



# NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR ARTS & HEALTH IN THE MILITARY

[www.ArtsAcrossTheMilitary.org](http://www.ArtsAcrossTheMilitary.org)



## National Network Directory

### **WASHINGTON, DC**

1000 Vermont Ave, NW, 6th Floor  
Washington, DC 20005  
T 202.371.2830

### **NEW YORK CITY**

One East 53rd St, 2nd Floor  
New York, NY 10022  
T 212.223.2787

[www.AmericansForTheArts.org](http://www.AmericansForTheArts.org)

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**\*denotes national outreach programs**



## Alabama



## Theatre Huntsville

Po Box 654  
Huntsville, AL 35804  
256.536.0807  
<http://www.yourseatiswaiting.org/>

### Programs available:

Theatre Huntsville is dedicated to presenting a diverse and entertaining slate of high quality, volunteer driven, theatrical experiences that educate, stimulate and enrich the entire community. Theatre Huntsville presents 6 shows per year at the Von Braun Center Playhouse. We offer volunteer opportunities for the whole community, both onstage and off. All active duty military receive discounts on ticket purchases.

**Military focus:** All branches, all active duty military

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/theatre

**Organization:** Non-profit theater

**CONTACTS:** Leslie Gates, Executive Director [lgates@yourseatiswaiting.org](mailto:lgates@yourseatiswaiting.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/TheatreHuntsville>

Twitter [https://twitter.com/theatre\\_hsv](https://twitter.com/theatre_hsv)

Instagram @theatrehuntsville



## Arizona



### WHAM Art Association

16560 N. Dysart Rd.  
Surprise, AZ 85378  
(623) 584-8311  
[www.wham-art.org](http://www.wham-art.org)

**Programs available:** WHAM is a 501(c)(3) non-profit art organization that was founded in 2006 by Connie Whitlock, a clay artist and President of the group. Since then, the organization has grown to more than 175 artists that work in many different mediums. WHAM members work in various materials ranging from paint, clay, glass, concrete, paper, and much more! In addition to helping to promote local artists through exhibits throughout the West Valley (Phoenix metropolitan area), WHAM is also involved in numerous projects such as: public art murals, art festivals, art walks, and community art classes.

WHAM is offering a free one year art program for veterans. The program, "Art: A Path to Healing", features twelve four hour sessions in which participants will learn from professional artists. Classes range from drawing, painting and other mediums. The goal of the program is to assist veterans of all ages to cope, through art and collaboration, with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and other relevant issues.

**Military focus:** Military Service Members, Veterans, Artists, Educators, Volunteers, Arts organizations

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts - clay, ceramics, fiber arts (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking, Dance/movement, Multidisciplinary, Music, Visual Arts - drawing, painting, sculpture

**Organization:** Non-profit arts; local

**CONTACTS:** Connie Whitlock – President [whamart@aol.com](mailto:whamart@aol.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** **Facebook** Wham Art Association



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Arizona



## **Lisa M. Wayman, PhD, RN**

Carl T. Hayden Medical Research Foundation  
650 E. Indian School Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85012  
(602) 277-5551  
[lisa.wayman@va.gov](mailto:lisa.wayman@va.gov)

**Programs available:** I am currently a nursing post doctoral fellow. I am conducting research on creating art as an intervention for chronic pain. This research will be used as the foundation for the development of arts interventions at the Phoenix VA Health Care System.

**Military focus:** Veterans (Recent combat, since 2001 (OEF, OIF, OND), Gulf War, Vietnam War, Korean War, World War II, and Non-combat Veterans)

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Arts & Health Research

**Organization:** Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center

**CONTACTS:** Lisa Wayman, PhD, RN [lisa.wayman@va.gov](mailto:lisa.wayman@va.gov)



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Arizona



## Sessions College for Design

350 South Mill Avenue

Suite B104

Tempe, AZ 85281

(480) 212-1704

[www.sessions.edu](http://www.sessions.edu)

**Programs available:** Sessions College for Professional Design is pleased to count many active duty military service members, spouses, and veterans as current students and alumni. Our accredited online degree and certificate programs, offered entirely online, provide tremendous flexibility for the demanding scheduling challenges of the military community. Established in 1997, Sessions College for Professional Design is accredited by Distance Education and Training Council (DETC) and by Middle States Commission on Secondary Schools, and licensed by the Arizona State Board for Private Postsecondary Education. Sessions College honors the service of active-duty members of the United States armed forces as well as veterans and their spouses. Sessions College is approved to accept GI Bill education benefits for eligible service members or their dependents who enroll in qualifying Associate Degree and Certificate Programs. Sessions College programs are also approved for military tuition assistance (TA) as a participating institution in the Department of Defense voluntary education Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). With our active service member discount, you can minimize your out-of-pocket costs when you use tuition assistance for your education.

Sessions is also a signatory of the Presidents Executive Order #13607 and approved under the Department of Education Title IV FASFA program. Sessions College offers an exciting range of visual arts programs delivered entirely online: Associate degrees in Graphic Design, Web Design, Digital Media, Illustration, and Advertising Design and certificate programs in Graphic Design, Web Design, Multimedia Arts, Illustration and Advertising Design. Scholarships are available to handicapped service members and Veterans.

**Military focus:** Military Service Members , Veterans , Military Families , Veterans' Families

<http://www.sessions.edu/admissions/military-students>

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Education and design **Organization:** University Department

**CONTACTS:** Louis Schilt – Executive VP & Military Liason [lou@sessions.edu](mailto:lou@sessions.edu)

Kim O’Hanlon – [kim@sessions.edu](mailto:kim@sessions.edu)

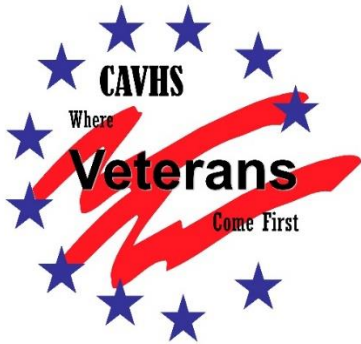
**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <http://www.sessions.edu/facebook> Twitter @sessionscollege

Other <http://www.sessions.edu/campus-news/>



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## Arkansas



### Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System

Chief, Voluntary Services (135/NLR)  
Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System  
4300 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205-5484  
501.257.3288  
[www.littlerock.va.gov](http://www.littlerock.va.gov)

#### Programs available:

- Poetry for Life, Partnerships Arkansas Arts Council.
- Drum Circle
- And other activities that include: Pen Lathe Turning, Entertainment Arts, Music Memory, writing and other arts activities for diversional recreational therapies

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts (clay, ceramics, fiber arts – quilting, weaving, needlework, woodworking), Visual Arts (drawing, painting, and sculpture), and recreational arts

**Organization:** Veterans Department/Division/Unit within the arts and humanities

**CONTACTS:** Michael Dobbs – Chief Voluntary Services [michael.dobbs@va.gov](mailto:michael.dobbs@va.gov)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/VACentralArkansas>



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California



## California Arts Council

1300 I Street, Suite 930

Sacramento, CA 95814

916.322.6555

<http://www.arts.ca.gov/>

### Programs available:

The Mission of the California Arts Council (CAC), a state agency, is to advance California through the arts and creativity. The Council is committed to building public will and resources for the arts; fostering accessible arts initiatives that reflect contributions from all of California's diverse populations; serving as a thought leader and champion for the arts; and providing effective and relevant programs and services.

The CAC's **Veterans Initiative in the Arts (VIA)** is a competitive grant program, rooted in a desire to address the needs and improve the lives of California's veterans through the arts. **VIA** seeks to increase equity, access, and opportunities for veterans to participate in quality arts programming that is sensitive and responsive to their unique experiences. Project support is offered for nonprofit arts organizations, local arts agencies, and veterans' assistance agencies to reach veterans, active military, and their families. Projects should develop the artistic abilities and creative expression of veterans, active military and/or their families; provide greater access to the arts for veteran communities; and contribute to the public understanding of and appreciation for the diverse range of veterans' experiences. Learn more at <http://www.arts.ca.gov/programs/via.php>.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military youth and children, arts organizations, artists, educators, volunteers, Veterans assistance agencies, Creative Arts Therapists, and researchers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts-e.g. clay, ceramics, fiber arts, (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking; Dance/movement; Photography, Arts Services; Design/Architecture; Drama/theatre; Film/Media arts; Literary arts; Multidisciplinary; Music; Opera; Visual Arts – e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture.

**Organization:** State Arts or Humanities Agency

**CONTACTS:** Jason Jong – Arts Program Specialist [jason.jong@arts.ca.gov](mailto:jason.jong@arts.ca.gov)

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/californiaartscouncil/>

**Twitter** @CalArtsCouncil <https://twitter.com/CalArtsCouncil>

**Instagram** <https://www.instagram.com/calartscouncil/>

**Linked In** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/california-arts-council>

**Organization Video** <https://www.youtube.com/user/CAArtsCouncil>



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California



## Art in Action\*

3925 Bohannon Drive  
Suite 300  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
(650) 566-8319

<http://www.artinaction.org/>

**Programs available:** Art in Action works with schools and other organizations to bring a quality visual-art curriculum to K–8 students throughout the United States. Through this program students learn about the art of the great masters, how to look at art, and how to create their own unique masterpieces. Supported by both training and online resources, the unique spiral curriculum—introducing and reinforcing concepts through the 9 program levels—gives students a solid foundation in drawing, painting, and sculpture techniques. The multifaceted lessons develop students’ critical-thinking skills, creativity, visual literacy, and self-esteem, as well as an appreciation of other cultures. Online lessons are available on demand to give teachers and students animated explanations and detailed, easy-to-use directions.

**Military focus:** Military children and schools

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts—e.g., clay, ceramics, fiber arts (quilting, weaving, and needlework), woodworking, Design/Architecture, Visual Arts—e.g., drawing, painting, sculpture

**Organization:** Non-profit arts

**CONTACTS:** Jean Barbari – Sales Manager sales@artinaction.org

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**  
**Facebook** www.facebook.com/myartinaction  
**Twitter** @art\_in\_action  
**Video:** www.youtube.com/user/artinaction1286/video



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California



## ROCK FOR VETS

P O Box 90461

Long Beach, California 90809

(866) 597-1116

<http://www.musicistheremedy.org/>

**Programs available:** The Rock For Vets Music Education Program has been active since 2010 and commenced at the VA Long Beach, we now rehearse at the Ernest Borgnine Theatre / Long Beach Scottish Rite, since March 2014. Rock For Vets is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives and well-being of disabled military veterans in the greater Long Beach area through music instruction and rehabilitation, one on one mentoring and life skill coaching.

Through music instruction Vets from the Vietnam War, Desert Storm, Iraq, and Afghanistan who suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Spinal Cord and Brain Injury and other emotional and physical traumas find that involvement in the RFV program reduces stress, improves their quality of life and begins the healing process by engaging with other vets and reaping the rewards of the small successes they experience while learning to perform as part of the band.

Objective 1: Veterans will learn how to play music, sing and fully participate in a music therapy program designed to improve their mental health, well being and interpersonal skills as measured by improved relationships with family and friends and an ability to become further engaged in society.

Objective 2: Rock for Vets participants will perform at numerous venues employing not only their newly acquired musical skills but also by employing the ability to remove the barriers that have kept them from fully participating in their daily lives and society.

Objective 3: Through mentoring, musical coaching and group dynamics, as measured by vets being less inclined to engage in destructive life habits, drugs and alcohol and improve self esteem and interpersonal, communication and socialization skills.

**Military focus:** Veterans from the Vietnam War, Desert Storm, Iraq, and Afghanistan who suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Spinal Cord and Brain Injury, and other emotional and physical traumas

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music

**Organization:** Non-profit arts - regional

**CONTACTS:** Frank McIlquham – Executive Director [frank@therockclub.net](mailto:frank@therockclub.net)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/RockForVets.Net> Twitter @therockclubnet



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California



## Resounding Joy, Inc.

11300 Sorrento Valley Rd.

Suite 106

San Diego, CA 02121

(858) 457-2200

[www.resoundingjoyinc.org](http://www.resoundingjoyinc.org)

**Programs available:** Resounding Joy (RJoy) is a non-profit organization based in San Diego, California that uses therapeutic and recreational music programs to improve, social, emotional, physical and spiritual well-being of individuals and communities. RJoy is dedicated to promoting the dignity, self-efficacy, and self-sufficiency of United States service members, veterans, and their families through engagement in music therapy interventions.

Our Semper Sound Military Music Therapy program provides tools to cope with illness, injury, and/or other challenges while: enlisted, processing medical boards, deployed, or transitioning through separation, retirement, and/or relocation. Semper Sound, our largest and fastest-growing program, works with returning service members and veterans diagnosed with traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress, military sexual trauma, and other injuries. Music therapy is an evidence-based practice that incorporates skill building through therapeutic intervention, sociobehavioral reinforcement, engagement, and psychoeducation. The outcomes of the Semper Sound Military Music Therapy published protocol include: decrease in depression, anxiety, and pain perception; increase of self-insight and awareness; improvement of overall mood; enhancement of quality of life; encouragement of appropriate expression and effective communication skills; increased socialization; learning alternative appropriate coping mechanisms; and assistance in community (re)integration.

