

# FREEDOM TO FLOURISH & PLAN FOR SCHOOL & LIFE

**Learn:** how a Birmingham school graduate, a veteran of WW II, led the movement for America to create a National Veterans Day to honor veterans of all wars and perpetuate peace. Learn this history through the lens of character traits taught in Alabama schools and how they connect to the Civil Rights Movement in America. Think how these freedoms developing from Birmingham, Alabama mean we are *Free to Flourish* and how this calls each of us to write and a *Plan for School and Life* and take action using *Best-Self Leadership*.

**Action:** tell someone National Veterans Day started in Birmingham, Alabama and why Birmingham, Alabama can be known as a leader for Freedom—in our history and our future service to the Nation. Write your plan to develop your character and callings, career and college readiness—writing how you will apply the character traits in your life and listing goals for school and other areas of life.

**Guest faculty:** Dr. David Dyson, Founder & President, Life Leaders; co-author, Patriotism in Action & Professionalism Under Stress; born in Birmingham, attended Jefferson County Schools, Auburn University (Business), Birmingham-Southern College (Masters in Management), Vanderbilt University (Doctorate in Educational Leadership), Harvard University (Institute for Educational Management). Hobbies: horses, farming, sports.

## *Becoming, Knowing, Doing*

*[Listen, think, and fill in notes to remember and pass on to others. Learn with intent to teach.]*

America's Veterans Day started in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ (city, state) in 19\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

WW II hero and General who supported this national movement \_\_\_\_\_.

Official recognition came to Birmingham in November 2012 through a Resolution passed by the U.S. \_\_\_\_\_.

U.S. President \_\_\_\_\_ honored the founder of Veterans Day, presenting to him the \_\_\_\_\_.

The founding purpose of Veterans Day was to honor \_\_\_\_\_ and perpetuate \_\_\_\_\_.

Famous group of African-Americans trained in Alabama who fought in WW II for freedoms not yet enjoyed as civilians \_\_\_\_\_.

Meaning of Double V \_\_\_\_\_.

Three Freedoms: \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_.

Seven Motivating Values: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

Birmingham Area and Alabama can be known in America for \_\_\_\_\_.

Write your plan/vision for your best-self applying these character traits, which are legislated to teach in Alabama schools

Value                      Vision for fulfilling the value/character trait (Describe yourself succeeding (this is part of your Constitution)—I...)

1. Patriotism
2. Courage
3. Perseverance
4. Loyalty
5. Citizenship

5 additional values and traits significant to Veterans Day, Civil Rights, and Planning that also lead to action, character development, and freedom:

6. Freedom
7. Peace
8. Honor
9. Trust
10. Leadership





# Suggestions Survey

Please state your recommendations and/or ideas to help improve and succeed with this program to inform and inspire students, teachers, and parents.

Class for Students and Teachers—what do you like from this class and what could make it better?

School Program—what would make an school-wide assembly informative and inspiring?

Helping all teachers, students, and parents know about Veterans Day, Civil and Human Rights, and Plan for School and Life Movements advancing in Birmingham—your ideas?

What do you want Birmingham to be known as mainly in the nation?  Steel City  Magic City  Freedom City  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Do you like adding a nickname "Freedom City" for Birmingham?  Yes  No

What nickname do you like best for Alabama:

- Alabama the Beautiful      What does this say about the state to visitors?
- Freedom State                What does this say about the state to visitors?
- \_\_\_\_\_                        Why \_\_\_\_\_

What do you want Alabama to be principally known for in the nation?

How could we help Birmingham get known positively for Freedoms in the state and nation?

Best-Self Leadership (personal leadership/how to do my best) should get taught

- high school  college  professional life  church/spiritual

What do you need to succeed more in school and life:

- plan for life  time management  motivation  personal leadership  \_\_\_\_\_

Do you like the idea that schools should help students write plans for school and life?  Yes  No

Use in writing classes for grades  Yes  No. Use with counselors to plan school, career, other  Yes  No

Name you like for such a program:

- Plan for School & Life  Plan for Character & Calling  Plan for College, Career & Character  \_\_\_\_\_

Other Suggestions or Comments:

