



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

Battleship Memorial Park Attendance Figures Remain Strong for 2016

Mobile, Alabama, February 16, 2017 – USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park is pleased to announce visitor attendance for 2016. This past year we had 294,724 visitors come to tour the historic WWII battleship USS ALABAMA and submarine USS DRUM, and 394,930 visitors come to visit the park.

“The USS ALABAMA Battleship Commission is pleased to report another very solid year of attendance for 2016,” said Commission chair, Lt. Col. Gary Fitts (Ret.). “With the opening of GulfQuest Maritime Museum in the fall of 2015, and the wonderful traveling exhibits presented by the Gulf Coast Exploreum, Mobile’s tourism industry experienced innovation and growth this past year. Battleship Memorial Park is proud to be the anchor attraction in south Alabama that continues to draw visitors to the Mobile area.”

“USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park is honored to host hundreds of thousands of visitors each year,” stated Janet Cobb, executive director. “Whether it’s a planned destination for a touring veteran or a young family on Interstate 10 or the Causeway who sees the USS ALABAMA sitting majestically in Mobile Bay, we appreciate them coming to see us. It’s those visitors from around the world who keep us up and running.”

During 2016 Battleship Memorial Park served as the host site again for the City of Mobile’s *July 4th Celebration*; the *Veterans Day Celebration and Parade of Flags*, featuring area 4th grade students

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from both Mobile and Baldwin counties; and the *Veterans Day Concert* presented by the Mobile and Baldwin Pops. The year was filled with several special events at the Park that enhanced our visitor experience. Noteworthy events included our Living History Crew drills; Alabama's *Blue Star Salute Celebration* in May; the unveiling of our newest monument, The Recruit, and a community-wide *Oath of Enlistment Ceremony* on July 2; the 75th anniversary celebration of the USS DRUM in November; and a memorial service in December recognizing the 75th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

"The USS ALABAMA Battleship Commission is looking forward to another great year at the Park," concluded Fitts. "With the 75th anniversary of the USS DRUM and the upcoming 75 anniversary of the USS ALABAMA, we have a great 2017 planned. We hope that all Alabamians will visit this park this coming year."

USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park is self-sustaining with revenues from admissions, special event rentals and donations funding operations. Battleship Memorial Park is home to two National Historic Landmarks, the USS ALABAMA and USS DRUM.

For more information and for a calendar of events, please visit our facebook page at USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park, or our newly constructed website launching soon at www.ussalabama.com.

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