These programs are implemented through the VA, on military bases, at military treatment facilities, off base at our Recreational Music Center, and incorporate a recreational music component, the Semper Sound Band. Since the inception of the Semper Sound Military Music Therapy program in 2010, RJoy has served more than 5,000 active service members, veterans, and their dependents. Semper Sound now offers military music therapy services in Massachusetts through the RJoy East Coast Satellite.

**Military focus:** Service Members, Veterans, Dependents, and other Military personnel; Military Youth, Military Children; Military Families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music

**Organization:** Non-profit organization arts; regional

**CONTACTS:** Barbara Reuer – Executive Director [breuer@resoundingjoyinc.org](mailto:breuer@resoundingjoyinc.org)

Rebecca Vaudreuil – National Military Liaison and Consultant [rvaudreuil@resoundingjoyinc.org](mailto:rvaudreuil@resoundingjoyinc.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**

**Facebook** [www.facebook.com/ResoundingJoyInc](http://www.facebook.com/ResoundingJoyInc)

**Twitter** @RJoyInc

**Other** [www.musicworxinc.com](http://www.musicworxinc.com)



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California



## Deborah Slater Dance Theater

3288 21st Street #71  
San Francisco, CA 94110  
(415) 267-7687  
<http://deborahslater.org/>

**Programs available:** This winter (2014), Deborah Slater Dance Theater will be presenting a new work, *PRIVATE LIFE*, which explores the experiences of men and women returning home from war. It plumbs the emotional depths of military life -- it's about coming back, about surviving, what 'home' is, and the idea that perhaps where you were is in some ways more real, more alive, more purpose filled than where you are/who you are when you come back. *PRIVATE LIFE* is neither a Hollywood-style movie about war or a political diatribe. It's a look at intimate, nuanced, complex personal stories stemming from the effects of war that extend into civilian lives. The show is a culmination of our work for the last three years, and we're very excited to finally premiere it. The piece was inspired originally by a dancer who was a soldier throughout his whole career as a dancer. We are offering the performance, and/or excerpts of the full piece, to veterans and veteran organizations, for free. We are also interested in making connections with veterans who are making art to be part of the project in some way if that is of interest to them. The painter Paul Klee said, 'Art does not reproduce the visible, rather it makes visible.' We hope to become more visible to each other. Our wish is that these performances stimulate thought and conversation around complicated issues, both political and personal. After the premiere of *PRIVATE LIFE* at ODC Theater in San Francisco, December 11-14, 2014, we can provide video and also are available for bookings for veteran organizations.

**Military focus:** Veteran inspired performance

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Dance/movement

**Organization:** Non-profit arts; local, regional, national, international

**CONTACTS:** Elizabeth Cooper – DSDT Booking Manager      [info@deborahslater.org](mailto:info@deborahslater.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**      **Facebook**   [www.facebook.com/DeborahSlaterDanceTheater](http://www.facebook.com/DeborahSlaterDanceTheater)  
                         **Twitter**   @dsdt                      **Instagram**   @debslaterdance  
                         **Video**   <https://vimeo.com/81521035>



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California



## Sound Health Music

PO BOX 2311  
Del Mar, CA 92014  
(858) 205-8660  
<http://soundhealthmusic.com>

**Programs available:** We provide music therapy at local care facilities, skilled nursing communities, and hospitals in the San Diego area.

**Military focus:** Military service members, veterans, military and veteran families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music; multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Independent Contractor; local, state, national, international

**CONTACTS:** Kat Fulton – Director [kat@soundhealthmusic.com](mailto:kat@soundhealthmusic.com)

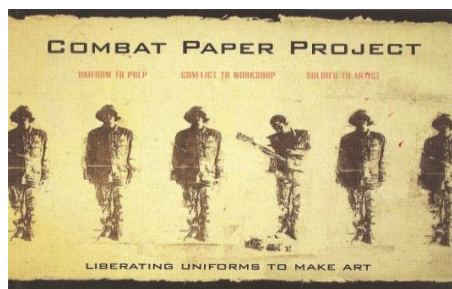
**SOCIAL MEDIA:**

<b>Facebook</b>	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/katfultonrhythm">www.facebook.com/katfultonrhythm</a>
<b>Twitter</b>	@katfulton
<b>Instagram</b>	@katfulton
<b>Pinterest:</b>	<a href="http://www.pinterest.com/katfultonmusic/">www.pinterest.com/katfultonmusic/</a>



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National Network Directory

California



## Combat Paper\*

PO Box 40477

San Francisco, CA 94140

(802) 316-1124

[www.combatpaper.org](http://www.combatpaper.org)

**Programs available:** Combat Paper is an open forum with its foundations in the collaborative art making process. We use traditional hand papermaking to facilitate inter-generational workshops with veterans, family members and the non-veteran community in the transformation of clothing rags into paper, prints, books and art. All of our experiences are encoded within the material items we carry about. With clothing, and military uniforms, our personal geographies, memories and accomplishments are carried in the woven threads. Through the hand papermaking process, the clothing is deconstructed, transformed and altered into paper sheets that accentuate those individual and collective stories. The exchange between veterans and members of the non-veteran community is integral in the workshops that Combat Paper facilitates. We believe that hand papermaking is a natural conduit that encourages commemoration, sharing and understanding while also amplifying the voice of those who have a shared sacrifice. It is these elements of reintegration that we know to be part of a proper welcoming home. We have developed a completely mobile papermaking mill that has been employed around the country in over one hundred twenty five workshops since 2007, working with thousands of people in twenty-nine states.

The events have also led to the establishment of four additional paper mills and trained facilitators that are carrying on in the art and craft of hand papermaking in their respective communities. Whether it is a workshop, installation, exhibit, edition project, interactive demonstration or public discussion, Combat Paper is open for your participation. Drew Cameron Combat Paper Project San Francisco, CA

**Military focus:** Military Service Members , Veterans , Military Families , Veterans' Families , Military Youth , Military Children , Artists , Creative Arts Therapists , Health workers , Educators , Researchers , Volunteers , Arts organizations , Humanities organizations

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Collaborative art project - multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Local non-profit; arts

**CONTACTS:** Drew Cameron – Director [combatpaper@gmail.com](mailto:combatpaper@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**

**Facebook** [www.facebook.com/combatpaper](http://www.facebook.com/combatpaper)

**Twitter** @combatpaper

**Instagram** @combatpaper



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
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California



## Songwriting With: Soldiers\* (TX, NY, CA, MD, and VA)

Barton Oaks Plaza II  
901 S. Mopac Expy – Suite 225  
Austin, Texas 78746  
512.387.5857  
<http://www.songwritingwithsoldiers.org/>

**Programs available:** Songwriting With: Soldiers (SW:S) uses collaborative songwriting to transform lives through creativity, connections, and strengths. Our program pairs veterans with experienced professional songwriters, in workshop and retreat settings, to craft songs about combat and the return home. Through the collaborative process, participants build trust, forge bonds, and transform pain into art. Each event concludes with a performance of all the songs written. As the participants listen to each other's songs, an important truth reverberates: I'm not alone; other people understand how I feel. Service members are enrolled in ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers) as co-writers of their songs; they have ownership. After returning home, they receive CDs of their songs and lyric books with photographs, a lasting source of pride and a means of reconnecting with family and friends, co-workers and communities. "I can bring this song home and play it for my kids, and they can understand what I've been through," said one participant. Songwriting With: Soldiers also organizes collaborative songwriting events for military families. Parents and their children come together, share stories, and write songs. SW: S songs are available through our website, concerts, and social media, raising awareness and building bridges between military and civilian communities. Songwriting With: Soldiers covers costs for all participants and family members.

**Military focus:** Recent combat since 2001 (OEF, OIF, OND), Gulf War, Vietnam War; all military branches

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music; multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Non-profit health, veterans, national

**CONTACTS:** Darden Smith – Founder & Creative Director [info@songwritingwithsoldiers.org](mailto:info@songwritingwithsoldiers.org)  
Mary Judd – Executive Director [mary@songwritingwithsoldiers.org](mailto:mary@songwritingwithsoldiers.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/SongwritingWithSoldiers>  
Twitter <https://twitter.com/songwritingwith> Video <http://vimeo.com/97853485>



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California



## Combat Arts San Diego

3123 Collier Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92116  
619.251.1473  
[www.combatartssd.org](http://www.combatartssd.org)

### Programs available:

Combat Arts San Diego is a nonprofit organization that provides art classes, museum tours, art exhibitions, and public art opportunities for Post-9/11 combat veterans. Using art as a catalyst between the veteran creator and the public viewer, Combat Arts facilitates and exhibits combat veteran generated artwork to inform and educate the public about veteran's issues. By making, viewing, and exhibiting art, veterans experience increases in self-confidence, community engagement, and self-expression, as well as reductions in physical pain, anxiety, and depression. Creating visual art makes it possible for veterans to communicate with pictures what is difficult to put into words.

**Military focus:** Post 9/11 Combat Veterans

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual arts: drawing, painting, and sculpture

**Organization:** Non-profit (arts)

**CONTACTS:** Elizabeth Washburn - Executive Director [elizabeth@combatartssd.org](mailto:elizabeth@combatartssd.org)



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California



## VA Palo Alto Health Care System

3801 Miranda Ave  
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1290  
650-493-5000 ext. 65601  
<http://www.paloalto.va.gov/>

**Programs available:** VA Palo Alto Health Care System has one of the largest and most dynamic Recreation Therapy Service programs in the country. Each day, Recreation Therapy and Creative Arts Therapy staff provide therapeutic programs as an integral part of the clinical treatment teams in Extended Care, Mental Health, Fitness and Wellness, and Specialty Programs including Homeless Veteran Rehabilitation program (HVRP), Men's and Women's Trauma Recovery Programs (TRP), Western Blind Rehabilitation Center (WBRC), Spinal Cord Injury (SCI), and Polytrauma System of Care/Comprehensive Rehabilitation Center (PSC/CRC).

Planned therapeutic interventions are provided by qualified recreational/creative arts therapists and/or therapy assistants to improve the individual Veteran's functional level within the least restrictive environment. We utilize a wide variety of arts within the Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System to serve Veterans by providing planned therapeutic interventions to enhance rehabilitation, improve functional level and achieve optimal wellness through a comprehensive continuum of quality care.

**Military focus:** Military active duty, Veterans, their Families, Creative Arts Therapists, Health workers, and Volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts, clay, ceramics, fiber arts, woodworking, dance/movement, multidisciplinary art, music, and visual arts

**Organization:** Veterans Department/Division/Unit within the arts and humanities

**CONTACTS:** Jocelyn Reyes-Pagsoligan – Supervisor Recreation Therapy Service

[jocelyn.reyes-pagsoligan@va.gov](mailto:jocelyn.reyes-pagsoligan@va.gov)

### SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/vapahcs>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/vapaloalto>

Instagram: <https://instagram.com/vapaloalto/>



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California



## Veterans Art Project

28000 Marguerite Parkway  
Mission Viejo, California 92692  
760.815.8868  
[www.vetart.org](http://www.vetart.org)

### Programs available:

The Veterans Art Project (VETART.ORG) offers fee free art activity classes for veterans. Currently the Veterans Art Project offers fee free bronze casting classes in Fallbrook, CA. Working with participants from the Aspire Center of San Diego, we also offer Bronze Casting. The Veterans Art Project also offers a fee free ceramics class at Saddleback College in Mission Viejo, California.

**Military focus:** Military service members, veterans, their families, military youth and children, researchers, volunteers, arts and humanities organizations, artists, creative arts therapists, health workers, and educators.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts (clay, ceramics, fiber arts, and woodworking), drama/theatre, film/media arts. Literary arts, multidisciplinary, and visual arts (drawing, painting, and sculpture)

**Organization:** Program/Project under the umbrella of a non-profit organization or fiscal agent.

**CONTACTS:** Steven Dilley – Director [steve@vetart.org](mailto:steve@vetart.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA: Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/224652327663058/>

**Twitter** <https://twitter.com/vetarts>; <https://twitter.com/hashtag/vetarts>



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California



## Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County

651 Pine Street  
Martinez, CA 94553  
925.646.2278

<http://www.ac5.org/>

### Programs available:

AC5 is excited to be working with Veterans in Contra Costa County and bringing the California Arts Council's Veterans Initiative in the Arts program to them in the form of a new program titled ABOUT FACE: Building Veterans' Self-understanding through Self Portraits.

This new program will offer Veterans an opportunity to explore portrait painting as a way of self-expression. The Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County is offering portrait painting workshops to Contra Costa County Veterans free of cost.

Workshops take at ARTU4iA, a working art studio, led by artist John Kleber and Veteran and artist Geoffrey Meredith. For more information visit AC5.org

AC5 is pleased to be partnering with the Contra Costa Veterans Service Department and Contra Costa Television to help Veterans tell their stories of transitioning from military life to careers, hobbies, or interests they are passionate about today.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans and Military Service Members

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts (drawing, painting, sculpture); film/media arts

**Organization:** Public Agency

**CONTACTS:** Roger Renn – AC5 Executive Director [staff@AC5.CCcounty.us](mailto:staff@AC5.CCcounty.us)



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California



*"The Price of Freedom" Phyllis T. Miller*

## The Veterans Art Venue

2211 4<sup>th</sup> Street Ste#206  
Santa Monica, CA 90405  
818.480.0701

### Programs available:

**The Veterans Art Venue** is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower artists who are Veterans and of the military community within the visual arts. Art clinics and classes are provided at no costs to veterans. The project's goal is to refine and enhance Veteran artists with the tools and applications of business to evoke the sense of self sufficiency in the endeavors of creativity.

