



## **Local Battlefields Trust Aims to Raise \$10,000 For Civil War Battlefield Preservation with a New Virtual Event**

The Central Virginia Battlefields Trust (CVBT) is innovating and continuing to press forward with their mission to save historically significant and endangered ground at the battlefields of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, The Wilderness, and Spotsylvania Court House. With the global pandemic canceling their annual spring conference and community fundraiser, the nonprofit has launched a virtual fundraiser with the goal to raise \$10,000 to support their mission: battlefield preservation. Between August 12-30, “The Red Badge of Courage” Virtual Fundraiser brings daily discussions and two special LIVE events with virtual technology.

Inspired by Stephen Crane’s classic novel, *The Red Badge of Courage*, the CVBT Board and Staff have created a virtual experience, focusing on what life and battle was like for the common Civil War soldier. Crane was inspired by the stories he heard from New York veterans and based his novel on the Battle of Chancellorsville. In the story, emotions of fear, the understanding of courage, and the coming of age on a battlefield present a literary glimpse of the Civil War soldier. Central Virginia Battlefields Trust is committed to sharing stories of courage and the experiences of men in blue and gray on the blood-soaked ground and finds the classic novel an inspiring theme for their new fundraiser.

CVBT extends a warm invitation to attend the discussions and events. Between August 12-30, join daily (anytime) on the Facebook event page to learn some history and answer a daily discussion question. On August 22, tune in for the LIVE Gala Event where you will meet historians, take a virtual battlefield tour, participate in a question and answer session, and have the opportunity to help us meet our gala fundraising goal. A week later, August 29, join the LIVE Meet the Artist Evening for an interview with Chad Wallace, an artist and descendant of author Stephen Crane, as he shares stories of his ancestor and the Civil War artwork he has created.

The historical discussions and LIVE events are free to attend and view, and a donation through CVBT's event fundraiser page unlocks exclusive content, including custom e-books and a recording of another Civil War short story.

Visit *The Red Badge of Courage* Virtual Fundraiser homepage to donate for preservation, view full details for the event, find links to the Facebook Event Page, or sign up to receive the LIVE links directly to your inbox.

Virtual Event Page: <https://bit.ly/CVBTRedBadgeofCourage>

Central Virginia Battlefields Trust has been saving hallowed ground since 1996 and has preserved more than 1,350 acres at Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, The Wilderness, and Spotsylvania Court House. To learn more, please visit their website: <https://www.cvbt.org/>