

PUBLISHED BY THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND FOUNDATION

WAVE TOPS THE GOUGE

THE GOUGE

This is a quarterly "WaveTops Special Edition" for alumni and chapter members. Our goal is to provide timely and relevant information to communicate, connect and engage alumni while also supporting chapters in their efforts to increase membership, participation and impact in their local communities. If you have suggestions for future content, email [Nancy Murray](mailto:Nancy.Murray), senior director, Alumni Engagement and Outreach Programs.



We Want Your Feedback!

As a valued member of our community, we're [seeking your input](#) to help local chapters better engage fellow alumni and supporters in their communities. Whether you're looking to reconnect, find networking opportunities or stay engaged with the U.S. Naval Academy community, we want to know what would encourage you to participate in chapter activities and get your thoughts on the benefits of chapter membership. Your [feedback](#) will ensure that we meet your needs and create a meaningful chapter experience. The deadline to complete the survey is 15 December.



Distinguished Chapter Award Nomination Deadline: 15 January

Submit your nomination for the [Distinguished Chapter Award](#). Bestowed upon the most engaged chapters, this award recognizes the efforts of chapters embodying the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association's four pillars: *Connect, Communicate, Support* and *Anchor*. Chapters are encouraged to [submit nominations](#) to be considered for the 2024 award. Submissions will be accepted through 15 January, and winning chapters will be announced at the Volunteer Leader Summit on 31 March 2025.



Bravo Zulu: Northern Arizona Chapter

Starting a new chapter may be a big endeavor, but the Northern Arizona Chapter took on the challenge with zeal last year. The chapter is growing and attracting alumni, parents and supporters around Sedona, Prescott and other communities well north of the greater Phoenix area. Navy football watch parties have kept them busy this fall and they look forward to more engaging events in the new year. Check out their [myUSNA page](#). If your chapter is inactive or you're interested in connecting with fellow alumni in an area without a chapter, please reach out to [Nancy Murray](#).



Thank You
NASS/STEM
Donors!



Yard, Athletics &
Performance
Calendars



2024 Roadshow
Recap &
2025 Plans



Not Activated on myUSNA?
Activate Now to Stay
Connected!

TOP FEATURES



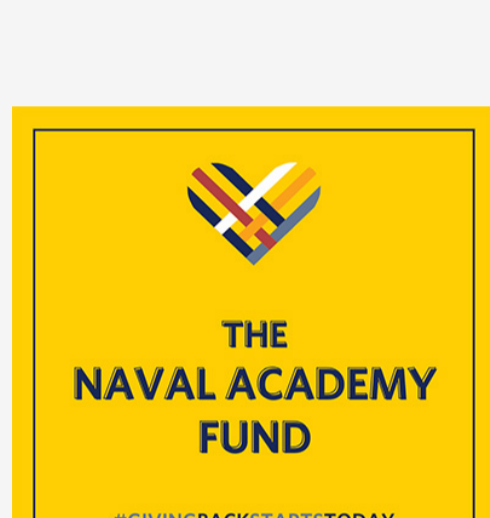
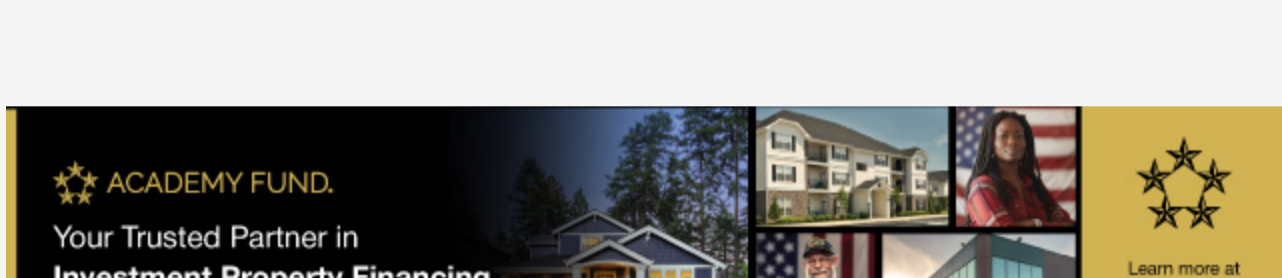
Honoring Our Fallen Heroes

