standing with us. Together, we will continue to honor the past, serve the present, and inspire future generations.

With heartfelt gratitude,



Chauncey Clark
Board Chairman



Meaghan Silsby
Foundation Director



PATRIOT POINT'S IMPACT

The USS Yorktown Foundation partners with the Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum to inspire our children, visitors, community, and the world by promoting America's proud long-standing traditions of service, leadership, duty, and sacrifice through education, exhibits, programming, and community outreach. Learn more about our work below.



Annual Economic Impact of
Patriots Point Naval and Maritime
Museum on the Charleston
Tri-County Region

\$204.8 Million
Economic output

1,756 Jobs

\$71.4 Million
Labor income

VISITOR HIGHLIGHTS

306,597

Visitors to Patriots Point.



20,000

Students participated in an education program aboard the Yorktown or stayed overnight through Operation Overnight.

25,000

Guests served through 90 private, community or military events hosted at Patriots Point.





ACCESS

1,836

Visitors participated through Museum for All, a program offering free admission for receiving food assistance.

692

Visitors came through on our annual Pay What you Can Weekend.

21,540

complimentary tickets provided to community members.

47 free community events hosted by Patriots Point.

72,145 tickets were sold at a discounted rate. (Military, Seniors, SC First Responders, SC Teachers, SC State Employees, Boy Scouts, Citadel Cadets, and various civic organizations and charities!).

Began offering the Harbor Room aboard the Yorktown complimentary for Veteran groups.

PATRIOTS POINT HONORS OUR HEROES

856 military members visited for free.

19,137

discounted admission tickets sold to military members

3,093 discounted admission tickets sold to SC First Responders

9 military events held at Patriots Point

Key annual events: Veterans Day, Memorial Day, Medal of Honor Day, Pearl Harbor Day, 9/11 Remembrance Day



OUR COLLECTIONS AT PATRIOTS POINT

The USS Yorktown Foundation is deeply committed to preserving the legacy of our nation's history through our support of Patriots Point's exhibits and museum experience. We are honored to help fund meaningful projects that preserve the stories of heroism and sacrifice for future generations. These efforts ensure that the lessons of the past continue to inspire and educate, keeping the spirit of our shared history alive for years to come.



35,976 objects in our catalog

350+ objects digitized

OPERATION RESTORATION

The **28 historic aircraft** on display at Patriots Point represent the importance and evolution of military aviation to our country from World War II to the present day. In partnership with Patriots Point, the USS Yorktown Foundation is committed to raising funds to restore and preserve all the aircraft at the Museum.

Raised final **\$130,546** of **\$300,000** throughout the year needed to restore the 12 aircraft on the Yorktown's flight deck.

9 out of 12 aircraft restored

\$316,770 in funding toward programs at Patriots Point



In 2024, the Curation Department restored several original compartments aboard the USS Yorktown, including the dental ward, officers' staterooms, and the ship's library, bringing these historical spaces back to their former glory.

USS YORKTOWN LIBRARY RESTORATION

\$16,000 The USS Yorktown Library was a space where sailors could come read, write letters, or play board games with their shipmates. Utilizing historic photos and firsthand accounts, the Patriots Point Curatorial Department restored the space back to its original glory.



The restoration was made possible by a generous donation from the Grigsby Family in memory of LTJG William C. Grigsby Jr. VBF-12, USS Randolph.



\$2,500 Laffey Ship Store

VIETNAM EXPERIENCE REPAIRS

\$50,000 to update the immersive experience and its structures



\$5,000

80th Anniversary of D-Day & USS Laffey Participation with Commemorative Airforce

EDUCATION

The USS Yorktown Foundation proudly funds educational programs and scholarships, providing life-changing opportunities to children from all socioeconomic backgrounds. By breaking down financial barriers, we open doors that many would have never dreamed possible — paving the way for future careers in the military and aviation. These programs not only empower the next generation to chase their dreams but also inspire them to become the leaders and heroes of tomorrow, in fields they might have never imagined without this vital support.