**The Veterans Art Venue** is comprised of art clinics at no costs to Veterans. Clinic #1 consists of classes to refine and to prepare veteran artists to engage and to participate in competitive art opportunities, employment, and contracts within the art community market. The second clinic is a session of art therapy for veterans who are managing their PTSD.

**The Veterans Art Venue** started in 2009, holding classes outdoors on the campus of the West Los Angeles VA Hospital. Plans are underway to acquire art supplies, labor, transportation costs, and to host more art clinics at the Bob Hope Patriotic Hall Building in downtown Los Angeles, California.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Servicemembers, Veterans, their families, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, health workers, volunteers, and arts organizations

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary and Visual Arts

**Organization:** Non-Profit Arts Organization

**CONTACTS:** Phyllis T. Miller – Director/Veteran Artist [phyl2meroeart@yahoo.com](mailto:phyl2meroeart@yahoo.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/veteransartvenue>



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California



## Arts Orange County: VOICES Veterans Storytelling Project

17620 Fitch, Ste. 255

Irvine, CA 92614

714.556.5160

<http://artsoc.org/VOICES.htm>

### Programs available:

Arts Orange County is the leader in building appreciation of, participation in, and support for arts and arts education in Orange County, California, and serves as the officially-designated nonprofit local arts agency for the County of Orange.

Its "VOICES: Veterans Storytelling Project" began in 2015 and is supported by funding from the California Arts Council, National Endowment for the Arts, Orange County Community Foundation and The William J. Gillespie Foundation. It is operated in collaboration with Veterans First Orange County and Heroes Hall Veterans Museum at the OC Fair & Event Center in Costa Mesa.

Veterans receive direct, customized mentorship in compiling and writing their stories under the guidance of a seasoned writer, stage director and teaching artist. Those artists willing to do so appear on stage to tell their stories in a one-hour staged reading at Heroes Hall that is open free of charge to the public.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, arts organizations, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, and educators.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Local Arts or Humanities Agency (e.g. public or private arts council or commission, humanities council, culture and tourism agency, etc.)

**CONTACTS:** Richard Stein – President & CEO [rstein@artsoc.org](mailto:rstein@artsoc.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/voicesveterans>

Twitter @SparkOC <https://twitter.com/sparkoc?lang=en>



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California



## Vets 4 Veterans

5544 Cypress Avenue

Palmdale, CA 93551

661.943.5100

[www.avvets4veterans.org](http://www.avvets4veterans.org)

### Programs available:

Vets 4 Veterans is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization (#80-0657134) that was founded in 2009 by a group of Vietnam combat veterans who attend a PTSD therapy group at Antelope Valley Vet Center. As they learned to "live better" with their war trauma, they realized they knew how to provide care and connection for our returning warriors. Vets 4 Veterans is dedicated to helping veterans, many suffering the physical and psychological wounds of war, to readjust to civilian life as they return from serving our country. Vets 4 Veterans has four Operation Restart programs: Scholarships, Immediate Need, Transitional Housing, and Healing.

The Operation Restart Healing provides free therapy and readjustment counseling with a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, who is a Vietnam combat veteran. Our Art as Healing program brings a professional artist together with the Therapist to work with veterans dealing with post deployment issues. Art is an important treatment modality in helping individuals who have suffered traumatic experiences. Healing takes place as we use artistic medium to express feelings too complex or difficult to verbalize. It is also a source of respite from intrusive thoughts as we engage in the creative process. All programs are open to active duty military as well as veterans.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, and their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts - e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (non- arts e.g. health, social service, veterans)

**CONTACTS:** Carol Rice – Board Member [carol.rice@avvets4veterans.org](mailto:carol.rice@avvets4veterans.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Vets4Veterans>



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California



## San Francisco Arts Commission

401 Van Ness Ave, Ste 325  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
415.252.2255

[www.sfartscommission.org](http://www.sfartscommission.org)

### Programs available:

The San Francisco Arts Commission is the City agency that champions the arts as essential to daily life by investing in a vibrant arts community, enlivening the urban environment and shaping innovative cultural policy.

The Arts Commission licenses artists to sell their work on the streets of San Francisco. The application and license are free to Veterans.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, artists, Arts organizations,

**Program service providers:** Administrators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary, Crafts – e.g. clay, ceramics, fiber arts (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking

**Organization:** Program/Project/Department within a local Public agency

**CONTACT:** Anne Trickey - Program Officer [anne.trickey@sfgov.org](mailto:anne.trickey@sfgov.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/sfartscommission/>

Twitter @SFAC <https://twitter.com/SFAC>

**Organizational Video** <https://www.youtube.com/user/ArtsCommission>



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California



## CharKat's Creative Insanity

31960 Woodside Court  
Temecula, California 92592  
951.972.3015

[www.charkatscreativeinsanity.com](http://www.charkatscreativeinsanity.com)

### Programs available:

I am a Veteran of the United States Army, retired. My career spanned the Cold War, the first Gulf War, and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. My service to my country was an honor, but it left me with a nightmare of pain, depression, and PTSD. I am a Zentangle® Artist. I stumbled into Zentangle when I picked up a book and was surprised to find it effective for me as an alternative to anti-depressants and heavy doses of pain medications. I sought out a Certified Zentangle Teacher (or two) and took classes.

The Zentangle process pulls together all the other art forms I have ever practiced and has infiltrated my daily life in a way I never imagined anything could. It makes me happy. It makes me calm. It keeps me focused.

I am a Certified Zentangle Teacher. I specialize in teaching the Zentangle Method in individual and group settings, with an emphasis on creating art, even if you think you cannot draw. If you can hold a pen, I can help you find the peace and happiness that I have found.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, military children, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, health workers, Educators, Researchers, Volunteers, Arts and Humanities organizations

**Program Service Providers:** Veterans, Professional Artists, and Educators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts – e.g., clay, ceramics, fiber arts, (quilting, weaving, needlework); Visual arts e.g., drawing, painting, sculpture

**Organization:** Local Arts or Humanities Agency (e.g. public or private arts council or commission, humanities council, culture and tourism agency, etc)

**CONTACT:** Charlotte Carpentier – Certified Zentangle Teacher and Artist [charkattangles@gmail.com](mailto:charkattangles@gmail.com)

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/charkatscreativeinsanity/>

**Twitter** <https://twitter.com/charkattangles>

**Instagram** <https://www.instagram.com/charkattangles/>

**LinkedIn** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/charlotte-carpentier-29437337/>

**Organizational Video** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjIDViusC9hh2Qc1Z-DY2dw>



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Colorado



Fine Arts Center  
COLORADO SPRINGS

## Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center

30 West Dale Street  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
[www.csfineartscenter.org](http://www.csfineartscenter.org)

**Programs available:** Since opening in April 1936, the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center offers arts experiences to enrich the community. It remains one of the few institutions in the country to provide facilities to celebrate all of the arts – visual arts, performing arts, and arts education - under one roof.

The Fine Arts Center strives to make the arts accessible to the entire community through exhibitions, performances, classes, public programs and collaborations with other nonprofits and organizations in the region. The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center's Bemis School of Art offers award-winning -- and often life-changing -- courses specifically for the military that help provide healing opportunities for individuals and families dealing with trauma and post-traumatic stress issues.

The Military Artistic Healing Program leads participants to discover the techniques to inspire creative skills and gain greater self-awareness. Students learn to utilize artistic and creative exercises through therapeutic processes to develop self-expression and healing. They explore possibilities, develop creativity and gain personal insight through working with a variety of controllable mediums, as well as increase personal management of life stressors by utilizing artistic exercises outside of class to help with trauma and stress reduction. Participants tour the Fine Arts Center galleries and engage in discussions as a source for inspiration.

For family members, the Military Family Artistic Healing Program participants discover the techniques to help express memories, ideas, musing, emotions, and spirituality without being representational. The main goal of this class is to help loosen up and create without worrying about the outcome. Students experience freedom in focusing on intuitive rhythm, shape, texture, line, and balance. Family members have opportunities to work together with hands-on projects as well exercises to improve interaction and communication skill.

**Military focus:** Military servicemembers, veterans, their families, and caregivers; artists

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts; Visual arts; Drama/Theatre; Film/Media Arts; and Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Non-profit (arts)

**CONTACT:** Tara Thomas – Director of Education [tthomas@csfineartscenter.org](mailto:tthomas@csfineartscenter.org)

**Social Media:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CSFineArtsCenter>

Twitter @FineArtsCenter

Instagram #CSFAC, @FineArtsCenter



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Colorado



## Operation Revamp, Inc.

307 S 12<sup>th</sup> St  
Grand Junction, Colorado 81501  
970.462.3126

<http://operationrevamp.org>

<http://www.veteransartcenter.com/>

### Programs available:

"Helping Vets Heal" Programs include free classes, workshops, equipment, materials, art supplies, art gallery and open studio in a variety of media including painting, ceramics, drawing, fiber arts, creative writing, scrapbooking, stained glass, photography, clay building and throwing, music and recording, basketry, craft work, wood working, mold making and casting, printmaking and healing arts. We serve veterans and military families at the Veterans Art Center.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, veterans, and their families, including military youth and children.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts such as clay, ceramics, fiber arts, (quilting, weaving, and needlework), woodworking; visual arts ( drawing, painting, sculpture); film/media arts; literary arts; music; and multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (non-arts – health, social service, veterans)

**CONTACTS:** Wendy Hoffman – President and CEO [wendy@operationrevamp.org](mailto:wendy@operationrevamp.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/VeteransArtCenter>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/operationrevamp?lang=en>

LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/operation-revamp-inc>

Video <https://www.youtube.com/user/OperationRevampInc>



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## Connecticut



## New Haven Symphony Orchestra

4 Hamilton Street  
New Haven, CT 06511  
(203) 865-0831  
[www.newhavensymphony.org](http://www.newhavensymphony.org)

**Programs available:** In gratitude for their service to the United States the NHSO now offers free tickets for ALL performances to active duty military personnel and their families. The Blue Star Service Banner was designed during WWI and represents a family member serving in the armed forces.

Call our Box Office at 203.865.0831 ext.10 Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:30pm or come visit us during regular Box-Office hours for more information or to make your Group reservation.

[http://newhavensymphony.org/concerts-tickets/box-office-information/#Blue\\_Star\\_Tickets](http://newhavensymphony.org/concerts-tickets/box-office-information/#Blue_Star_Tickets)

**Military focus:** Active duty military personnel and their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music and opera

**Organization:** Non-profit arts; national

**CONTACTS:** Kathryn Pappalardo – Interim Marketing Director [marketing@newhavensymphony.org](mailto:marketing@newhavensymphony.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/newhavensymphony>  
Twitter <https://twitter.com/nhso>



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Connecticut



## Veterans Art Foundation

43 Livingston St. #3  
New Haven, CT 06511  
860-874-2857  
VeteransArtFoundation.org

### Programs available:

The Veterans Art Foundation was created by veterans for veterans, with the understanding that the arts can be used to cope with the traumas of war.

Started in 2008 by several combat veterans who returned home from their tours of duty and found that expressing themselves through film and photography helped them to cope with trauma. They wanted to assist other veterans who were going through a similar experience, and this is how the VAF came to be. Our mission is to provide programs and services that allow veterans to heal through the arts. Whether it is through film, music, writing, photography or painting, our goal is to assist veterans in re-adjusting to civilian life.

**Military focus:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military children and youth, artists, creative art therapists, researchers, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual arts: Photography, Crafts (clay, ceramics, fiber arts (quilting, weaving, needlework, and woodworking), drawing, painting, and sculpture; literary arts; music; drama/theatre; film/media Arts; dance/movement; and public speaking

**Organization:** Non-profit (arts)

**CONTACTS:** Virginia Iacobucci - Director [viacobuccivaf@gmail.com](mailto:viacobuccivaf@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/VeteransArtFoundation>  
Twitter <https://twitter.com/veteransart>



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Connecticut



**Laura Spinelli, ATR, LPC**

## **VA Connecticut Healthcare System: Giant Steps Program**

950 Campbell Avenue  
Mail Code 124A  
Building 2, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
West Haven, CT 06516  
203 932-5711 x5572

### **Programs available:**

Giant Steps is an ongoing outpatient recovery-oriented group program at VA Connecticut for Veterans dealing with issues such as PTSD, TBI, serious mental illness, and/or substance abuse issues. The mission of Giant Steps is to promote the wellness and recovery of Veterans by providing opportunities for creative expression, and connection with others so they can rediscover personal strengths, manage stress, build resilience, enhance self-empowerment and find meaning and pleasure in their lives. Giant Steps offers a menu of strengths-based mental health treatment options including creative arts therapies, psychoeducation, complementary/alternative and evidence-based therapies. Groups include but are not limited to: art therapy, communication skills, social skills training, healthy lifestyles, community arts and cultural outings, art history, music therapy, drama therapy, pet therapy, gardening and spirituality. Giant Steps also offers time-limited programs such as a Writing Workshop, Filmmaking, Digital Art, and others.

