



100 THE UNITED STATES
WORLD WAR ONE
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

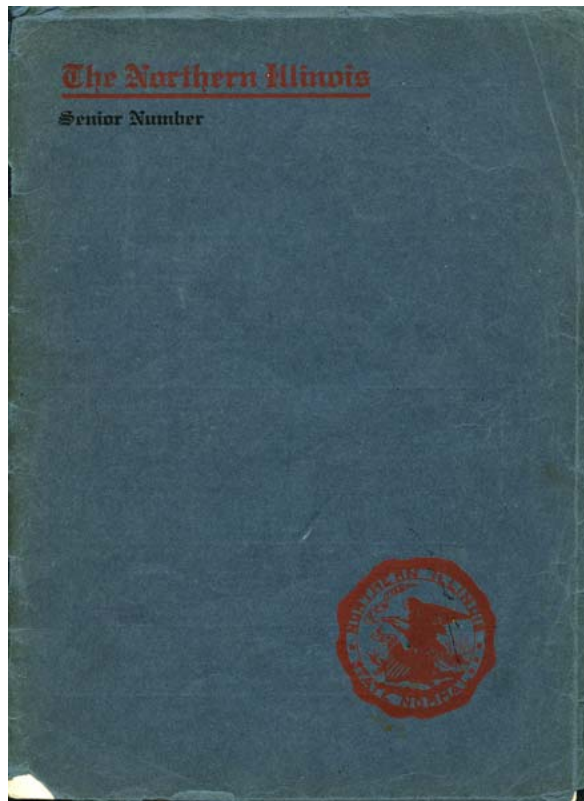
Home About us Educate Commemorate Honor Participate Communicate Contact

Search

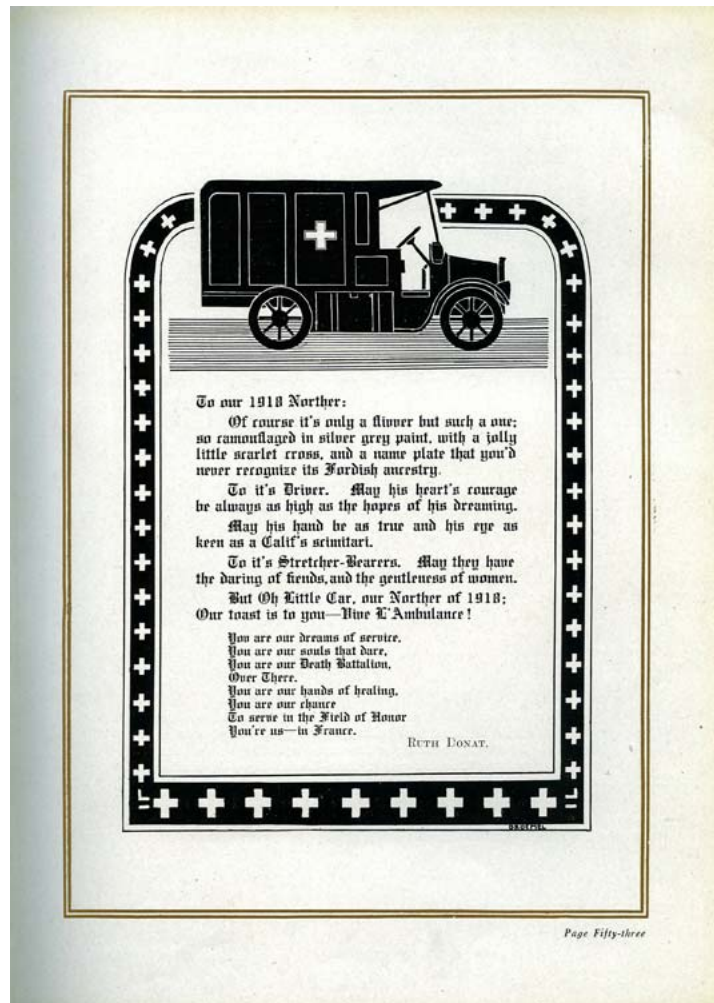
Northern Illinois University in the First World War

Northern Illinois University students raise Funds to support war effort

In 1917, Northern students set a \$1,500 goal for the Student Friendship Fund to aid the forty-seven Northern boys headed off war. They surpassed their goal by \$1,863.25. Students and faculty also regularly raised money for the Red Cross. In fact, they were so dedicated to help fund the war effort that students decided to stop publishing a 1918 *Norther*, the official yearbook, and instead used the money to purchase an ambulance for use in France to aid the troops.