More than 50 families joined us for our [Honor Our Fallen Heroes](#) (HOFH) ceremony on 16 November. We were honored to have them all with us, as we remembered the incredible sacrifices of their loved ones. USNA Superintendent VADM Yvette Davis '89, USN, and Eric Kapitulik '95 shared moving reflections, reminding us that while our fallen gave their lives, it's our duty to ensure their spirit endures. Run to Honor President Steve Swift '87 read each hero's name, ensuring their legacies live on. [Watch this year's HOFH live as we honor our heroes and celebrate their lasting legacy and sacrifice.](#)



Save The Date: Navy Athletics Day of Giving

Navy Athletics is proud of our 36 varsity programs and exceptional varsity athletes. [This Giving Tuesday, support your favorite team](#) and help our midshipmen access the essential resources they need to compete at the highest level. Every gift on 3 December contributes to our team goals, ensuring our student-athletes can thrive in competition. Join us in strengthening Navy Athletics by making a meaningful impact this Giving Tuesday!



Support the Brigade

Support our Brigade of Midshipmen one last time in 2024 through the Naval Academy Fund! At the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and Foundation (USNA AA&F) [#GivingBackStartsToday](#) because the work we do directly supports our midshipmen beyond [#GivingTuesday](#). Through our various giving societies, charitable and mutual fund shares, there are so many ways to incorporate giving back and your support is crucial to our mission and our students. Learn more online at [usna.com/give](#).

The Army-Navy Game: An Annual Tradition on the Field, in Annapolis and Beyond

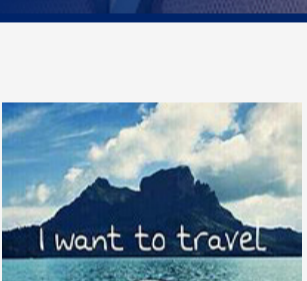
[READ MORE](#)



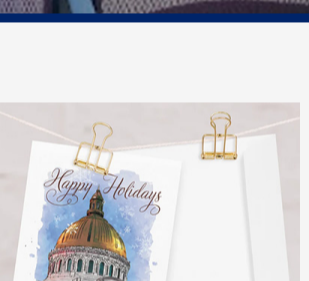
Preferred Provider
of Financial
Services



Military Matchup:
Capital Hockey
Classic Tickets



Visit our 2025
Destinations—2026
Travel is Coming Soon



Send Holiday Cheer
with a Touch of
USNA Pride!



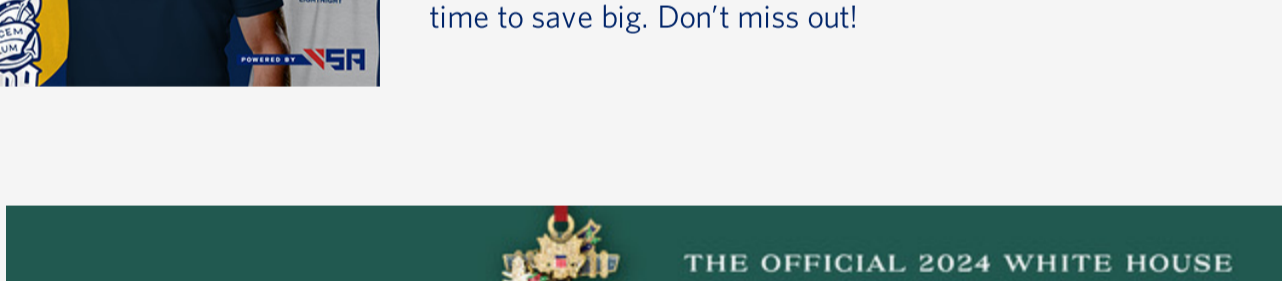
Native American History Month

On 3 August 1990, President George H.W. Bush declared the month of November as National American Indian Heritage Month. Commonly referred to as [Native American Heritage Month](#), the month recognizes and celebrates the diverse cultures, histories and traditions of the Indigenous peoples of North America and to recognizes their service to our country. Approximately 15,000 active duty, reserve and civilian members of the Navy's total force identify as Native American or Alaska native.



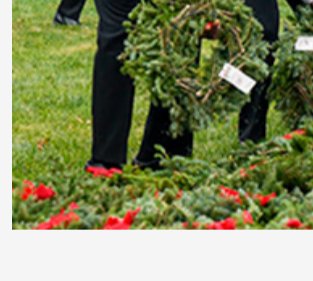
USNA Alumni Community Only: 15% Off

The holiday season is here, and so are the savings for our USNA alumni community! [When you sign up, you receive a 15% off deal.](#) Use coupon code '15OFF2024' at checkout to unlock discounts on everything. [Check out apparel featuring your class year, company, family, Navy-Notre Dame, the all-new member collection, and more!](#) Whether you're shopping for yourself or tackling your holiday gift list, now is the perfect time to save big. Don't miss out!