\$26,607 in scholarships awarded, enabling **667** students to attend educational programs

OVER 6,000 SCHOLARSHIPS TO DATE



KEY PROGRAM: WOMEN IN AVIATION SYMPOSIUM



In March, the USS Yorktown Foundation proudly hosted the Women in Aviation Symposium, driven by our belief in the power of sharing inspiring stories—particularly in a field where women remain underrepresented. The event celebrated the remarkable achievements of trailblazers like Alina Scott and Margrit Waltz, whose stories continue to inspire us all. More than just a celebration, the symposium highlighted the challenges women still face in aviation and created a space for meaningful dialogue. By sharing these stories, we not only inspire today's generation of women to break barriers but also help pave the way for future generations to soar higher and dream bigger.

PATRIOTS POINT STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

110 staff members

167 active volunteers (76% Veterans)

19,804 Volunteer Hours

\$396,080 Financial Impact of Volunteering



The USS Yorktown Foundation supports the Patriots Point staff and volunteers through various efforts.

• Engage Brigade Employee Initiative (\$17,000)

- Chili Cook-off
- Memorial Day BBQ
- Thanksgiving Breakfast
- Christmas Lunch

• Volunteer Program Support (\$8,500)

- Volunteer Dinner Cruise
- Volunteer lounge supplies
- Volunteer of the Year attending HNSA



NEW PARTNERSHIPS

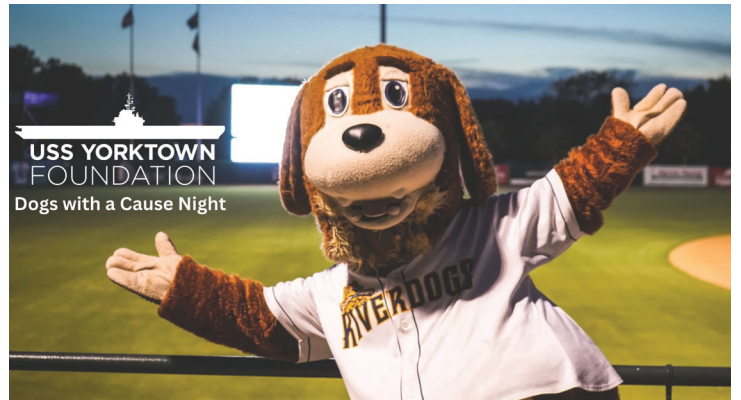


Shore Leave Lager launch with Westbrook Brewing Co.

