2020 WEBINAR VIEWING GUIDE: GRADES 6-8

This guide is meant to help foster discussion as you watch the 2020 Anniversary in the Schools webinar. You can stop after every story, debrief at the end of the program, or use these questions as the basis for a reflection activity.

JULIE SWEENEY ROTH
As you listen to Julie’s story, think about the following questions:

• When she describes Brian, Julie says “I’ve never met, and I don’t think I’ll ever meet, anyone like him.” What details did you learn about Brian from Julie’s story?
• What helped Julie move on and heal after 9/11?
• What does ‘living every day to its fullest’ mean to you?

To learn more about Brian David Sweeney, visit Inside the Collection to see objects that belonged to him. If you’re interested in hearing from another 9/11 family member visit our Webinar Stories archive.

WESLEY WONG
As you listen to Wesley’s story, think about the following questions:

• How did Wesley’s decision-making skills help him survive the attacks?
• What actions did Wesley take that showed courage or heroism?
• Wesley had the “great honor, on the first anniversary of 9/11, to read some of the names at Ground Zero.” What did the experience mean to him? How can you honor the anniversary today?

Wesley was an agent with the FBI on 9/11. To learn more about the FBI, including their response to the attacks, visit Inside the Collection. If you're interested in more first responder stories, visit our Webinar Stories archive.

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MICHAEL HINGSON
As you listen to Michael's story, think about the following questions:

• How did Michael, Roselle, and David work together to escape the World Trade Center? How did they help others?
• Why do you think Roselle was honored several times after 9/11?
• In the years after the attacks, Michael has continued to speak about his experiences with Roselle on 9/11. Why do you think people continue to be so interested in his story?

To learn more about how dogs helped after 9/11, explore artifacts connected to these highly skilled animals from the Museum’s collection. If you’re interested in more survivor stories, visit our Webinar Stories archive.

SONIA AGRON
As you listen to Sonia’s story, think about the following questions:

• How was Sonia's family life affected by 9/11?
• Sonia became a recovery worker after the attacks. How does she describe conditions at the World Trade Center site during the rescue, recovery, and clean-up?
• Sonia says, “9/11 didn’t end at midnight or a year later...9/11 still goes on.” How does Sonia’s story show how 9/11 still impacts the world today?

To learn more about the rescue, recovery, and clean-up period at the World Trade Center site, visit the Ground Zero Recovery Timeline. You can also learn about the 9/11 Memorial Glade, which was created to honor all who are sick or have died of toxins at the World Trade Center site. If you’re interested in hearing from more first responders, visit our Webinar Stories archive.

JON AND CALEIGH LEIKEN
As you listen to Jon and Caleigh’s stories, think about the following questions:

• What obstacles did Jon and his wife Erika overcome leading up to Caleigh’s birth?
• When Jon describes sharing the story of Caleigh’s birth with friends and family, he says, “we all started to heal a little bit that day.” Why do you think Caleigh’s story helped them heal?
• Last year, Caleigh led an assembly at her school to honor the anniversary of 9/11. What could you do in your community to remember the events of that day?

To learn more about Caleigh’s experience visiting the 9/11 Memorial & Museum, read her blog post. You can also explore how Caleigh applied the lesson of healing after 9/11 to the current COVID-19 crisis in a new blog post.
EXTENSION QUESTIONS

• Has hearing these six speakers’ stories changed your perspective on the 9/11 attacks? In what way? Was there new information you learned or something that surprised you?

• You have seen how each speaker chose to respond to the events of 9/11. Now the question is “what will you do?” Share your thoughts, reactions, and ideas using the hashtag #911MuseumEd.