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**Expeditionary Learning Middle School Students Present
Through the Eyes of Our Veterans,
June 16th at The Oncenter War Memorial**

SYRACUSE, NY – Expeditionary Learning Middle School (ELMS) 8th Graders will honor Onondaga County Veterans this coming Thursday, June 16th at 6:00 pm in The Oncenter War Memorial Arena's Memorial Hall.

ELMS 8th graders began this spring semester studying the various perspectives of United States veterans from the 20th & 21st centuries. Students kicked off their spring expedition by watching *Saving Private Ryan* at the Palace Theater on February 16th. From there, ELMS 8th graders researched the conflicts that the U.S. became involved in from WWII through today's current conflicts. For each conflict, students studied the causes, consequences, various perspectives (at home & abroad), sacrifices made, and how veterans were honored upon returning home from their military service. Each student was able to interview a veteran of a different conflict: WWII, Korean War, Vietnam War, Persian Gulf War, Afghanistan War, and the Iraq War. Based on their interview, students composed (original) narratives telling their veteran's story.

The entire community is invited to honor area Veterans with ELMS students. *Through the Eyes of Our Veterans'* student performances will begin at 6:00pm in Memorial Hall of The Oncenter War Memorial Arena. Admission is free.

About the Oncenter: The Oncenter, a multi-venue exhibition, convention and entertainment facility in Syracuse, N.Y., consists of three venues. The Nicolas J. Pirro Convention Center is ideal for major conventions, meetings, banquets, consumer shows, trade shows, and corporate events. The War Memorial Arena has the versatility to accommodate numerous large-scale events, including ice shows, family shows, concerts, and sporting events. The John H. Mulroy Civic Center Theaters is home to three beautiful, distinct theaters that host a diverse variety of events, and is home to the Syracuse Symphony, Syracuse Opera and stage productions. For more information, visit www.oncenter.org.

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