Yoga on the Flight Deck with Lowcountry Yoga



Chick-fil-A Operation Overnight collaboration



RiverDogs 'Dogs with a Cause' Partnership Game

THANK YOU

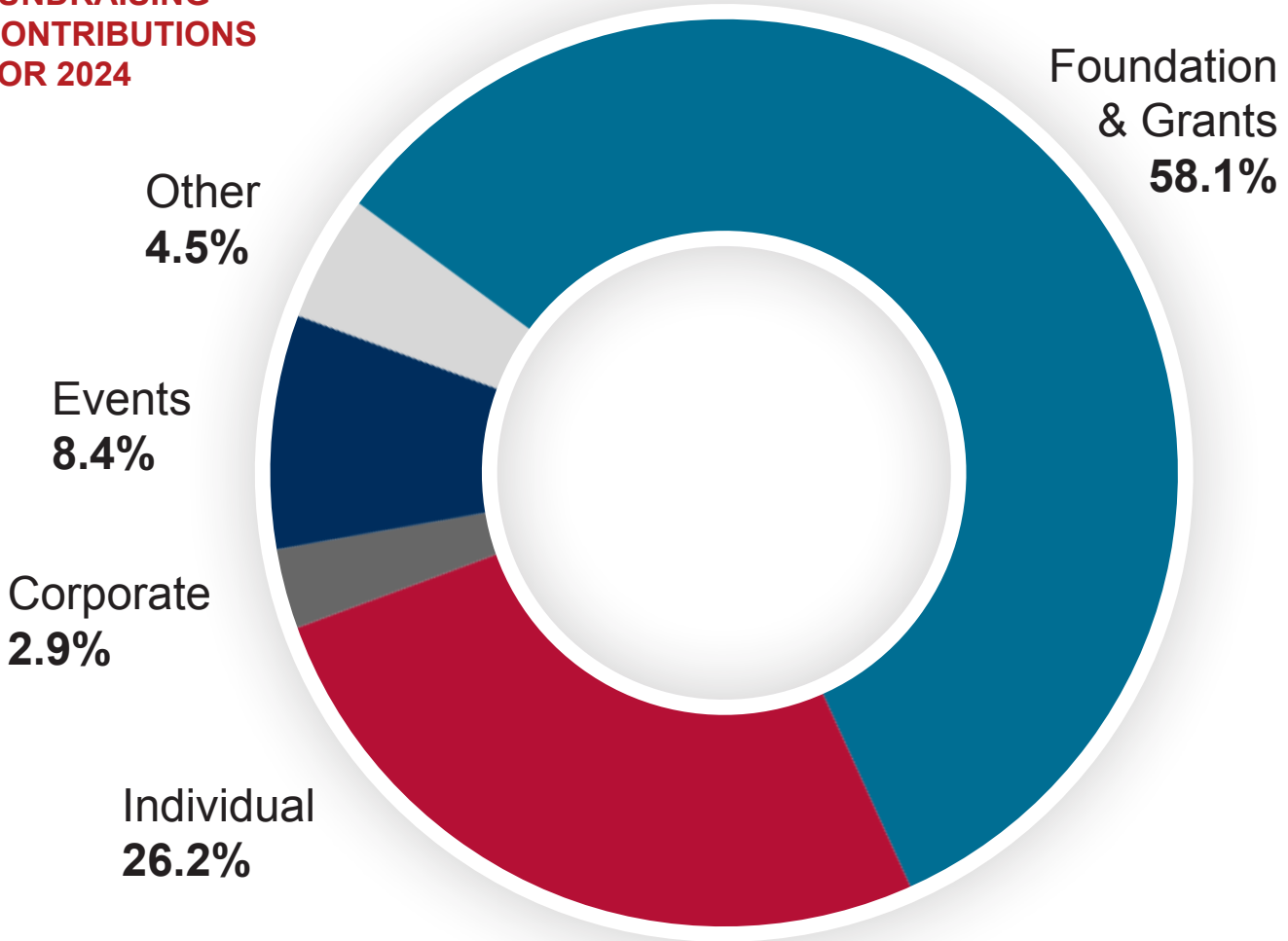
As we reflect on the impact we've made this year, we are reminded that none of this would have been possible without you—our dedicated supporters. Your generosity has opened doors of opportunity, preserved invaluable pieces of history, and inspired future generations to dream big. Together, we are making a lasting difference, and for that, we are profoundly grateful. **Thank you** for standing with us and fueling the work that changes lives.

— Meaghan Silsby, *Foundation Director*



2024 FUNDRAISING

FUNDRAISING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2024



\$316,770 in funding toward programs at Patriots Point

FUNDRAISING BREAKDOWN

Individual Contributions	\$88,459	Fundraising Events	\$28,360
Foundations & Grants	\$196,489	Other Income.....	\$15,277
Corporate Contributions	\$9,646	Total Fundraising Support:.....	\$338,231



LAUNCHING TOMORROW'S LEADERS, PRESERVING OUR NATION'S HISTORY

2025

OUR VISION

Our vision for this coming year is to inspire and empower future generations by launching tomorrow's leaders through transformative educational opportunities, while preserving our nation's legacy of courage, sacrifice, and innovation. We are committed to ensuring that the stories of our past fuel the dreams of the future, creating a world where history informs leadership, and where every child can soar.



UPCOMING INITIATIVES

Celebrating 50 years of the USS Yorktown's arrival in Charleston in June 2025

Design Master Plan

Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum is undergoing a design master plan that will include new design concepts for our tour routes, exhibit creation, and overall style of the museum. More to come in 2025!

Corporate Partnerships & Membership Program

The Foundation created a pivotal new role this year aimed at enhancing community engagement and support for the museum. The newly established Director of Community Relations and Membership position was filled by Kayla Webber, a seasoned professional with a strong background in marketing and nonprofit management. Since her onboarding, Webber has spearheaded the development of an exciting new membership program for the museum set to launch this coming year.

Holes Fore Heroes Golf Tournament

On October 7, 2024, the USS Yorktown Foundation hosted its first ever Holes Fore Heroes fundraising event. Stay tuned for details for 2025!

**BE A PART OF THE
STORY FOR THIS
YEAR! DONATE TODAY!**

patriotspoint.org/foundation



28 HISTORIC AIRCRAFT



COLD WAR MEMORIAL



USS LAFFEY



MEDAL OF HONOR MUSEUM



VIETNAM EXPERIENCE



USS YORKTOWN