**Military focus:** Veterans

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual arts: drawing, painting, and sculpture; Drama/theatre; Film/Media Arts; Literary arts; Multidisciplinary; Music; Crafts – clay, ceramics, fiber arts (quilting, weaving, and needlework), and woodworking.

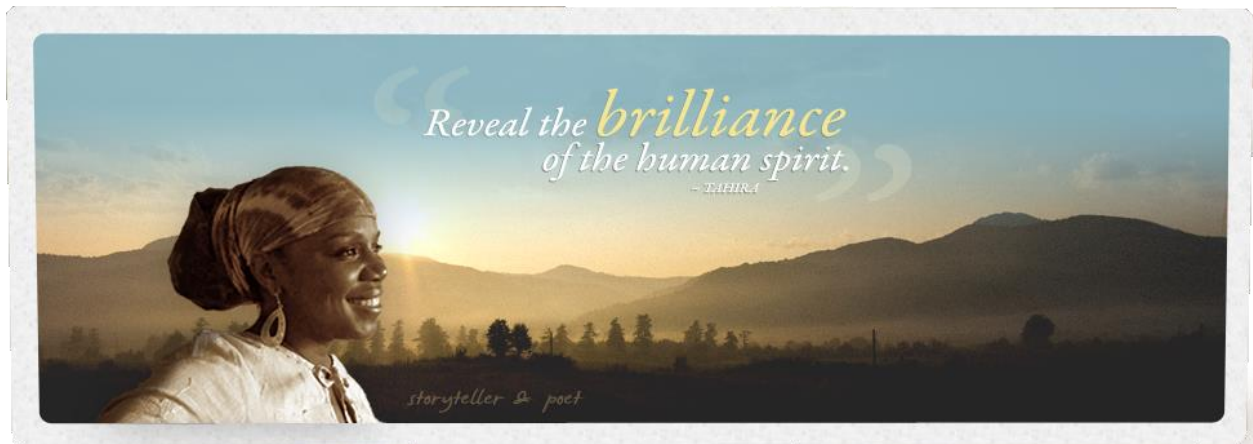
**Organization:** Program/Project/Department within a Public Agency (Federal, State, Local)

**CONTACT:** Laura Spinelli, ATR, LPC – Director of Giant Steps and Art Therapist [Laura.Spinelli@va.gov](mailto:Laura.Spinelli@va.gov)



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## Delaware



### TAHIRA Productions\*

3052 Greenshire Court East  
Claymont, DE 19703  
(302) 791-0161  
<http://www.tahiraproductions.com/>

**Programs available:** TAHIRA Productions, Inc. provides storytelling programs for military families. Our programs can be tailored to address specific issues such as separation anxiety and bullying. Our programs blend story, poetry and music in an interactive, edge-of-your-seat art experience. Herald across the country for delivering high energy performances, our programs captivate and inspire families!

**Military focus:** Military children and families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Storytelling and performance

**Organization:** For profit; individual artist

**CONTACTS:** Akua Tahira – President [Info@TAHIRAproductions.com](mailto:Info@TAHIRAproductions.com)

**MEDIA CONTACT:** [http://www.tahiraproductions.com/Press\\_Kit\\_BIO.pdf](http://www.tahiraproductions.com/Press_Kit_BIO.pdf)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Tahira.Productions>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/tahirastorytell>

Instagram <https://instagram.com/storyladee/>



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
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District of Columbia



## Office of VSA & Accessibility – The Kennedy Center\*

2700 F Street NW  
Washington, DC 20566  
(202) 416-8898

<http://education.kennedy-center.org/education/vsa/programs/>

**Programs available:** VSA, an affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, is dedicated to creating a society in which people with disabilities of all ages learn through, participate in, and enjoy the arts. Founded in 1974 by Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith, VSA offers numerous arts, education, and pre-professional opportunities for children young adults living with disabilities and it provides intensive professional learning opportunities for arts teachers, teaching artists, and special educators working with students with disabilities. Programs are also carried out by an extensive network of affiliates across the United States and around the world.

Through the Kennedy Center's MyTix program, active members of the military can attend performances at the Center, and a partnership with Walter Reed National Medical Center offers tickets to service members undergoing treatment, and their families. VSA affiliates across the nation also provide arts workshops, residencies, performances, and exhibitions for and by veterans and service members. In the NYU Veterans Writing Workshop, founded and sustained by Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith, students from the New York University Creative Writing Program lead weekly creative writing workshops for recent veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

**Military focus:** Military Service Members, Veterans, Military Children

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Dance/movement, Drama/theatre, Multidisciplinary, Music, and Visual Arts—e.g., drawing, painting, sculpture

**Organization:** Non-profit arts; international

**CONTACTS:** Stephanie Litvak – Manager, VSA Affiliates    [sslitvak@kennedy-center.org](mailto:sslitvak@kennedy-center.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/VSAInternational>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/vsaintl>

Instagram <https://instagram.com/vsainternational/>



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
ARTS & HEALTH IN THE MILITARY  
National Network Directory

District of Columbia



joan hisaoka  
healing arts gallery

AT SMITH CENTER FOR HEALING + THE ARTS

## Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts Gallery

1632 U St. NW

Washington DC 20009

202.483.8600

[www.smithcenter.org/gallery](http://www.smithcenter.org/gallery)

### Programs available:

Founded in 2008, the Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts Gallery at Smith Center for Healing and the Arts is a nonprofit arts space in Washington, DC dedicated to exhibiting fine art that explores the innate connection between healing and creativity.

The gallery is founded on the core principles that art has the ability to mend social, psychological, and physical ills by building community, inspiring change, and celebrating life. A rotating exhibition schedule features contemporary, international and national artists addressing a diversity of themes, such as spirituality, social change, multiculturalism, health, environmentalism, and community.

**Military focus:** Veterans, artists, arts organizations, humanities organizations, creative arts therapists, educators, volunteers, and health workers.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual arts (drawing, painting, and sculpture)

**Organization:** Non-profit (arts)

**CONTACTS:** Spencer Dormitzer – Gallery Director [spencer@smithcenter.org](mailto:spencer@smithcenter.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/HisaokaArts?ref=hl>



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National Network Directory

District of Columbia



## BodyWise Dance

917 D Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
202.253.7946

[www.bodywisedance.com](http://www.bodywisedance.com)

### Programs available:

BodyWise Dance designs movement classes, workshops and 'perforums' to meet the physical and emotional needs of patients and caregivers in community settings, hospitals, day centers, assisted and independent living residences.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, military children, Artists, Arts & Humanities organizations, Volunteers, Creative Arts Therapists, Health workers, Educators, and Researchers

**Program service providers:** Professional artists, Dance/Movement Therapists, Volunteers and artistic educators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Dance/movement, Drama/theatre, multidisciplinary, and Music

**Organization:** Independent Contractor

**CONTACT:** Margot Greenlee – Artistic Director [margot@bodywisedance.com](mailto:margot@bodywisedance.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** **Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/BodyWiseDance/>

**Twitter** @BodyWiseDance <https://twitter.com/bodywisedance>

**Organizational Video** <http://www.stonesoupfilms.org/film/mvle/>



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## Florida



## Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens

4000 Morikami Park Rd  
Delray Beach, FL 33446  
(561) 495-0233  
[www.morikami.org](http://www.morikami.org)

**Programs available:** The mission of the **Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens** is to provide authentic Japanese cultural experiences that entertain, educate, and inspire. Since its opening in 1977, The Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens has been a center for Japanese arts and culture in South Florida, with rotating exhibitions in its galleries, tea ceremonies performed monthly in its Seishin-an tea house, an educational outreach program with local schools and organizations, and Japanese festivals celebrated for the public several times a year.

The Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens and Astellas US Pharma, Inc. offers a complimentary program of therapeutic garden walks for the benefit of members of not-for-profit counseling, support groups, or therapy group that serves those who are experiencing stress, symptoms of depression, or mental exhaustion. Past participants include: cancer patients and others who are undergoing rehabilitative treatments and therapies, veterans, bereavement support groups, caregivers, and those with substance abuse issues.

The Astellas Pharma US, Inc. sponsored program provides a full year of visits to the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens for participants to leisurely stroll the garden and enjoy its natural beauty, peace and serenity. A guidebook/journal used during walking presents several themed walks that identify points along the way at which to pause, reflect, and experience a sense of ease. Based on such themes as "Awareness," "Trust," and "Fulfillment," the walks are designed to elicit reflection on one's life. Space in the guidebook/journal allows participants to record their thoughts on these and other topics. For more information, contact info and how to register please visit: <http://www.morikami.org/astellas>

**Military focus:** Military Service Members , Veterans , Military Families , Veterans' Families , Health workers ,and caregivers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Arts Museum and Garden

**Organization :** Non-profit organization (arts and museum); local

**CONTACTS:** Vanessa Rosen – Project Coordinator [vrosen@pbcgov.org](mailto:vrosen@pbcgov.org)  
Kizzy Sanchez Sherven – Director of Marketing and Events [Msanche@pbcgov.org](mailto:Msanche@pbcgov.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/morikami>  
Twitter <https://twitter.com/morikamimuseum>  
Instagram <http://instagram.com/morikamimuseum>  
You Tube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=juDP3JCaA2o>



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
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Florida



## Art2Action, Inc.

141 East 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Ste. 2C

New York, NY 10003

813.444.7268

<http://art2action.org/veterans-in-tampa/>

### Programs available:

Art2Action, Inc. creates, develops, produces and presents original theater work, interdisciplinary performances, performative acts and progressive cultural organizing. We support women artists, artists of color, queer or trans-identified artists, and creative allies. We are dedicated to cultural equity and innovation, artistic quality and community value, performativity and impact.

As part of our collaborative work to support veteran recovery and reintegration through the arts, Art2Action offers on-going drama workshops at the VA-PRRC, a recovery center of the James A. Haley Veterans Hospital in Tampa, FL. We also host a monthly Veterans Community Open Mic at Sacred Grounds Coffee House, featuring guest artists presented by Art2Action. In conjunction with The Carpetbag Theatre's project, "Speed Killed My Cousin" by Linda Parris-Bailey, Art2Action's Andrea Assaf works closely on "Creative Arts Reintegration" around the country.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, their families, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, health workers, researchers, arts organizations, educators, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/theatre, literary arts, multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts - performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Andrea Assaf – Artistic & Executive Director [art2action@earthlink.net](mailto:art2action@earthlink.net)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/art2action>

Twitter: @art2action <https://twitter.com/art2action>

Instagram: @art2action <https://www.instagram.com/art2action/>

Organization Video <https://www.youtube.com/user/art2actionTV>



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
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Florida



## Manatee Players, Inc.

502 3rd Avenue West

Bradenton, FL 34205

(941) 749-1111

[www.manateeplayers.com](http://www.manateeplayers.com)

**Programs available:** The Manatee Performing Arts Center in Bradenton, FL. is offering all currently active military personnel \$15 tickets to shows produced by The Manatee Players, Inc. Reservations may be made by calling the ticket office at 941-748-5875 Monday - Friday 10-5 or Saturday 10-2. Present ID when picking up tickets at the ticket office.

**Military focus:** All currently active military personnel

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Theater/performance/dance

**Organization:** Non-profit arts - regional

**CONTACTS:** Janene M. Amick – CEO [executive@manateeplayers.com](mailto:executive@manateeplayers.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ManateePAC>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/manateepac>

Instagram <https://instagram.com/manateepac/>

Video <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKGW4jZO2n5vmM3RFYFlk8A>



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
ARTS & HEALTH IN THE MILITARY  
National Network Directory



Florida

# Arts for Health Florida

## Arts for Health Florida

401 W Kennedy Blvd

Box 73-F

Tampa, FL 33606

(813) 276-8250

[www.artsforhealthflorida.org](http://www.artsforhealthflorida.org)

**Programs available:** Florida has more arts and health professionals than any other state in the nation. Arts for Health Florida is the culmination of the many years of hard work and dedication each of these professionals have devoted to building and sustaining some of the strongest arts and health programs in the country. In 2012 the Arts Council of Hillsborough County decided to develop a program to support the growth of arts and health programming in Tampa Bay.

One of its first steps was to hold a strategic planning and the arts council invited representatives from several esteemed arts and health organizations including The Coalition for Arts and Health Sarasota-Manatee, Creative Care, Moffitt Cancer Center, Shands Arts in Medicine, St. Joseph's Hospital, Tampa General Hospital and VSA Florida. What became apparent at this meeting was that there was truly a need for a statewide organization to bring together and support the efforts of the state's many arts and health professionals and organizations. Two years later, with the help and support of these groups as well as many others around the state, Arts for Health Florida has become an independent, statewide organization that supports the growth of the arts and health field and the many individuals and organizations around the state that offer arts and health integration services.

Our Mission: To Promote the Use of the Arts to Enhance Health and Well-being. We strive to raise awareness of the benefits of the arts for health and become a collaborative resource for individuals and organizations interested in learning more about the field of arts and health. Our database and resource list on the Arts for Health Florida website highlights organizations and professionals that offer arts and health integration services.