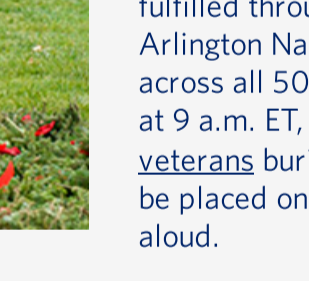


National Wreaths Across America Day: Honor a Deceased Veteran

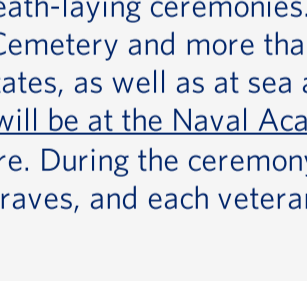
Each year on National Wreaths Across America Day, the mission of Wreaths Across America (WAA)—to Remember, Honor and Teach—is fulfilled through wreath-laying ceremonies. These events take place at Arlington National Cemetery and more than 3,400 other locations across all 50 U.S. states, as well as at sea and abroad. On 13 December at 9 a.m. ET, [WAA will be at the Naval Academy Cemetery to honor the veterans buried there.](#) During the ceremony, remembrance wreaths will be placed on their graves, and each veteran's name will be spoken aloud.



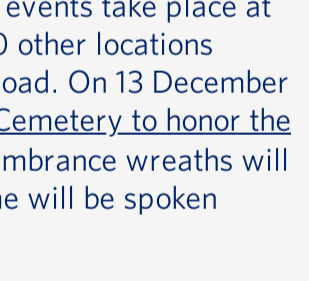
Come Cozy Up and Browse
the Holiday Collection of Fine
Art, Gifts, Stationery