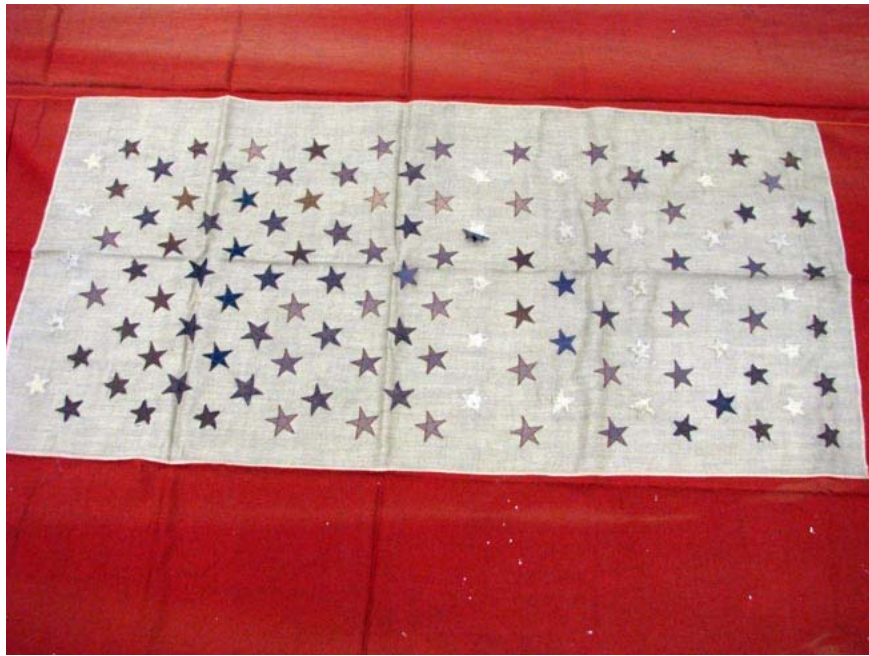
Cover of The Northern Illinois Senior Number, the reduced yearbook produced in 1918 instead of the official Norther



1919 Norther entry about the Norther Ambulance

World War I Service Flag

Double-sided WWI service flag created by Northern Illinois University (then known as Northern Illinois State Normal School) to honor the service of its students. ¹ the flag began in 1917 and was completed in 1919. The 121 stars on the flag represent the students who served in WWI. On the back of the flag you will see 4 g clustered together. After further research, it was discovered these stars represented four students who lost their lives during service: **Howard Byers, Martin Che Clinton Glidden, and Wendell Lindberg.**

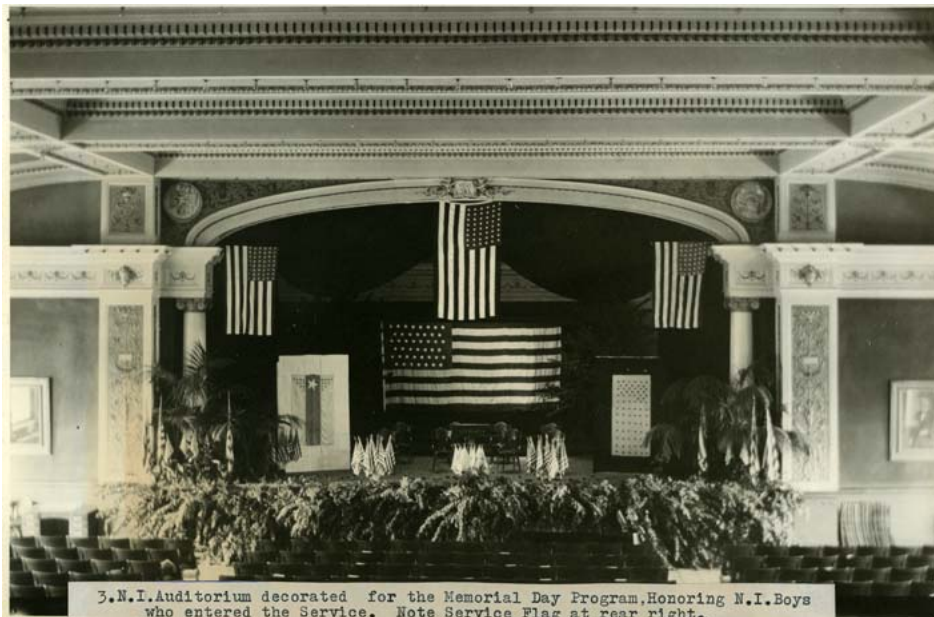


Obverse



Reverse; includes four gold stars to represent those killed in action

Presentation of the WWI Service Flag created by the University in the auditorium of Altgeld Hall, the first and most central building on campus.



Altgeld Hall, Interior Auditorium, 1917 "N. I. [Northern Illinois] Auditorium decorated for the Memorial Day Program honoring N. I. boys who entered the Service. Note Service Flag at rear right."

These images are issued by the Regional History Center/University Archives of Northern Illinois University. Property rights in the collection belong to the Regional Center; literary rights are dedicated to the public. The user is responsible for copyright issues. Permission for use of this image for ANY reason other than educational purposes should be obtained by contacting the Center's staff. Credit line should read Regional History Center, Northern Illinois University.

"Pershing" Donors

Founding Sponsor



Social Media

SOCIAL MEDIA WALL



Policies

[Terms Of Service](#)
[Privacy Policy](#)

Utilities

[Publishing Partner Login](#)

Join us in commemorating the Centennial of World War One.

Sign up for email updates for the latest news and events.

[No Thanks](#)

[Remind Me Later](#)