**Military focus:** Military Service Members, Veterans , Military Families , Veterans' Families , Military Youth , and Military Children

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Arts & Health

**Organization:** Non-profit arts; statewide

**CONTACTS:** Merilee Jorn, MS, ATR-BC – Executive Director [info@artsforhealthflorida.org](mailto:info@artsforhealthflorida.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook [www.facebook.com/TampaBayArtsforHealth](https://www.facebook.com/TampaBayArtsforHealth)



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
ARTS & HEALTH IN THE MILITARY  
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Florida



## Peace Paper Project

1112 S. Magnolia Dr.  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
(608) 213-0624

<http://peacepaperproject.org/veteranpaperworkshop.html>

### Programs available:

Peace Paper project is committed to providing veterans with a process that connects them with their resources, with each other, and with the communities they have served. Veteran Paper Workshop provides veterans with a platform to share their stories.

Since 2011, VPW has operated internationally in universities, foundations, hospitals, art centers, shelters, and community centers in order to deliver a creative skill-set with the potential for enriching veterans' experiences of living their lives outside of the military.

Participants are invited to reconstitute their military uniforms into paper. Like the material itself, this process means something unique to each participant.

**Military focus:** Military service members, veterans, their families, researchers, volunteers, arts organizations, humanities organizations, military youth and children, artists, creative arts therapists, health workers, and educators.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts, specifically paper making; literary and visual arts; multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Independent Contractor

**CONTACTS:** Drew Matott, MFA – Director, Peace Paper Project - [drew@peacepaperproject.org](mailto:drew@peacepaperproject.org)

**Social Media:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PeacePaper?ref=hl>

Video <https://content.jwplatform.com/previews/PUGm5MEJ>

Other [www.peacepaperproject.org](http://www.peacepaperproject.org)



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
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Florida



## St Johns Cultural Council

15 Mission Ave.

St. Augustine, FL 32084

904.808.7330

[www.stjohnsculture.com](http://www.stjohnsculture.com)

### Programs available:

The St. Johns Cultural Council promotes St. Johns County in Florida as a premiere arts destination where the lives of both residents and visitors are enriched through arts and culture. Through our ArtReaches program, we are able to assist local artists and arts organizations through grants, professional development programs, marketing and promotional support, online webinars, and advancement workshops for local artists. Additionally, our organization provides arts, culture and heritage tourism destination marketing services to the county's Tourist Development Council (TDC). Funding for marketing services comes from a portion of the county's bed tax. We welcome you to explore our website and discover everything the Historic Coast has to offer.

Through our Veterans Arts Program we serve those who have served us through the arts. We hold workshops to engage community arts and military/veteran sectors in conversations about the possibilities of shared programming and the benefits of the arts for our military servicemembers, veterans, their families, and caregivers from deployment to reentry and re-integration. We sponsor and support arts and military programming. Please contact us with programming ideas or needs and visit our website for more information.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, arts organizations, humanities organizations, artists, creative arts therapists, health workers, educators, researchers, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary: Crafts – clay, ceramics, fiber arts, and/or woodworking, dance/movement, drama/theatre, film/media arts, literary arts, music, and/or visual arts – drawing, painting, and/or sculpture

**Organization:** Local Arts or Humanities Agency (e.g. public or private arts council or commission, humanities council, culture And tourism agency)

**CONTACTS:** Andrew Witt – Executive Director [awitt@historiccoastculture.com](mailto:awitt@historiccoastculture.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/St-Johns-Cultural-Council>  
Twitter <https://twitter.com/stjohnsculture>



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
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Florida



MUSEUM OF ARTS & SCIENCES  
In Association with the Smithsonian Institution

## Museum of Arts and Sciences

352 S Nova Road  
Daytona Beach, Florida 32114  
386.255.0285  
[www.moas.org](http://www.moas.org)

### Programs available:

The Museum of Arts & Sciences provides world-class cultural arts and educational services to Volusia County residents and visitors utilizing its vast and significant cultural collections, a lively schedule of changing exhibitions, and multiuse indoor and outdoor facilities. Students and adults of all ages, abilities and backgrounds are afforded unique opportunities to explore topics within the broad areas of art, science and history through structured and unstructured programs, and engaging, entertaining learning experiences, and to discover deeper context and meaning in the world around them.

The Museum is a Blue Star Museum - Blue Star Museums offer free admission to the nation's active-duty military personnel and their families, including National Guard and Reserve, from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Join us for Matt Mitchell's "100 Faces of War" Experience on exhibit September 1 - November 25, 2018, on its first stop in a nationwide tour.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, health workers, educators, researchers, and volunteers

**Program service providers:** Professional artists, creative arts therapists, educators, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Stephanie Mason-Teague Director of Operations [stephanie@moas.org](mailto:stephanie@moas.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/moasdaytona/>

Twitter @MOASdaytona <https://twitter.com/moasdaytona?lang=en>



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
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Florida



## University of Florida Center for Arts in Medicine\*

PO Box 115900  
Gainesville, FL 32611-5900  
352.733.0880

Arts & Military Programs

<http://arts.ufl.edu/academics/center-for-arts-in-medicine/programs/va-and-military-programs/>

UF Center for Arts in Medicine

<http://arts.ufl.edu/academics/center-for-arts-in-medicine/>

### Programs available:

Creative Arts Therapies (CAT) program for serving Veterans living in rural communities using clinical video telehealth (CVT) at the Malcom Randall VA Medical Center in partnership with the UF Center for Arts in Medicine.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, their families, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, health workers, educators, researchers, volunteers, Arts organizations, and humanities organizations.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary, Creative Arts Therapies (Art Therapy, Dance Movement Therapy)

**Organization:** University Department/Division/Program

**CONTACTS:** Jenny Baxley Lee – Board Certified Dance/Movement Therapist [jlee@arts.ufl.edu](mailto:jlee@arts.ufl.edu)



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Florida



## Veterans Art Center Tampa Bay (VACTB)

PO Box 15023  
St. Petersburg, FL 33733  
813.504.3092  
[www.vactb.org](http://www.vactb.org)

### Programs available:

Florida's First Center for Military/ Veterans Artists: The Veterans Art Center Tampa Bay, Inc.(VACTB) is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing opportunities for military and Veterans to develop and showcase creative and artistic accomplishments. As Veterans and their families transition to civilian life, the Veterans Art Center is supportive of their need for creative outlets as well as the need for economic opportunities.

As a means of therapy, VACTB will provide opportunities for learning and teaching the arts. To educate the public and raise awareness, the Center will organize and provide art exhibits with military and veteran themes. Geographically located in Tampa Bay, a metropolitan area which is highly supportive of the arts, VACTB is designed to be an attraction for visitors and artists and will act as a destination for events and activities. Opportunities for careers in artistic fields will become available through the display and potential sales of their works. Promotional assistance with the artists' works will be provided through the Center and through locally organized community events. An art therapist will be available to the participants.

With wellness and recovery as a theme for veterans and their families, the organization hopes to support their artistic abilities and positively assist them in civilian adjustment. VACTB focuses on the mental health and well-being of the individuals. The veterans' artistic accomplishments help promote a sense of pride and help allow the individuals and their families opportunities to be active within their community. The VACTB is pioneering the first Veterans art center in the state of Florida with the hopes of it becoming a model for other geographical locations.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military youth and children, arts organizations, artists, and non-Veteran artists supporting the VACTB

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music; visual arts (painting, drawing, sculpture); film/media arts; multidisciplinary; crafts (clay, ceramics, fiber arts, woodworking)

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Scott "Mack" Macksam, MA, Major (R) Army – Founder/President [vactb@outlook.com](mailto:vactb@outlook.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/vactb/?fref=ts>



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Florida



## Ormond Memorial Art Museum, Inc.

78 East Granada Blvd.  
Ormond Beach, FL 32176  
386.676.3347  
<http://ormondartmuseum.org/>

### Programs available:

The Ormond Memorial Art Museum & Gardens was founded in 1946 to celebrate creative freedom and those who defend it.

We offer monthly a free art outreach program for Veterans in partnership with the V.A. Wellness Center, offer a bi-monthly “Art of Healing” free program open to anyone in a medical situation/family/caregiver and celebrate the service of our veterans each November 11 with our annual Veterans Day Tribute. We also have two original sculptures in our gardens. One honors veterans of the Korean War and the other of the Vietnam War.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, Educators, and Volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts (e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture) and environmental programming

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Susan Richmond – Museum Director [srichmond@ormondartmuseum.org](mailto:srichmond@ormondartmuseum.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ormondartmuseum/>



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Florida



## Combat Hippies, LLC\*

3850 S University Drive #292114  
Davie, FL 33328  
352.279.2336  
[www.thecombathippies.com](http://www.thecombathippies.com)

### Programs available:

The Combat Hippies are a collective of military veteran performing artists who promote Post-Traumatic Growth through their theatrical performance “Conscience Under Fire,” an original spoken word piece. The Combat Hippies strive to educate, inspire, and entertain both veterans and the general public in order to bridge the gap of understanding, reduce the suicide rate among veterans, and bring about positive social change.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military youth and children, arts organizations, humanities organizations, artists, health workers, researchers, educators, Creative Arts Therapists, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/theatre

**Organization:** Program/Project under the umbrella of a non-profit organization or fiscal agent

**CONTACTS:** Anthony Torres – Executive Director/Performer [mranthony.torres@yahoo.com](mailto:mranthony.torres@yahoo.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/theCombatHippies/>

Twitter @combat\_hippies\_ [https://twitter.com/combat\\_hippies?lang=en](https://twitter.com/combat_hippies?lang=en)

**Organization Video:** [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5Npx\\_iZl9vOMeY010b9aRw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5Npx_iZl9vOMeY010b9aRw)

<https://vimeo.com/206411999>



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Florida



## **Veteran HeART Circles: Healing through the Expressive Heart**

727.519.8850

[www.saorimurphy.com](http://www.saorimurphy.com)

### **Programs available:**

Veteran HeART Circles are based on the core belief that art, mindfulness, and community can help heal, connect, and nurture the mind, body, and human spirit.

These circles allow room to learn, grow, and honor one's creative voice and inner wisdom for greater self-awareness and healing. In each circle, ART serves as a tool to help connect and explore our intuitive ability to create and the value of that expression through the use of various artistic modalities while working on individual and collaborative projects. With this exploration, veterans are more able to rediscover their personal strengths, find ways to manage life stressors, become self-empowered and permissive in expressing memories, ideas, and emotions in a safe and supportive environment.

Veteran HeART Circles are held at federal, state, and local agencies and community organizations serving veterans. Please contact me for more information.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans

**Creative Forces Network site:** James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital, Tampa

**Program service providers:** Veteran, artist, and Certified Expressive Arts Facilitator

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual and Expressive Arts (drawing, painting, mixed media, sculpture, movement, and music)

**Organization:** Independent Contractor

**CONTACT:** Saori Murphy – Director/Certified Expressive Arts Facilitator [saori@saorimurphy.com](mailto:saori@saorimurphy.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/veteranheartcircles>



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ARTS & HEALTH IN THE MILITARY  
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Florida



## Theatreworks Florida & TheatreCares

8 E. Cypress Street  
Davenport, FL 33837  
407.340.0472

[www.theatreworksfl.org](http://www.theatreworksfl.org)

### Programs available:

“Vet Voices” is an ongoing arts and health program for Central Florida military veterans that nurtures life-long healing and learning through the art of live musical theatre. The year-long healing arts program consists of workshops and will ultimately combine theatre professionals with participants on stage in a fully produced, original musical play, developed by the Veterans themselves, incorporating creative writing, music, songs and visual art generated from the workshops.

TheatreCares was launched in 2014 when TheatreWorks of Central Florida received an unprecedented invitation from the National Endowment for the Arts to become the Central Florida representative for their program Arts Engagement in American Communities (AEAC).

TheatreCares Mission Statement: To provide a unique outreach program that promotes lifelong learning in the realm of the performing arts by touring full-scale theatrical experiences directly to venues for audiences who are physically, emotionally, financially, socially or geographically challenged and may otherwise not have the opportunity to embrace and engage in the art of a live performance.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, military youth and children, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, Educators, and volunteers.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Dance/movement, Drama/theatre, and Music

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Scott A. Cook - Artistic Producer [scott@theatreworksfl.org](mailto:scott@theatreworksfl.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** **Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/theatreworksfl>

**Twitter** <https://twitter.com/theatreworksfl?lang=en>

**Instagram** <https://www.instagram.com/theatreworksfl/>



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Florida



## Worldwide Neon Tiki Tribe Inc. \*

2630 Cherrywood Lane  
Titusville, Florida 32780  
(321) 223-3685  
<http://neontikitribe.com/>

**Programs available:** NEON TIKI TRIBE is America's 1st Educational Super Heroes for children. This unique children's book series is the 1st to use [DYSLEXIE](#), a revolutionary new font designed to be easy to read by everyone, but especially for the 1 out of 5 kids who struggle to read due to dyslexia. Each book features fictional TIKI Super Heroes in GOOD vs EVIL action-packed storylines, but each story teaches a "real life" lesson like: Bullying, Honesty, Environment, Perseverance, Stranger Danger, Sportsmanship, Internet Safety and many more.

TIKI means- THOUGHTFUL, INTELLIGENT, KIND INDIVIDUALS and we're giving away 3 free eBooks to all! (iPad/Kindle/Android/iPhones soon). Just Search NEON TIKI TRIBE IN YOUR APP STORES or just "Join" our website mailing list and get your free password to download them to your home computers. The first 6 books are MOM'S CHOICE award winners and ALL OF OUR BOOKS ARE IN 3 LANGUAGES (English, Spanish and Dutch).