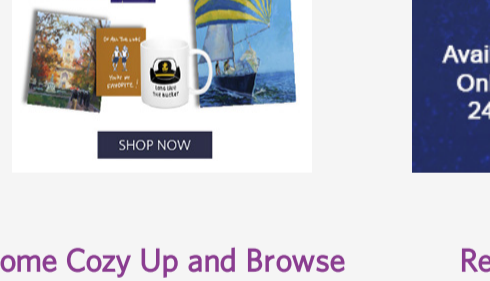
Read the Latest
Issue Online



Swanson '90 Unveils
New Children's Book

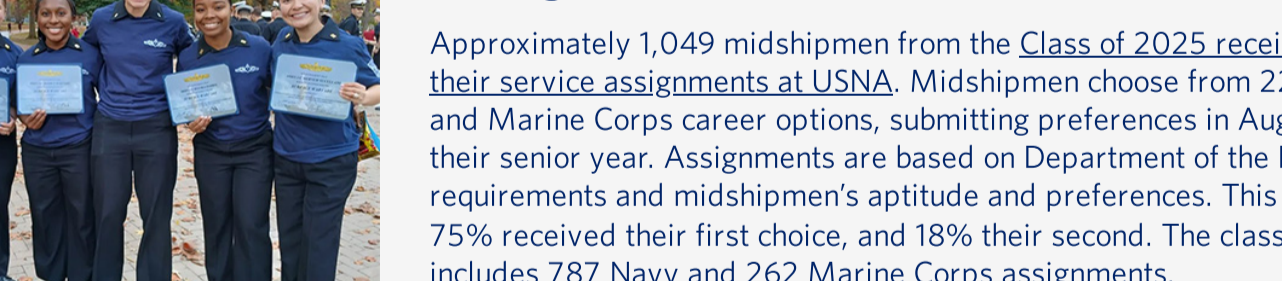


Shop Old School Blazer
for Unique Blazers
and Accessories



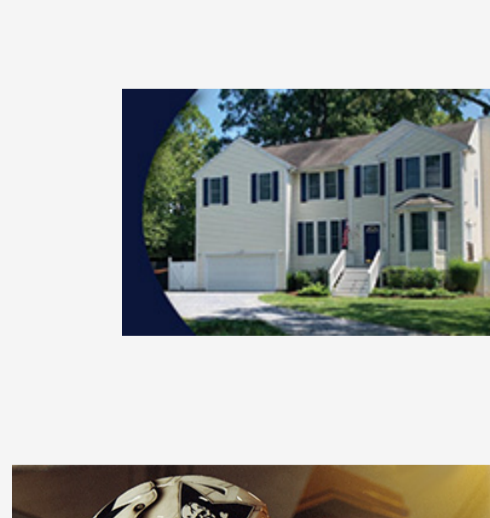
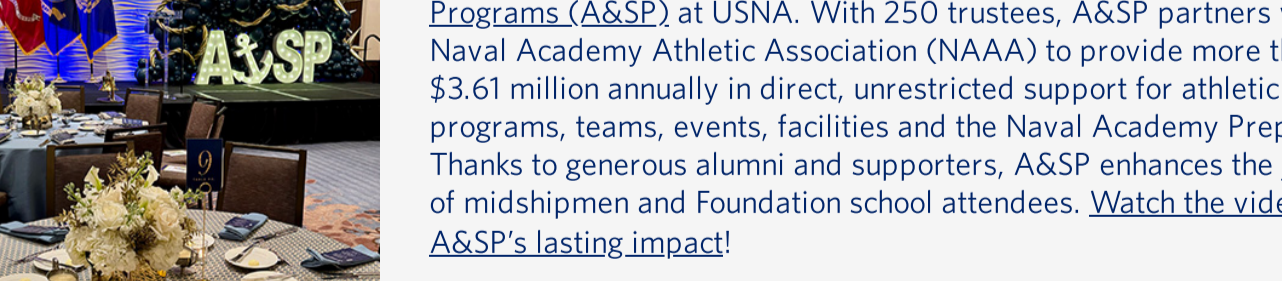
Class of 2024 Obtain Career Assignments

Approximately 1,049 midshipmen from the [Class of 2025](#) received their service assignments at USNA. Midshipmen choose from 22 Navy and Marine Corps career options, submitting preferences in August of their senior year. Assignments are based on Department of the Navy requirements and midshipmen's aptitude and preferences. This year, 75% received their first choice, and 18% their second. The class includes 787 Navy and 262 Marine Corps assignments.



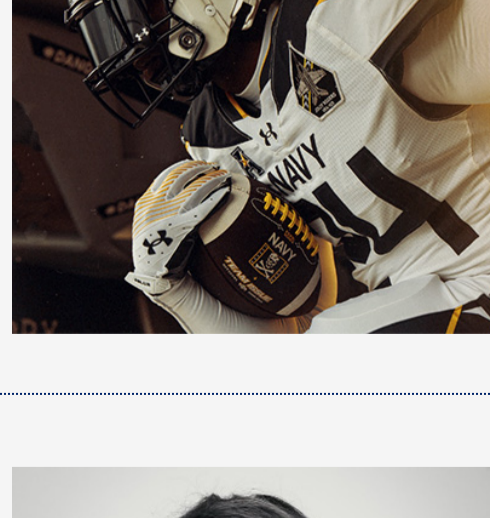
80th Anniversary for A&SP

This month, we celebrated 80 years of the [Athletic & Scholarship Programs \(A&SP\)](#) at USNA. With 250 trustees, A&SP partners with the Naval Academy Athletic Association (NAAA) to provide more than \$3.61 million annually in direct, unrestricted support for athletic programs, teams, events, facilities and the Naval Academy Prep School. Thanks to generous alumni and supporters, A&SP enhances the journey of midshipmen and Foundation school attendees. [Watch the video of A&SP's lasting impact!](#)



Army-Navy Uniform Tribute

[NAAA and Under Armour have revealed the 2024 Army-Navy game uniform](#), a tribute to the legendary Jolly Rogers. The 125th edition of this iconic rivalry, presented by USAA, will take place on 14 December at Northwest Stadium in Landover, MD. The Jolly Rogers were established in 1943 and are the most lethal and history-rich squadron in all of naval aviation and continue to exemplify the traditions and excellence of professionalism of the U.S. Navy. Their tagline is *Fear the Bores* and their call sign is *Victory*. Flying over nine different types of fighter aircraft in the past 63 years, the skull and crossbones have become the most recognized and feared insignia in the world.



Meet the Staff: Tonya Grant

[Meet Tonya Grant—the new director of Corporate and Foundation Relations.](#) Before joining the USNA AA&F six months ago, Grant worked in the medical tech industry. Now she serves as our liaison between corporations and foundations, our executive leadership, and Academy faculty, leadership, and midshipmen. Grant resides locally in Annapolis with her family. Her hobbies include soccer, basketball, and rowing.