

Contacts: Ted Boles/David Rosenberg
Account Supervisors
Margie Korshak Inc.
(312) 751-5513/5559

Edward C. Tracy
Executive Director
Tawani Foundation
312.251.3095

For Immediate Release

**PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING AUTHOR & HISTORIAN JAMES M. MCPHERSON
TO RECEIVE FIRST PRITZKER MILITARY LIBRARY AWARD
FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT**

\$100,000 Award to be Presented at October 6, 2007 Gala in Chicago

Chicago, IL (July 16, 2007) - **James M. McPherson**, whose outstanding historical work on the American Civil War has placed him among the top writers of our time, has been selected to receive the first-ever **Pritzker Military Library Literature Award for Lifetime Achievement in Military Writing**. The \$100,000 honorarium, citation and medallion, sponsored by the Chicago-based **Tawani Foundation**, will be presented at the Library's black-tie **Liberty Gala** on October 6th at Chicago's Drake Hotel (140 E. Walton Place). The announcement was made today via world-wide webcast by the Library's founder and CEO, James N. Pritzker at www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org.

The Pritzker Military Library Award recognizes a single living author for a body of work dedicated to enriching the understanding of American military history including military affairs. The recipient's contributions may be academic, non-fiction, fiction or a combination of any of the three and their work should embody the values of the Pritzker Military Library.

"Our purpose in establishing the Pritzker Military Library Literature Award for Lifetime Achievement is to acknowledge the highest levels of scholarship and writing in a field that often does not gain appropriate recognition," Pritzker said. "By providing an annual award to the most thoughtful and articulate scholar writing about war and military activities, we may in turn be lead to better solutions and perhaps a better life for all of us."

James McPherson is the George Henry Davis '86 Professor of History Emeritus at Princeton University. He has published numerous volumes on the Civil War, including *Lincoln and the Second American Revolution*, *Drawn with the Sword: Reflections on the American Civil War* and *For Cause and Comrades: Why Men Fought in the Civil War*, which won the prestigious Lincoln Prize in 1998. He was awarded a Pulitzer Prize for his single-volume treatment of the Civil War, *Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era*.

"I am profoundly honored to receive this award," said McPherson in response to the announcement. "I started my career as a historian of the radical social and political consequences of the Civil War and soon discovered that these changes depended on the military course of the conflict." McPherson would pursue his goal as a military historian in order to "explore and write about the complex and crucial interconnections between the battlefield and home front, not only in the Civil War, but in all wars. I am proud that my contributions to understanding these relationships is being recognized."

James McPherson's nomination was submitted by his publisher, Oxford University Press. "Oxford University Press warmly congratulates Jim McPherson on his receipt of the first Pritzker Military Library Literature Award for Lifetime Achievement in Military Writing," said Niko Pfund, Vice President and Publisher. "Few scholars more consistently combine first-rate scholarship with accessible historical writing, and few authors are more of a pleasure to publish. We are delighted that so richly deserving a writer and thinker has been chosen to inaugurate this prestigious award."

A national panel of historians, writers and individuals related to the study of American history and heritage reviewed nominations and definitive works submitted by publishers, agents, book sellers and other professional literary organizations. The finalist recommendation was unanimously endorsed by the executive council of the Foundation established to oversee the award process.

The Pritzker Award will be presented on Saturday, October 6, 2007 during the Library's annual Liberty Gala at Chicago's historic Drake Hotel. The Library will also recognize veteran journalist John Callaway for his 50 year broadcast career. The evening will include a tribute to members of the armed forces and features a dramatic presentation by the Steppenwolf Theater Company. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit the library website at: www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org.

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ABOUT THE PRITZKER MILITARY LIBRARY

The Pritzker Military Library, founded in 2003, is a unique special collections library with a mission to acquire and maintain materials and develop appropriate programs focusing on the concept of the Citizen Soldier as an essential element for the preservation of democracy. As a premier non-governmental military library and research facility, the Pritzker Military Library offers patrons, members and researchers over 25,000 volumes, 6,000 images and over 800 prints and posters for study in a state-of-the art facility located in downtown Chicago.

The Pritzker Military Library presents weekly author lectures, interviews and panel discussions to a live audience, free and open to the public, as well as access to exhibits of military art, antique posters and artifacts from its collection or from visiting artists. All lectures and panel discussions are webcast with a live audience and archived on the website for future viewing and broadcast weekly on WYCC, a Chicago PBS affiliate. Additionally, the Library offers all programs as audio-only podcasts through the website. To date, over 160 hours of programs have been broadcast live and archived on the Library's website at: www.pritzkermilitarylibrary.org. The Pritzker Military Library is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, charitable organization with no partisan, political or governmental affiliation.

ABOUT THE TAWANI FOUNDATION

A registered 501 (c) (3) grant-making organization, Tawani Foundation promotes knowledge and understanding through the support of organizations dedicated to historical preservation, health and wellness, and environmental conservation. The Tawani Foundation awards grants to organizations according to the objectives of specified programs areas. The Foundation is committed to the four key Foundation initiatives of preservation of military heritage, conservation and preservation of historical sites, health and wellness and landmark gifts and grants.

To learn more about the Pritzker Military Library Literature Award or to make a nomination for the 2008 award, please visit the website at: www.tawanifoundation.org or write: Edward C. Tracy, Executive Director, Tawani Foundation, 104 South Michigan, Suite 600, Chicago, IL 60603.