



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 29, 2026

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## **Patriots Point to Host “Building the Future” Educator Conference Aboard USS Yorktown**

*Two-Day Immersive Conference Aboard the USS Yorktown Will Connect Educators with Hands-On, Cross-Curricular Learning Experiences*

**MOUNT PLEASANT, S.C.** – Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum will host its 14<sup>th</sup> annual educator conference aboard the historic USS Yorktown on June 2-3, 2026, bringing together South Carolina educators for an immersive professional development experience focused on this year’s theme, “Building the Future.”

The conference will feature several notable speakers, including guest of honor Anita Huggins, Superintendent of Charleston County School District, who will deliver the closing luncheon address on June 3. Huggins has served Charleston County School District for more than 25 years and is widely recognized for her leadership, commitment to educational excellence, and efforts to expand opportunities for students throughout the district.

Other notable presenters include Chad Vail, Charleston County School District’s Work-based Learning Partnerships Coordinator; James Cate, Berkeley County School District’s Innovative Learning Coordinator; and Nicholas DiFilippo, Talent Acquisition Manager for Newport News Shipbuilding’s Charleston Operations. Throughout the conference, educators will participate in activities and discussions designed to explore innovative approaches to teaching and learning while experiencing life aboard the USS Yorktown.

“At Patriots Point, we believe education is one of the most powerful tools for shaping the future,” said Kenny Brinckman, Director of Education and Public Programming at Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum. “This year’s ‘Building the Future’ theme recognizes the dedication of educators and provides an opportunity to explore new ideas, share best practices and inspire the next generation of learners.”

Members of the media interested in covering the conference are encouraged to contact Lauren Austin, Director of Communications for Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum, for speaker schedules, interview opportunities and additional event details.





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### **About Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum**

*Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum, on the Charleston Harbor, is the #1 attraction in Mount Pleasant, S.C., and is home to a fleet of National Historic Landmark ships, and the only Vietnam Support Base Camp in the U.S. Patriots Point is also headquarters to the Congressional Medal of Honor Society and the agency's official Medal of Honor Museum. Visit [www.patriotspoint.org](http://www.patriotspoint.org) for more details or find us on [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#), and [Facebook](#).*

### **About the Charting 50 Years Campaign**

*For five decades, Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum has inspired generations through stories of courage, innovation, and service. As we chart 50 years of preserving history and honoring heroes in 2026, join us in celebrating the milestones, the people, and the moments that have defined our journey—and continue to shape our future. Visit <https://charting50.org/> for more information.*