We even have "Common Core" Teaching Guides for the school systems too. We are being promoted by two separate literacy agencies: the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy and Literacy for Adults in Brevard (LAB). Tell ALL YOUR VETERAN FRIENDS AND FAMILIES. Thanks! :)

["Tikiman" J. Greg Devlin / US Air Force (1977-1981) / Disabled Veteran / Titan II Missile Explosion Survivor (9/19/80) / Featured in "Command and Control" written by Eric Schlosser (Nov/2013 Publish Date)]

**Military focus:** Military children and youth

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Illustrated books for dyslexic and at risk students; education

**Organization:** Florida Corporation to Eradicate Illiteracy

**CONTACTS:** John Greg Devlin – President [r4tikis@aol.com](mailto:r4tikis@aol.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook [www.facebook.com/neontiki](http://www.facebook.com/neontiki)



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
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## Georgia



### The ArtReach Foundation\*

2221 Peachtree Road

Suite D518

Atlanta, GA 30309

404-850-1012

[www.artreachfoundation.org](http://www.artreachfoundation.org)

#### Programs available:

The ArtReach Foundation assists people of trauma as it relates to war, violence and natural disaster through the use of creative expressive arts therapies.

Bill Howerton, USA Maj. (ret) was a workshop participant and has firsthand knowledge of how PTSD can affect a whole community. And he can artfully express it. "ArtReach exposed a world of potential healing for my PTSD by asking me to serve on the Theater of War discussion panel. Our panel discussed how the Greek Warrior Ajax suicide affected his family, friends, soldiers and the community. Linking the relevance of this ancient warrior to our current U.S. Military PTSD issue demanded my personal action," Howerton said. "As my PTSD maturation level increased, I realized other U.S. Veterans from WWII to Vietnam dealt with this silent disorder alone and in fear. As my journey continued, ArtReach exposed a poetry writing talent and after a December 2010 mental meltdown, I penned my first poem, "My Warrior." The poem served as a foundation for me to reach out to others in need. I share my feeling in certain circles without fear, reservations or the use of any pharmaceutical medication to treat my PTSD while teaching coaching and mentoring others about PTSD."

**Military focus:** Military service members, veterans, their families, researchers, volunteers, arts organizations, humanities organizations, military youth and children, health workers, educators, researchers, volunteers, and artists.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary; dance/movement; drama/theatre; music; and visual arts

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization

**CONTACTS:** Martha Henson – Director [martha@artreachfoundation.org](mailto:martha@artreachfoundation.org)

**Social Media:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/artreachfoundation>

Twitter [https://twitter.com/art\\_reach](https://twitter.com/art_reach)



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
ARTS & HEALTH IN THE MILITARY  
National Network Directory

Georgia



# Helms College

## Helms College

5171 Eisenhower Parkway, Macon, GA 31206

3145 Washington Road, Augusta, GA 30907

706.651.9707

[www.helms.edu](http://www.helms.edu)

### Programs available:

Helms College, operated by Goodwill Industries of Middle Georgia and the CSRA, offers Associate Degree and Diploma programs in culinary arts at campuses in Macon and Augusta, serving the communities associated with Robins Air Force Base and Fort Gordon. All educational programs are approved for the Department of Veterans Affairs benefits to those who qualify. Goodwill also offers job training, career education and civilian re-entry services for veterans and their families through its locations in the 35-county CSRA and Middle Georgia service areas.

**Military focus:** Veterans, military families, veterans' families, and educators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Culinary arts

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (non-arts – health, social services, veterans)

**CONTACTS:** Deondra Diggs – Director of Admissions [ddiggs@helms.edu](mailto:ddiggs@helms.edu)

**Social Media:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/HelmsCollegeMacon>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/HelmsCollege>

LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/edu/school?id=170026&trk=edu-cp-title>



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## Illinois



### CreatiVets\*

401 N. Country Club Drive  
Addison, Illinois 60101  
309-712-8404  
[www.creativets.org](http://www.creativets.org)

#### Programs available:

CreatiVets' mission is to provide disabled veterans with the opportunity to use art therapy, music, and creative writing to address the psychological and emotional needs that arise from combat-related trauma. Our goal is to provide artistic resources and accessible space to veterans in order to foster self-expression, enhance coping skills, manage stress, and strengthen their sense of self through the healing power of music, writing, and visual art.

CreatiVets originates in Chicago and also partners with the Art Institute of Chicago and Virginia Commonwealth University in a free 3 week, fully-accredited art program for disabled vets. Music and Songwriting programs take place in Nashville, TN. It is an incredible program that highlights the therapeutic value of the arts for health of our veterans.

**Military focus:** Military service members and Veterans

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts and Music

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (arts)

**CONTACTS:** Richard Casper – Executive Director [Richardcasper@creativets.org](mailto:Richardcasper@creativets.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/creativeterans>

Twitter @CreatiVets1 <https://twitter.com/creativets1?lang=en>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/creativets>



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Illinois



## Open Studio Project

903 Sherman Ave.

Evanston, Illinois 60202

847.475.0390

<https://www.openstudioproject.org/>

### Programs available:

Creativity has a place in everyone's life, including yours. For more than 25 years, Open Studio Project (OSP) has provided dynamic, award-winning arts programming in a welcoming atmosphere of supportive non-interference.

OSP invites you to use intention setting, expressive art making and journaling as a means to deepen self-awareness, find balance and experience freedom and play. Our studio is a safe space, free of any comment or critique, allowing you to access your inner wisdom and intuition by using simple drawing, painting and 3-D materials as your guide. No prior art or writing experience necessary!

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families and caregivers, military children, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, individuals.

**Program service providers:** Professional artists, creative arts therapists, and arts facilitators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts (e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture)

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (arts e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Patti Vick - Director of Adult Programming and Facilitation [patti@openstudioproject.org](mailto:patti@openstudioproject.org)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/OpenStudioProject/>

Twitter

@openstudio <https://twitter.com/openstudio?lang=en>



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Illinois



## Jesse Brown VA Medical Center

820 S. Damen Ave.

(Mail Code 11K)

Chicago IL 60612

[www.chicago.va.gov](http://www.chicago.va.gov)

### **Programs available:**

The Creative Arts Therapy Service currently provides group art therapy services in more than a dozen clinics throughout the medical center. We employ a full-time art therapist, music therapist, and dance/movement therapist. Master's level interns also provide Veterans with creative arts therapy services under the supervision of clinical staff. In addition, individual art, music, and dance/movement therapy sessions are provided by medical consult.

Creative art therapy in this setting has a strong emphasis on developing healthy identities post deployment and using artwork to explore issues related to PTSD, MST, TBI, addiction, mood disorders, and maintaining functional relationships.

Creative arts therapy serves as a transitional space between avoidance of issues or experiences and acceptance.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans and their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Dance/movement, literary arts, multidisciplinary, music, and visual arts (drawing, painting, sculpture)

**Organization:** Veterans Department/Division/Unit

**CONTACTS:** Patrick Morrissey – Creative Arts Therapist, ATR, LCPC [patrick.morrissey2@va.gov](mailto:patrick.morrissey2@va.gov)

### **SOCIAL MEDIA:**

#### **Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Jesse-Brown-Veterans-Hospital/158599300821943?fref=ts>



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## Indiana



## Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library

340 N. Senate Ave  
Indianapolis, IN 46204  
(317) 652-1954  
[www.vonnegutlibrary.org](http://www.vonnegutlibrary.org)

**Programs available:** Kurt Vonnegut praised the ability of the humanities to help him make sense of his World War II experience. Vonnegut's novel, *Slaughterhouse Five*, gave Kurt the chance to tell his story. On November 8, 2014 from 2:00-4:00 p.m., at Indianapolis's Central Library, the Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library invites veterans to learn about the arts and tell their story. Reclaiming Armistice Day encourages veterans to explore the arts and the humanities in an effort to heal combat wounds associated with combat trauma. The event features an arts resource fair, a panel discussion and career support for veterans.

From 2:00- 4:00 p.m., the arts resource fair will provide educational resources from organizations such as the Herron School of Art, Veterans Antiquities and Elder Heart. From 3:00-4:00p.m., in the main auditorium, NPR Iraq war correspondent Kelly McKevers will moderate a discussion that allows veterans to share perspectives from their experiences. The panel will feature guests such as Jim Brown from the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs and Magnus Johnson, Iraq veteran and founder of Elder Heart and more. Following the program, Central Library staff will help facilitate job searches for veterans.

**Military focus:** Veterans

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts (clay, ceramics, fiber arts, quilting, needlework, weaving), dance/movement, drama/theatre, multidisciplinary, music, and visual arts (painting, drawing, sculpture)

**Organization:** Local Arts and Humanities Agency

**CONTACTS:** Julia Whitehead – Executive Director [julia.whitehead@vonnegutlibrary.org](mailto:julia.whitehead@vonnegutlibrary.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/VonnegutLibrary>  
Twitter <https://twitter.com/vonnegutlibrary>

**Link for Free Tickets to Event:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/veterans-reclaiming-armistice-day-tickets-13399037883>



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Indiana



## Art of the Soul Studio

6350 N. Shadeland Ave, Suite 3

Indianapolis, IN 46220

317.218.4653

[www.artofthesoulstudio.com](http://www.artofthesoulstudio.com)

**Programs available:** Art of the Soul Studio provides individual and group art therapy services to military service members, veterans and their families. Art therapy groups include women-only and men-only veterans groups. Art of the Soul Studio also partners with local agencies and organizations serving military and veterans to provide art-based programming and art therapy services.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Servicemembers, Veterans, their families, military youth and children, artists, researchers, volunteers, arts organizations, humanities organizations, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, health workers, and educators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music and Visual Arts

**Organization:** Independent Contractor

**CONTACTS:** Kristi Gmutza, ATR-BC – Art Therapist [art4healing@gmail.com](mailto:art4healing@gmail.com)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=art%20of%20the%20soul%20center>



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## Iowa

VA CENTRAL IOWA HEALTH CARE



### VA Central Iowa Healthcare System

Att: Suzanne Anderson, MT-BC

3600 30<sup>th</sup> St.

Des Moines, IA 50310

515.699.5999 x4949

[www.centraliowa.va.gov/services/Recreation\\_Therapy.asp](http://www.centraliowa.va.gov/services/Recreation_Therapy.asp)

#### Programs available:

We provide music therapy services to inpatient and outpatient Veterans within the VA Medical Center.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music, drama/theatre, crafts ( clay, ceramics, fiber arts, (quilting, weaving, needlework) and woodworking, and visual arts ( drawing, painting, sculpture)

**Organization:** Veterans department/Division/Unit

**CONTACTS:** Suzanne Anderson – MT-BC – Music Therapist [suzanne.anderson4@va.gov](mailto:suzanne.anderson4@va.gov)



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Iowa



## Iowa Gold Star Military Museum

7105 NW 70th Avenue

Camp Dodge

Building A9/3692

Johnston, Iowa 50131

515.252.4531

[www.goldstarmuseum.iowa.gov](http://www.goldstarmuseum.iowa.gov)

**Programs available:** The museum's programming goals are to educate the public about Iowa's rich military history with the hopes of providing a new appreciation for those men and women who have served and serving our country. Our programming tries to engage the visitor, physically, visually and mentally in the mind of a military service member. Whether it is during the Civil War at the Battle of Shiloh in the cold damp misty weather of early spring day in Tennessee with mud up to their ankles defending a muddy gravel road or during WWII at the Battle of Tarawa where a young Iowa Navy Corps men attended the injured and dying crawling on his hands and knees for over 12 hours or during the Vietnam War as nurse who treated the wounded and for the first time feeling she was part of the effort to restore freedom to others around the world. The museum also tries to capture the emotions and reasons for duty of service from our veterans and share that with the young and old. We feel at the Iowa Gold Star Military Museum that we are adding to the historical cultural awareness to our community through our exhibits and interactions between young and old, veteran and civilian, history scholar to the novice.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military youth and children, general public, humanities organizations, health workers, educators, researchers, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Military artifacts and media arts

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Sherrie Colbert – Museum Director [sherrie.colbert@iowa.gov](mailto:sherrie.colbert@iowa.gov)



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Iowa



## Hoyt Sherman Place

1501 Woodland Avenue  
Des Moines, Iowa 50309  
515-244-0507  
<https://hoytsherman.org>

### Programs available:

Nestled on the eastern edge of the historic Sherman Hill district in Des Moines, Iowa, Hoyt Sherman Place boasts one of Des Moines' most magnificent entertainment, banquet and meeting facilities.

