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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Pare Lorentz Center at the FDR Presidential Library presents a Film Screening of *RED TAILS* (2012) in commemoration of Black History Month Thursday, February 6, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

HYDE PARK, NY -- In commemoration of Black History Month the Pare Lorentz Center at the FDR Presidential Library will host a film screening of *RED TAILS* (2012) -- the acclaimed George Lucas production about the World War II African-American aviators known as the Tuskegee Airmen. The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 6, 2014. Prior to the screening, Roosevelt Library Education Specialist Jeffrey Urbin will provide historical context related to the Tuskegee Airmen and the Roosevelt Administration. The program will be held in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home. *This event is free and open to the public.* 

## Synopsis: RED TAILS (2012)

1944. World War II rages and the fate of the free world hangs in the balance. Meanwhile the black pilots of the experimental Tuskegee training program are courageously waging two wars at once -- one against enemies overseas, and the other against discrimination within the military and back home. Racial prejudices have long held ace airman Martin "Easy" Julian (Nate Parker) and his black pilots back at base -- leaving them with little to do but further hone their flying skills -- while their white counterparts are shipped out to combat after a mere three months of training. Mistakenly deemed inferior and assigned only second-rate planes and missions, the pilots of Tuskegee have mastered the skies with ease but have not been granted the opportunity to spread their wings. Until now.

As the war in Europe continues to take its dire toll on Allied forces, Pentagon brass has no recourse but to reconsider these under-utilized pilots for combat duty. Just as the young Tuskegee men are on the brink of being shut down and shipped back home, Col. A.J. Bullard (Terrence Howard) awards them the ultimate chance to prove their mettle high above. Undaunted by the prospect of providing safe escort to bombers in broad daylight - a mission so dangerous that the RAF has refused it and the white fighter groups have sustained substantial losses -- Easy's pilots at last join the fiery aerial fray. Against all the odds, with something to prove and everything to lose, these intrepid young airmen take to the skies in a heroic endeavor to combat the enemy -- and the discrimination that has kept them down for so long.

Source: Lucasfilm Ltd.

Please contact Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745 or email <a href="mailto:clifford.laube@nara.gov">clifford.laube@nara.gov</a> with questions about the event.

The Pare Lorentz Center's mission is to apply the audiovisual techniques pioneered by Pare Lorentz to teach history and social studies, and to perpetuate Lorentz's use of the documentary format in inspiring social and political messages. Located at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum, the center is funded through a generous grant from the New York Community Trust to the Roosevelt Institute. Pare Lorentz created groundbreaking documentary films -- a powerful synthesis of stunning imagery, poetic narration, and evocative music -- for New Deal agencies of the Roosevelt Administration. The Pare Lorentz Center creates and disseminates educational documentary materials and films to teach the history of the Age of Roosevelt and illustrate the enduring social issues (poverty, social equality and conservation) that President Roosevelt and Pare Lorentz cared so much about. Visit www.parelorentzcenter.org for more information.

## Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum

As generations of Americans that have no personal memory of the Roosevelt Era emerge, it is more critical than ever that the lives and legacies of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt be preserved and presented to new generations. The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum stands ready to serve as a visible and valuable resource for children and families, educators and students, and an international audience seeking to understand the past to make a better tomorrow. With a newly renovated building and new permanent museum exhibits the Library seeks to honor President Roosevelt's vision in dedicating his Library to the American people. The Roosevelt Library is one of thirteen presidential libraries administered by the National Archives and Records Administration. For more information about the Library or its programs call (800) 337-8474 or visit <a href="www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu">www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu</a>.