



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FROM:** StoryCorps

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**9/11 Memorial to Feature StoryCorps Stories**

Visitors to learn about the lives that were lost through the words of those who loved them most

September 1, 2011- For the past five years, StoryCorps and the National September 11 Memorial & Museum (9/11 Memorial) have worked to record at least one story to honor each life lost on September 11, 2001. To date, families and friends have memorialized nearly 600 individual victims of the attacks through the StoryCorps interview process. When the 9/11 Memorial opens on the 10th anniversary of the attacks, excerpts from 10 of these StoryCorps interviews will be featured at the site. These remembrances will be presented through the 9/11 Memorial Guide, the digital platform that guides visitors through the site.

The 9/11 Memorial Guide is a new iPhone, Android, and Windows Phone app which visitors will download before visiting the site. This app will allow visitors to search the names arrangement of the Memorial and present select StoryCorps interviews which help illustrate the enormity of the loss on 9/11 through the personal remembrances of families who lost loved ones on that day. The app will feature StoryCorps stories from each of the nine groups of victims memorialized at the site: World Trade Center (North), World Trade Center (South), the Pentagon, Flight 93, Flight 77, Flight 175, Flight 11, First Responders, and the February 26, 1993 World Trade Center bombing. Eight of the victim groups will be memorialized through one StoryCorps remembrance each. World Trade Center (North), which accounted for nearly half of the deaths that occurred on September 11, 2001, will be marked with two StoryCorps remembrances.

Five years ago, StoryCorps set a goal with the 9/11 Memorial to record at least one remembrance for each of the nearly 3,000 people killed in the attacks. To date, StoryCorps has memorialized 583 individual victims—almost a fifth of the 2,983 men, women, and children killed on 9/11 and February 26, 1993. StoryCorps is also collecting stories of rescue workers and survivors. In total, StoryCorps has recorded and archived 1,193 September 11th stories.

“The experience of talking about Tommy at StoryCorps was so overwhelmingly happy,” said Norene Sullivan, who lost her brother Tommy Sullivan on September 11th. “I am honored to be a part of something that has changed my life and will change the lives of innumerable others too. We finally got to do something—for Tommy.”

“It has been a profound honor to work with families to memorialize those lost on 9/11,” said Dave Isay, founder of StoryCorps. “We have been and always will be here to serve families when they feel ready to honor their loved ones through StoryCorps. We must never forget the lives lost on that day.”

“The arrangement of names on the Memorial is infused with layers of meaning that reflect where victims were on 9/11 and relationships that they shared with others who were lost that day,” said 9/11 Memorial President and CEO Joe Daniels. “It is an honor to share some of those stories through the Memorial Guide and our partnership with StoryCorps.”

“Through their ongoing September 11th Initiative, StoryCorps remains an important partner and integral contributor to the 9/11 Memorial Museum’s permanent archive and valuable content for our exhibition,” 9/11 Memorial Museum Director Alice Greenwald said. “We are proud and thankful to StoryCorps for enabling us to share some of these compelling recorded remembrances with 9/11 Memorial visitors through the Memorial Guide app.”

Other special StoryCorps activities honoring the 10th anniversary of September 11th include:

### **9/11 ANIMATED SHORTS**

StoryCorps will release three animated shorts to honor and remember those who lost their lives in the September 11th attacks.

Animated by the Rauch Brothers, StoryCorps’ September 11 shorts powerfully illustrate the stories collected through the September 11th Initiative. These shorts will debut on [storycorps.org/animation](http://storycorps.org/animation) and will be broadcast on PBS and featured on the homepage of YouTube on September 11, 2011.

- **“Always a Family” — Debuts Tuesday, September 6**
  - Monique Ferrer remembers her last conversation with her ex-husband, Michael Trinidad, who was killed in the World Trade Center.
- **“She Was the One”—Debuts Wednesday, September 7**
  - Richard Pecorella remembers the love of his life, Karen Juday, a secretary for Cantor Fitzgerald, who was killed in the World Trade Center attacks.
- **“John and Joe” — Debuts Thursday, September 8**
  - John Vigiano Sr. lost both his sons on September 11. John Jr. was a firefighter like his father; Joe was a police detective.

### **NPR ONE-HOUR SPECIAL**

In partnership with StoryCorps and the 9/11 Memorial, NPR is producing a one-hour special for public radio stations nationwide: *We Remember: StoryCorps Stories from 9/11*, hosted by Audie Cornish.

A preview of the animations, the NPR special, and other related materials are available for press access only at <http://storycorps.org/about/press-room-news/september-11/>

Major funding for StoryCorps comes from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Funding for the September 11 Initiative comes from the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, with additional funding from Carnegie Corporation of New York.

### **About StoryCorps:**

StoryCorps’ mission is to provide Americans of all backgrounds and beliefs with the opportunity to record, preserve, and share their stories. StoryCorps currently has one of the largest collections of American voices ever gathered, with nearly 40,000 interviews recorded in all 50 states and archived in the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. StoryCorps partners with more than 500 community organizations nationwide each year to ensure that we capture the widest diversity of stories possible. To this end, we have also launched a series of successful special initiatives, including the September 11th Initiative, helping families memorialize the stories of lives lost on September 11, 2001.

### **About 9/11 Memorial:**

The National September 11 Memorial & Museum is the not-for-profit corporation created to oversee the design, raise the funds, and program and operate the Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center site. The Memorial and Museum will be located on eight of the 16 acres of the site. The Memorial will be dedicated on the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks and will open to the public the following day. The Museum will open in 2012.

The Memorial will remember and honor the nearly 3,000 people who died in the horrific attacks of September 11, 2001 and February 26, 1993. The design, created by Michael Arad and Peter Walker, consists of two pools formed in the footprints of the original Twin Towers and a plaza of trees.

The Museum will display monumental artifacts linked to the events of 9/11, while presenting intimate stories of loss, compassion, reckoning, and recovery that are central to telling the story of the 2001 attacks and the aftermath. It will communicate key messages that embrace both the specificity and the universal implications of the events of 9/11; document the impact of those events on individual lives, as well as on local, national, and international communities; and explore the continuing significance of these events for our global community.

When the Memorial opens, construction will continue on the other World Trade Center projects and free visitor passes will be temporarily required. To plan a visit to the Memorial or learn how to contribute, go to [911memorial.org](http://911memorial.org).

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