Built in 1877 by prominent pioneer businessman Hoyt Sherman, the elegant family home is graced with marble fireplaces, parquet floors and a carved mahogany entryway. Expanded over the years, the building also includes an impressive and elegant art gallery as well as grand and historic theater. Each room is available for special events and corporate functions. We offer group tours by appointment for \$3.00 per person. Please stop in any time for a self-guided tour during business hours.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military youth and children, arts organizations, artists, health workers, educators, researchers, humanities organizations, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Dance/movement, drama/theatre, multidisciplinary, music, and visual arts – drawing, painting, sculpture)

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Robert Warren – Executive Director [warren@hoytsherman.org](mailto:warren@hoytsherman.org)



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Iowa



## University of Iowa

782 Van Allen Hall  
The University of Iowa  
Iowa City, IA 52242  
319.335.0684

<https://outreach.uiowa.edu>

### Programs available:

Writing Workshops are offered for Veterans on the University of Iowa Campus, Arts-based Writing Workshops at VA Medical Center, and Community Stories Workshops at Iowa City Shelter House.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans and their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Literary Arts

**Organization:** University Department/Division/Program

**CONTACTS:** Kelly Carr – Administrator, Office of Outreach & Engagement [kelly-j-carr@uiowa.edu](mailto:kelly-j-carr@uiowa.edu)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OutreachIowa>



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## Kansas



### The 555 Collective\*

P.O. Box 111  
Saint Francis, KS 67756  
303.815.7992  
<http://www.555c.org/>

#### Programs available:

Guided by the theory that Art>Trauma, the 555 publishes an online magazine (covering art and humans), and conducts various creative projects that raise awareness and support for populations affected by trauma.

**Military focus:** Military service members, veterans, their families, researchers, volunteers, arts organizations, humanities organizations, military youth and children, Creative arts therapists, health workers, educators, and artists.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Local Arts or Humanities Agency

**CONTACTS:** Joseph Carmon – Director [joseph@555c.org](mailto:joseph@555c.org)

**Social Media:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/555collective>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/TattooHaiku>

## Kentucky



## Trauma-Informed Practices and Expressive Arts Therapy Institute and Learning Center\*

2317 Saratoga Drive  
Louisville, KY 40205  
(502) 762-8989

[www.trauma-informedpractice.com](http://www.trauma-informedpractice.com)

**Programs available:** We provide expressive arts therapy, trauma-informed online and live courses, workshops and presentations that address post traumatic stress, traumatic brain injury and related challenges to military and their families. We are a group of credentialed arts therapists and mental health professionals who work with active and veteran military and their families, using the expressive arts as the core approach along with mind-body and trauma-informed principles with an emphasis on resiliency.

**Military focus:** Active and Veteran military and their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Educational institution

**CONTACTS:** Dr. Cathy Malchiodi – Director/Founder [artchangeslives@gmail.com](mailto:artchangeslives@gmail.com)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Trauma-Informed-Practice/155797157835392>

**Twitter** <https://twitter.com/arttherapynews?lang=en>

**Instagram** @TraumaTherapies <https://twitter.com/traumatherapies>



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Kentucky



## Dancing Well: The Soldier Project\*

1355 Bardstown Rd  
Suite 134  
Louisville, KY 40204  
(502) 889-6584  
[www.DancingWell.org](http://www.DancingWell.org)

**Programs available:** Dancing Well: The Soldier Project provides community dance to veterans and families affected by PTSD and Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI). Through Dancing Well, veterans, families, and community members come together in a safe, low-pressure setting to enjoy the fun, fellowship, and sense of well-being that are the hallmarks of community dance. Developed in collaboration with a staff psychiatrist at Ft. Knox, Dancing Well is unique in providing a traditional dance experience tailored to the needs of afflicted veterans and their families. Veteran participants report improved mood, memory, sleep, physical health, and outlook on the future, as well as decreased anxiety and pain levels. Participants also report feeling less isolated and improved relationships with family, friends, and others. Currently in a start-up phase, Dancing Well has piloted its ten-session dance series with veterans in Louisville, Kentucky. Based on the success of this program and feedback from veterans, Dancing Well now seeks to establish a permanent Louisville series, as well as create a plan for training dance callers, activities directors, VA professionals, and others to work effectively with afflicted veterans. Dancing Well's ultimate goal is to serve communities throughout the U.S. and to become a permanent advocate for the benefits of traditional dance for veterans and families facing PTSD and TBI. Dancing Well envisions a world where veterans affected by PTSD and TBI can heal and thrive, together with their families, loved ones, and the larger community. The Country Dance and Song Society, a national leader in promoting participatory dance, music, and song with roots in English and North American culture and their living traditions, serves as fiscal sponsor for Dancing Well. Previous and current veteran participants serve as active partners, shaping the Dancing Well experience and spreading the word to others in need.

**Military focus:** Veterans and their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Traditional dance as social and recreational activity for veterans and their families

**Organization:** Program or project under a non-profit organization

**CONTACTS:** Deborah Denenfeld – Executive Director      [Deborah@DancingWell.org](mailto:Deborah@DancingWell.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**      **Facebook**   <https://www.facebook.com/DancingWell>  
                                 **Twitter**   <https://twitter.com/wscffilm/status/441574180518371328>



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## Louisiana



## Central Louisiana Arts & Healthcare

### Central Louisiana Arts & Healthcare, Inc.

PO Box 12802  
Alexandria, LA 71315  
(318) 442-8863  
<http://www.artsandhealthcare.org/>

**Programs available:** Our mission is to provide innovative arts experiences in healthcare settings to assist with the healing process. Most of our work is carried out in two major regional hospitals - Rapides Regional Medical Center and CHRISTUS St. Frances Cabrini Hospital - which serve a 9 parish area of our state. Patients include many veterans and their families. We provide both passive and active arts experiences in both performing arts and visual arts mediums.

**Military focus:** Veterans and families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual and performing arts

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (arts)

**CONTACTS:** Judy Ginsburgh – Executive Director [judy@artsandhealthcare.org](mailto:judy@artsandhealthcare.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ArtsandHealthcare>



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Maine



## Maine Arts Commission

193 State Street

Augusta, Maine 04333

207.287.6571

<http://mainearts.maine.gov/>

**Programs available:** In 2015 the Maine Arts Commission's Visual Arts program embarked on a new annual exhibition in our Capitol Building Complex in Augusta. As part of our established Art in the Capitol Program, we decided to dedicate three months of the year to show Veteran's artwork for the public, legislators and staff of the State House to enjoy and purchase. We began this with a partnership with the American Veterans Arts and Crafts Gallery, and in 2017, added a new partnership with the Veterans Administration Healthcare Systems to identify active and emerging Veteran artists. Each show includes wall labels allowing Veterans to identify their military service and a description about what creating art means in their lives and recovery. The exhibition closes with a public program, hosted by our First Lady, where artists are recognized and offered a chance to speak publicly and share their experiences. It also provides them the opportunity to convene and talk about their practices. Spawning from this exhibition we have been requested by the Maine Bureau of Veteran's Services to partner and make this a state-wide traveling exhibition, which we will begin in 2018.

The Veterans Affairs Healthcare System has also requested that we continue and expand our partnership by offering new programs in more art disciplines. As a federal agency, they are investigating further how the impact of creative practice can assist Veteran's pain management and coping mechanisms. We are currently working with them to survey Veteran's interests in various art forms. We are incredibly excited to build upon these beginnings and continue our work with Veteran's federal and state service groups.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, artists, and arts organizations

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Dance/movement, Drama/theatre, Film/Media Arts, Literary Arts, Multidisciplinary, Music, Opera, Visual Arts (drawing, painting, sculpture), Crafts ( clay, ceramics, fiber arts, (quilting, weaving, needlework) and wood working

**Organization:** State Arts Agency

**CONTACTS:** Julie Horn – Visual Arts Director [julie.horn@maine.gov](mailto:julie.horn@maine.gov)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/mainearts>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/artsinmaine/>

Twitter @MaineArts <https://twitter.com/MaineArts>

**Organizational Video** <https://www.youtube.com/user/VirtualMaineArts/>



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Maine

# Shawna N.M. Barnes

*Ceramic Sculptor & Veteran Artist*

## Shawna N.M. Barnes - Sculptor

1151 Belfast Rd  
Knox, ME 04986  
207.231.4390

[www.shawnabarnes.com](http://www.shawnabarnes.com)

Programs available: I am a disabled Veteran that uses my own art practice to teach others the healing benefits of creative arts through my “art as therapy” videos and in-person classes.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, military children, Artists, Creative Arts Therapists, Researchers, Arts organizations, Humanities organizations

**Program service providers:** Veterans and Professional artists

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts – e.g., clay, ceramics, fiber arts, (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking, Visual Arts – e.g., drawing, painting, sculpture

**Organization:** Independent contractor

**CONTACT:** Shawna N.M. Barnes – Artist [info@shawnabarnes.com](mailto:info@shawnabarnes.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/shawna.n.m.barnes>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/shawna-barnes-a4795643/>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/shawna.n.m.barnes>



## Maryland



## Serving Together Project

1000 Twinbrook Parkway  
Rockville, MD 20851  
(301) 424-0656

<http://servingtogetherproject.org/>

**Programs available:** **Serving Together** knows Montgomery County, Maryland and will provide clear guidance for service members and their families on how to access the information and resources they deserve. **Serving Together**, with help from Montgomery County government, local organizations, and businesses, is striving to provide a sustained, coordinated system in support to the 50,000 veterans living in Montgomery County and welcome home the newest generation of Warriors. **Serving Together** is a project of Mental Health Association of Montgomery County (MHA), and as such will build upon more than fifty years of service provision in the community. **Serving Together** will increase awareness of resources for service members, veterans and their families. Through community collaboration, education and advocacy, MHA and **Serving Together** will succeed in the mission to promote mental and physical wellness for those who have served our country!

**Serving Together** is here to make it easier for all of those who have served in the Armed Forces, National Guard or Reserves, and their families, to access the local services they need. We know the local community, and our goal is to provide clear guidance for local members of the military on how they can access the care and support they need. To do so, we coordinate with local nonprofits, community organizations, local businesses and County government to design a system of care to better support local service members. Everyone has a role to play in supporting troops, veterans and military families, from local nonprofits and businesses to policymakers and volunteers.

**Military focus:** Veterans and families - Recent combat, since 2001 (OEF, OIF, OND) , Gulf War , Vietnam War , Korean War , World War II

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Resource

**Organization:** Non-profit (health)

**CONTACTS:** Michael Ball - Director [mike@ServingTogetherProject.org](mailto:mike@ServingTogetherProject.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ServingTogetherProject>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/servingtogether>



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Maryland



## Warriors At Ease\*

8400 Cedar St.  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910  
512.516.5031  
<http://warriorsatease.org/>

### Programs available:

Warriors at Ease's mission is to increase awareness about the power of yoga and meditation and educate a network of professionals qualified to share evidenced-based practices through programs that support the health and healing of service members, veterans and their families.

We are committed to integrating yoga and meditation into military and civilian settings to support the health, resiliency, post-traumatic growth and connection of people worldwide.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, military Families, Veterans' Families, and caregivers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Physical and Mental health; Wellness

**Organization:** Non-profit non-arts organization (health, social service, Veterans)

**CONTACTS:** Alexis Miller – Social Media Coordinator [alexis@warriorsatease.org](mailto:alexis@warriorsatease.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**

<b>Facebook</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/warriorsatease/">https://www.facebook.com/warriorsatease/</a>
<b>Twitter</b>	<a href="https://twitter.com/warriorsatease?lang=en">https://twitter.com/warriorsatease?lang=en</a>
<b>LinkedIn</b>	<a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company-beta/16192884/">https://www.linkedin.com/company-beta/16192884/</a>



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Maryland



## Veterans Writing Project\*

8653 16<sup>th</sup> Street #8206

Silver Spring, MD 20910

202 450 1365

<http://veteranswriting.org/>

### Programs available:

We are a 501(c)(3) that provides no cost writing workshops and seminars to veterans, service members, and their adult family members. We also publish the literary journal O-Dark-Thirty. Our instructors are all veterans who are working writers and hold MA or MFA writing degrees. We teach both creative and expressive (therapeutic) writing. We are available to travel and have presented our work across the U.S.

**Military focus:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, artists, humanities organizations, creative arts therapists, educators, researchers, and health workers.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Literary Arts

**Organization:** Non-profit (arts)

**CONTACT:** Ron Capps - Director [ron@veteranswriting.org](mailto:ron@veteranswriting.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/VeteransWritingProject>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/VeteransWriting>



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Maryland



## Class Acts Arts

700 Roeder Road First Floor  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
(703) 967-0437  
[www.classactsarts.org](http://www.classactsarts.org)

**Programs available:** **Class Acts Arts, Inc.** engages communities to create interactive arts experiences that inspire learning. We are a non-profit arts-in-education organization dedicated to bringing high quality and culturally diverse performances, workshops and artist residencies to schools and communities, at-risk youth, seniors, wounded warriors and special needs populations throughout Maryland, the District of Columbia, and northern Virginia.

Working with a network of professional teaching artists, **Class Acts Arts** coordinates programming within local communities to bring the arts to people where they are and address particular needs and opportunities within that community. Artists range from visual to performing to literary arts and storytelling, and represent a broad array of cultural heritage and traditions. A number of **Class Acts Arts** artists have training and a background in music and art therapies, and have the ability to adapt their engaging programs to a particular setting.

**Military focus:** Military Service Members, Veterans, Military Families, Veterans' Families, Military Youth, and Military Children

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts - e.g., clay, ceramics, fiber arts (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking, Dance/movement, Drama/theatre, Literary Arts, Multidisciplinary, Music, Visual Arts - e.g., drawing, painting, sculpture, and storytelling

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (arts & education) Maryland, District of Columbia, and Virginia.

