



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
**San Diego Public Library**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

Press photographs available upon request

**CONTACT:**

Kara West

619-236-5881

[kwest@sandiego.gov](mailto:kwest@sandiego.gov)

***WAR COMES HOME: THE LEGACY AT THE CENTRAL LIBRARY***

***Exhibit Features Letters Revealing How War Changes Lives, Families, Communities***

**JULY 16<sup>TH</sup> EVENT FEATURES SO SAY ALL AND AUTHOR ANDREW CARROLL**

SAN DIEGO – Highlighting private correspondence from almost every major conflict in U.S. history, new exhibition *War Comes Home: The Legacy* opened on July 5, 2015 at the San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common and will run through August 16 in the Dickinson Popular Library. The traveling exhibition, rich with historic and contemporary letters, offers an intimate perspective into the thoughts and emotions of troops, veterans, and their families when their loved ones come home.

*War Comes Home: The Legacy* is part of Cal Humanities' current *War Comes Home* initiative, a thematic program designed to promote greater understanding of veterans and explore how war shapes a community. The exhibition is based on the work of the Center for American War Letters (CAWL) and is presented by Exhibit Envoy. Andrew Carroll, the Director of CAWL and an award-winning and *New York Times* bestselling author, and John Benitz, Associate Professor in the Department of Theatre at Chapman University, co-curated the exhibition.

The exhibition explores the joys and hardships that returning troops and their families face during homecoming, as expressed through private letters and emails. Spanning conflicts from the Civil War through the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and displayed on thirteen interpretive panels, *War Comes Home: The Legacy* explores the shared themes of wartime separation, the adjustment to life back at home, and the costs of war.

**-more-**

On Thursday, July 16 at 5 p.m., the Central Library will be hosting special guest Andrew Carroll, the co-curator of the *War Comes Home* exhibit and Director of the Center for American War Letters. Mr. Carroll will bring original letters to share and will also accept donations of letters to the “Center for American War Letters” at Chapman University from veterans and their families. More on the center can be found at <http://www.WarLetters.us> and more on the war letters project can be seen on ABC news <http://abcnews.go.com/ThisWeek/video/war-letters-american-history-31273090>.

The event will continue in the Neil Morgan Auditorium at 5:30 p.m. for a live performance by some of the veteran writers featured on the new radio show from *So Say We All* and KPBS, *Incoming*, an initiative born from a series of veteran writing workshops provided by *So Say We All* at the Central Library that allows the men and women of the military to bring you true stories from their lives, told in their own words, directly from their own mouths. *Incoming* can be heard online at [kpbs.org/incoming](http://kpbs.org/incoming) or at [incomingradio.org](http://incomingradio.org).

Guests are encouraged to view the exhibit before the performance to see the exhibition and have a chance to meet Andrew Carroll.

### ***Exhibition Support***

*War Comes Home: The Legacy is a partnership between Cal Humanities, the California State Library and Exhibit Envoy. It is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the BayTree Fund, The Whitman Fund, and the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian. Learn more about Exhibit Envoy at [www.exhibitenvoy.org](http://www.exhibitenvoy.org) and about Cal Humanities at [www.calhum.org](http://www.calhum.org).*

### **The San Diego Public Library**

*Inspiring lifelong learning through connections to knowledge and each other.*

###