



Meet the Marine. Be Inspired.

A Time for Gratitude. A Time to Begin.

This month, after nearly 27 years of vision, perseverance, and generosity, the Carolina Museum of the Marine opens its doors.

Many people have called this moment the finish line. In truth, it is the starting line.

Before we look ahead, I want to pause and simply say thank you.

Thank you to the donors, sponsors, and foundations whose generosity transformed an idea into a reality.

Thank you to our Board of Directors, past and present, who carried this vision through years of planning, fundraising, and construction.

Thank you to our dedicated staff, who have worked tirelessly to prepare for opening day.

Thank you to our more than 30 volunteer docents and 70 volunteers who have stepped forward to welcome visitors and help bring this museum to life.

Thank you to the elected officials, community leaders, and partners who believed in the importance of preserving and sharing the legacy of Carolina Marines and Sailors.

And thank you to the Marines, Sailors, veterans, and military families whose stories inspire everything we do.

Together, you have created something extraordinary.

Yet opening our doors is not the end of the mission. It is the beginning.

Beginning June 8, visitors will walk through these galleries and encounter stories of courage, sacrifice, leadership, and service. Students will discover lessons that help shape character and citizenship. Families will connect with a legacy that belongs not only to the Marine Corps, but to our nation.

The work ahead is every bit as important as the work that brought us here.

Museums do not fulfill their mission by opening. They fulfill their mission by serving. By educating. By preserving history. By inspiring future generations. By ensuring that the stories entrusted to them are never forgotten.

That work requires all of us.

As we celebrate this historic milestone, I ask you to remain part of the journey. Visit often. Bring your family and friends. Volunteer. Become a member. Share our story. Continue to invest in this mission.

Because now it begins.

On behalf of our Board, staff, volunteers, and supporters, thank you for helping make this day possible. We look forward to welcoming you home.