

September 11 Commemoration Activities



September 11, 2011, will mark the tenth anniversary of the terrorist attacks in New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania. Embassy Madrid has organized several events for the week of September 11 to remember and honor those we lost that day and to provide service to our community here in Madrid. We invite Americans and Spaniards alike to participate in the events detailed below and to find their own ways of paying homage to the victims and heroes of September 11. For more information, click on [this link](#).

Sunday, September 11, 12 p.m. Public Ceremony, Tree Planting, and Dedication Parque Juan Carlos I

Ambassador Solomont will give remarks and dedicate a grove of American oak trees donated by the Embassy in the Parque Juan Carlos I in memory of victims of terrorism. All members of the Embassy community, Americans living in Spain, and the general public are welcome. We are pleased that Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Asturias will attend this event. Therefore, we ask any attendees to be in place at the park *no later than* 11:30 a.m. The ceremony will be held in the western corner of the park, close to the Glorieta de Don Juan de Borbon entrance.

September 15-January 31, 2012 September 11 Photography Exhibits CentroCentro, Palacio de Cibeles

In coordination with Madrid City Hall, the Embassy is supporting two photography exhibits to be displayed at Palacio de Cibeles/City Hall. American photographer Joel Meyerowitz was one of the few photographers allowed on the Ground Zero site in the months after 9/11. The exhibit “NY Zona Cero: 2001-2011,” on the third floor, displays photos Meyerowitz took in 2001 as well as photos shot in

2010, showing the progress of the September 11 National Memorial, which will be inaugurated this year. This exhibit will be on display until October 15.

Spanish photographer Francesc Torres was also living in New York on September 11. The exhibition “Fragmented Memory” on the fifth floor highlights his photos of the physical material from Ground Zero housed at Hangar 17 at JFK airport, including fire engines, steel beams, and goods for sale in the stores of the World Trade Center that survived the towers’ collapse. This exhibit will be on display until January 31. See [CentroCentro’s website](#) for more information.

Embassy Blood Drive

In the days after September 11, 2001, Americans were united, looking for ways to contribute to relief efforts. The Red Cross was inundated with phone calls from potential blood donors hoping to make a difference. The need for blood donors still exists, and the best way to ensure that there is blood for victims of future crises is to donate now. The Embassy is sponsoring a blood drive for Embassy employees the week of September 11. We encourage you to honor the victims and heroes of 9/11 through community service by giving blood or pledging another way to remember them. Show your support by noting your pledge on the Embassy Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/madrid.usembassy> For more information on where to give blood in Spain, see the Cruz Roja Española site: <http://www.donarsangre.org/index.htm>

Screening of Film “Madrid, March 11: Surviving the Terror”

Embassy Madrid is supporting the Spanish Foundation of Victims of Terrorism to present a screening of their documentary film “Madrid, March 11: Surviving the Terror.” The screening is for invited guests only, but the film will be screened in public and to school groups throughout the year. The film captures the firsthand account of a young Spanish girl who was a victim of the March 11, 2004 Atocha terrorist bombings. In addition to giving voice to the different stages this victim went through as she overcame her traumatic experience, the documentary includes testimonies of the many Spaniards who helped her and other victims along the way, such as policemen, firemen, doctors, and psychologists, and provides searing evidence of the traumas that these people suffered, as well.

Other resources for commemorating September 11:

www.911day.org

The 9/11 Day Observance was first launched in 2002 by Jay Winuk, whose younger brother Glenn was a volunteer EMT killed in the collapse of the World Trade Center south tower. Their mission is to inspire millions of people to annually pay tribute on the anniversary of 9/11 by voluntarily pledging to perform good deeds, support charitable causes, volunteer and engage in other acts of compassion .

<http://www.serve.gov/sept11.asp>

Information on the September 11 National Day of Service and Remembrance and how to plan a service project.

<http://www.911memorial.org/>

Website of the 9/11 National Memorial, which will be inaugurated at Ground Zero on September 11, 2011.

<http://pentagonmemorial.org/>

Website of the Pentagon 9/11 Memorial in Arlington, Virginia.

<http://www.nps.gov/flni/index.htm>

Website of the Flight 93 National Memorial in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. The first phase of the memorial will be dedicated on September 11, 2011.

<http://www.livingmemorialsproject.net/index.htm>

Because of the overwhelming desire to honor and memorialize the tragic losses that occurred on September 11, 2001, the U.S. Congress asked the USDA Forest Service to create a Living Memorials Project. This initiative invokes the resonating power of trees to bring people together and create lasting, living memorials to the victims of terrorism, their families, communities, and the nation. Researchers created an online inventory of hundreds of community-based living memorial sites.

