

## Training for Tokyo: A Case Study of the William Grigsby Collection,

**Date:** 3/16/2026

**Time:** 10am-2pm

**Location/ Facilitating Party:** Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum

**Direct Contact Hours:** 4

**Registration Required:** Registration by 3/9; <https://forms.gle/TxFpoS1cRaTBvVjR7>

### Objectives:

- To demonstrate the integration of social studies, science, ELA, and math
- To use William Grigsby's collection as an entry point into exploration of cross-curricular concepts
- To demonstrate the value of community institutions to classroom learning

### Overview:

At the start of World War II, Japanese pilots were considered some of the best, most well-trained airmen in the world. The US Navy needed a lot of pilots to rise to the challenge quickly and perfected a system to do it. Hopeful future pilots were first put through a four-week boot camp called Flight Preparatory School, three-month Midshipman School, and earn their wings after completing 600 hours of flight time. Over a year after enlisting in the US Navy, Ensign William "Bill" Grigsby was authorized to fly on March 14, 1944.

Chronicling William Grigsby's WWII career through exploration of materials from his training, photo albums, flight suits, and more, participants will use primary resources to unravel William's timeline, prompt inquiry and ELA exercises, and launch into STEM-related topics. All activities will be standards-based.

Lunch will be served. [Registration is required](#). Space is limited. Please contact [HKratz@patriotspint.org](mailto:HKratz@patriotspint.org) should you need to cancel in advance of the program or for any questions.

Themes/relevant vocabulary include: inquiry/research, investigate, evaluate, and synthesize, informational text, Earth science, weather, atmosphere, celestial navigation, archivist, curator, engineering, society and technology, geography (conditions, connections and regions), WWII



This picture shows a smiling William Grigsby wearing his pilot wings. From the Collection of Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum.