



A message from **THE PRESIDENT**

2024 VETERANS DAY

War is a terrible – if sometimes necessary – endeavor. It is undertaken with the greatest seriousness and exacts a heavy toll, heaviest of all on the men and women at the front lines. As the legendary General Douglas MacArthur once said, “The soldier above all others prays for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war.”

Veterans Day offers us the opportunity to acknowledge the personal sacrifices made by the soldiers who’ve defended our country during times of conflict and strife. From the very start of this nation to the present day, they have always answered the call of duty.

With humility and thanks, we proudly note the veterans who are part of the Hostos family. For their sake and for the sake of future generations let us work to create a world in which peace and justice – not war – shape our shared destiny.

The English poet-soldier Siegfried Sassoon’s “Everyone Sang,” vividly evokes the moment when the Armistice that ended the First World War was signed:

Everyone suddenly burst out singing;
And I was filled with such delight
As prisoned birds must find in freedom
Winging wildly across the white
Orchards and dark green fields; on – on and out of sight.
Everyone's voice was suddenly lifted,
And beauty came like the setting sun.
My heart was shaken with tears; and horror
Drifted away...O but Everyone
Was a bird; and the song was wordless; the singing will never be done.

May that sweet song of peace be heard around the world. Veterans, we salute you!

With gratitude –

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President

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