



## NEWS RELEASE

October 4, 2018 – Akron, Ohio – Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens, and The University of Akron present a premier screening of the documentary, *Lost Voices of the Great War: Summit County in the First World War*, followed by a panel discussion on Tuesday, October 30, 2018 at 7 pm in the Main Auditorium of the Akron-Summit County Public Library, 60 South High Street, Akron, Ohio. The screening is open to the public free of charge.

Recounting the story of Summit County residents' experiences at home and overseas during the First World War, the documentary uses dramatic reenactment footage, narration, interviews, period music and sound effects to bring to life local *hidden collections* of 100-year-old letters, film, photographs, images, and documents. A wide variety of voices tell the story, including:

- Mary Gladwin, an Akronite who volunteered to serve with the International Red Cross, three years before the United States declared war in 1917.
- F.A. Seiberling, co-founder of The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, which produced blimps, tires, and gas masks for the war, and his son, Fred, who enlisted with the Ohio National Guard before going overseas to serve with "Battery B" of the First Ohio Field Artillery.
- Several "Goodyearites," including Lester S. Himmelberger, who served in the "Balloon Division."
- Akronite Charles C. Jackson, the only known decorated African-American officer from Ohio, who was awarded the *French Croix de Guerre* for bravery.
- Grace Goulder, a Hudson resident, who quit her job as the first female reporter with the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* to serve in France with the YWCA.

This documentary was produced by Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens and The University of Akron, especially its University Libraries, as part of a larger partnership, *Summit County and the Great War*, formed to commemorate the 100th anniversary of American involvement in the First World War. More information on this collaboration and the film may be found at [www.summitwwi.org](http://www.summitwwi.org).

This documentary was made possible, in part, by Ohio Humanities, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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**About Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens**

Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens is the former estate of Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company co-founder F.A. Seiberling, and his family. In 1957, Stan Hywet became a non-profit historic estate museum so that the public could benefit from the cultural, educational, and inspirational riches of one of the most significant achievements in architecture and horticulture to come out of America's Industrial Age. Open for tours April through December, Stan Hywet is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and is Akron, Ohio's oldest National Historic Landmark.

**About The University of Akron**

Established in 1870, [The University of Akron](http://www.uakron.edu) (UA) offers a wide range of in-demand associate, bachelor's, professional and doctoral degree programs in the liberal arts, sciences, health care, engineering, law, business, education and more. Its beautiful metropolitan campus, located in the heart of Ohio's fifth-largest city, is surrounded by more than 21,000 businesses in the Akron metropolitan area, providing diverse experiential learning opportunities to its more than 22,000 students hailing from 45 states and 78 countries. With championship-winning NCAA Division I sports teams, more than 300 student organizations and a top-ranked Student Recreation and Wellness Center, UA provides the full campus experience.

**About the University Libraries**

University Libraries provides resources, services, and expertise to support and enhance teaching, learning, and research.