**CONTACTS:** James E. Modrick – Executive Director [jem@classactsarts.org](mailto:jem@classactsarts.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ClassActsArts>  
Twitter <https://twitter.com/classactsarts>  
You Tube [www.youtube.com/user/ClassActsArts](http://www.youtube.com/user/ClassActsArts)



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Maryland



*"Music speaks what cannot be expressed,  
soothes the mind and gives it rest,  
heals the heart and makes it whole,  
flows from the heaven to the soul."  
-Santiz*

## American Music Therapy Association\*

8455 Colesville Road  
Suite 1000  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
(301) 589-3300  
[www.musictherapy.org](http://www.musictherapy.org)

**Programs available:** Representing over 6,000 professionally trained music therapists, AMTA is committed to the mission of advancing public awareness of music therapy benefits and increasing access to quality music therapy services. Nationally Board Certified Music Therapists work across the military continuum to provide music therapy interventions to America's service members and their families. Music therapy interventions make use of carefully structured and evidence-based interventions informed by the best available research in the published literature. Having been founded as a profession through service to veterans of World Wars I and II, music therapy has over 60 years of clinical history in the United States. In 1945, the U.S. War Department issued Technical Bulletin 187 detailing a program on the use of music for reconditioning among service members convalescing in Army hospitals. Music therapy grew and developed as a profession in part as a result of research endorsed by the Army and Office of the Surgeon General. • Music Therapy has a rich and long history in providing services for our American Heroes dating back to World War II. • Music therapists are providing treatment to military families with a special emphasis on children. • Approximately 50 qualified music therapists currently work in VA hospitals throughout the U.S. implementing model programs • NICOE Bethesda, NICOE Ft. Belvoir, Walter Reed, and other sites are offering music therapy treatment to active duty military. • The music therapy research provides a strong foundation for evidenced-based practice. • Research is supported by various public and private funding sources, including grants from several Institutes within NIH. • Research references are available through the American Music Therapy Association • Music therapy is listed on the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) schedule under PROFESSIONAL AND ALLIED HEALTHCARE STAFFING SERVICES: 621-047

**Military focus:** All service members, active duty, veterans, families, and caregivers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Creative arts through music

**Organization:** Non-profit (health, social services, veterans); National

**CONTACTS:** Dr. Andrea Farbman – Executive Director [Farbman@musictherapy.org](mailto:Farbman@musictherapy.org)  
Al Bumanis – Director of Communications [Bumanis@musictherapy.org](mailto:Bumanis@musictherapy.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook [www.facebook.com/AMTAInc](https://www.facebook.com/AMTAInc) Twitter <https://twitter.com/amtainc>



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
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National Network Directory

Maryland



## Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture

7300 MacArthur Blvd  
Glen Echo, MD 20812  
(301) 634-2222  
[www.glenechopark.org](http://www.glenechopark.org)

**Programs available:** The Glen Echo Park Partnership offers a year-round slate of visual arts, music, and dance and movement classes for adults and children. Military servicemembers and their families can explore their creativity and experiment with different media and techniques through daytime and evening classes and workshops. In addition, the Park offers an annual series of free family festivals, including Family Day in May, the Washington Folk Festival in June, Then & Wow Festival in September, Fall Frolic in October, and Winter's Eve in December.

Other free events include concerts every Thursday evening during the summer which often feature military bands, year-round exhibitions in multiple gallery spaces throughout the Park, Art Walk evenings on the second Friday of every month from May through October, and the annual Labor Day Art Show combined with an Open House for Classes and the Irish Music and Dance Showcase throughout the Labor Day holiday weekend.

The Partnership has supported events for military veterans and their families including hosting the recent Serving Together Resource Fair in spring 2014 and hopes this will lead to increased collaboration with community groups directly serving veterans. The Partnership is eager to collaborate with military/veterans programs to present an exhibition of artwork produced by servicemembers and/or veterans in November during the Veterans Day holiday. Ideally, the show could become an annual tradition in collaboration with multiple partners.

**Military focus:** All military, active duty, veterans, their families, and caregivers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary and available facility

**Organization:** Non-profit arts; local

**CONTACTS:** Meredith Forster – Educations Program Manager [mforster@glenechopark.org](mailto:mforster@glenechopark.org)  
Jenni Cloud – Marketing and Communications Associate [jcloud@glenechopark.org](mailto:jcloud@glenechopark.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook [www.facebook.com/glenechopark](http://www.facebook.com/glenechopark)  
Twitter <https://twitter.com/glenechopark>  
Pinterest <https://www.pinterest.com/glenechopark/>



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## **Songwriting With: Soldiers\*** (TX, NY, CA, MD, and VA)

Barton Oaks Plaza II

901 S. Mopac Expy – Suite 225

Austin, Texas 78746

512.387.5857

<http://www.songwritingwithsoldiers.org/>

**Programs available:** Songwriting With: Soldiers (SW:S) uses collaborative songwriting to transform lives through creativity, connections, and strengths. Our program pairs veterans with experienced professional songwriters, in workshop and retreat settings, to craft songs about combat and the return home. Through the collaborative process, participants build trust, forge bonds, and transform pain into art. Each event concludes with a performance of all the songs written. As the participants listen to each other's songs, an important truth reverberates: I'm not alone; other people understand how I feel. Service members are enrolled in ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers) as co-writers of their songs; they have ownership. After returning home, they receive CDs of their songs and lyric books with photographs, a lasting source of pride and a means of reconnecting with family and friends, co-workers and communities. "I can bring this song home and play it for my kids, and they can understand what I've been through," said one participant. Songwriting With: Soldiers also organizes collaborative songwriting events for military families. Parents and their children come together, share stories, and write songs. SW: S songs are available through our website, concerts, and social media, raising awareness and building bridges between military and civilian communities. Songwriting With: Soldiers covers costs for all participants and family members.

**Military focus:** Recent combat since 2001 (OEF, OIF, OND), Gulf War, Vietnam War; all military branches

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music; multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Non-profit health, veterans, national

**CONTACTS:** Darden Smith – Founder & Creative Director [info@songwritingwithsoldiers.org](mailto:info@songwritingwithsoldiers.org)

Mary Judd – Executive Director [mary@songwritingwithsoldiers.org](mailto:mary@songwritingwithsoldiers.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/SongwritingWithSoldiers>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/songwritingwith> Video <http://vimeo.com/97853485>



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Maryland



8401 Connecticut Ave Suite 1230  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815  
(301) 565-4567  
[www.art-stream.org/](http://www.art-stream.org/)

**Programs available:** ArtStream is a regional organization based in the Washington metropolitan area whose mission is to create artistic opportunities for communities traditionally underserved by the arts. ArtStream views participation in the arts as a human right, and we are dedicated to creatively engaging and empowering all people regardless of physical or cognitive ability. Established in 2006, our programs serve persons with developmental disabilities and mental illness; children in short and long term hospital settings; individuals and families who are bereaved; and wounded military personnel, veterans, and their caregivers. We offer workshops, performances, classes, seminars, trainings, and artist residencies in three program areas: Disability Services; Children, Teen, and School Services; and Arts in Healthcare.

ArtStream's arts in healthcare programming, inaugurated in 2008, seeks to develop, implement, and evaluate innovative program models for diverse populations within the healthcare field, including individuals in hospital or hospice care. The program currently encompasses two programs at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center designed to enhance patient, family, and staff quality of life. Allies in the Arts provides twice-weekly sessions in a variety of expressive arts for wounded military personnel and their families at WRNMMC. Established in 2010, these ongoing creative arts experiences, offered bedside and in family rooms, are designed for active personnel and veterans recovering and rehabilitating from traumatic brain, spinal cord injury, and other war-related functional disabilities. You Are a Work of Art, established in 2013, is a series of creativity-based activities designed for nurses, medics, and technicians charged with caring for these patients. It is the shared mission of the two programs to provide creative outlets for participants to process traumatic experiences, reduce stress, and increase overall well-being.

**Military focus:** All military, veterans, and families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts (clay, ceramics, fiber arts, quilting, needlework, weaving), dance/movement, drama/theatre, multidisciplinary, music, and visual arts (painting, drawing, sculpture)

**Organization:** Non-profit arts, local and regional

**CONTACTS:** Heller An Shapiro – Executive Director [h.shapiro@art-stream.org](mailto:h.shapiro@art-stream.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook [www.facebook.com/artstreaminc](http://www.facebook.com/artstreaminc)

Twitter [https://twitter.com/artstream\\_inc](https://twitter.com/artstream_inc) Instagram [https://instagram.com/artstream\\_inc/](https://instagram.com/artstream_inc/)



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Maryland



## The Arts and The Military

8320 Roanoke Ave Suite 2  
Takoma Park, MD 20912  
301-326-1735  
[www.artsandmilitary.org](http://www.artsandmilitary.org)

### Programs available:

The Arts and The Military serves as a catalyst for creativity, community building, and conversation. Discover the history and culture of the arts and military through Art-forum educational programs. Participate in art making and community-building activities at ART-illery workshops. Experience the unique and powerful stories of military life, and artistic responses to war by veterans and civilians at ART-ifacts exhibitions.

**Military focus:** Military service members, veterans, their families, researchers, arts organizations, humanities organizations, creative arts therapists, health workers, educators, and artists.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary; visual arts; crafts, such as clay, ceramics, fiber arts, and woodworking

**Organization:** Independent Contractor

**CONTACTS:** Tara Leigh Tappert – Director [info@artsandmilitary.org](mailto:info@artsandmilitary.org)

**Social Media:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/TheArtsandtheMilitary>



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Maryland



## Ellouise Schoettler – Storyteller\*

<http://ellouiseschoettler.com/>

**Ellouise Schoettler** is a nationally known storyteller based in Chevy, Chase, MD, known for stories told with heart and humor.

**“The Hello Girls”** – A one hour program featuring the story of 223 little known women veterans of World War One. True and developed from primary research. Recent performances: The Capital Fringe, Washington, DC, in October, World War One Museum and Memorial, Kansas City, MO.

**“Arlington National Cemetery: My Forever Home”** A personal story of an Arlington widow’s uncommon view of the hallowed grounds of Arlington National Cemetery where honoring military service and family stories blend. Premiered at the Women's Military Memorial, Arlington. Performed at the DC Capital Fringe, and at adult venues in five states.

Currently developing a new performance from letters and personal histories of nurses who served in France during WWI and other programs featuring original personal stories which blend history and personal experience.

**Military focus:** Military service members, veterans, their families, arts organizations, humanities organizations, and educators.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/theatre; storytelling and spoken word performances.

**Organization:** Independent Contractor

**CONTACTS:** Ellouise Schoettler - Storyteller [ellouise9112@aol.com](mailto:ellouise9112@aol.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FleshOnOldBones>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/ellouisestory>

Video <https://www.youtube.com/ellouiseschoettler>



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Maryland



## American Dance Therapy Association\*

10632 Little Patuxent Parkway Suite 108

Columbia, MD 21044

410.997.4040

<https://adta.org/>

**Programs available:** Veterans and military personnel face unique challenges in today's world. Many suffer from combat related disorders such as posttraumatic stress, depression, substance abuse, and traumatic brain injury. Coping with these stressors can sometimes seem insurmountable as evidenced by the rising rates of veteran homelessness and suicides. As the veteran population grows, medical facilities are struggling to meet the complicated needs of each and every veteran. As a result, many health care organizations have begun to reach beyond the biomedical model and have utilized complementary and integrative therapies, such as dance/movement therapy (DMT). According to the Chronicle Guidance Publications Brief 386 (2006), "Dance/movement therapists use dance and movement to foster health, communication, and expression; promote the integration Of physical, emotional, cognitive, and social functioning; enhance self-awareness; and facilitate change." Dance/movement therapists fall into the Federal Civil Service Classification of creative arts therapists, which includes art, dance, music, and psychodrama therapy professionals. Veterans' hospitals and military medical centers across the country offer DMT for the treatment of conditions commonly experienced in the veteran community. Veteran testimonials have shown that dance/movement therapy has helped veterans to manage anxiety levels, regulate sleep, process emotional trauma, and increase concentration. Veterans who have experienced dance/movement therapy have also expressed feeling joy and increased social connections. Dance/movement therapy is an effective holistic approach to health care that meets the complex needs of our nation's military - mind, body, and spirit.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military youth and children, Creative Arts Therapists, health workers, educators, and researchers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Dance/movement

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (non-arts e.g. health, social service, veterans)

**CONTACTS:** Gloria J. Farrow – Operations Director [gloria@adta.org](mailto:gloria@adta.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AmericanDanceTherapyAssociation/>

**Twitter** @ADTA.org <https://twitter.com/adtaorg>

**Linked In** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/american-dance-therapy-association-adta->

**Organization Video** <https://adta.org/you-tube/>



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Maryland



## Vet Arts Connect: The Institute for Integrative Health

1407 Fleet St, Suite 300

Baltimore, MD 21231

443.681.7618

<https://tiih.org/what-we-do/build-healthy-communities/vet-arts-connect/>

### Programs available:

Maryland Military Veterans - ACT NOW!

Visit Our Website - Choose A Program - Get Connected

Vet Arts Connect wants to connect Veterans with exciting, vibrant & vital arts experiences that will impact their over-all health and well-being. This program is designed to help Veterans connect with Community Artists, Arts Organizations and Outdoor Recreation activities to start their personal journey toward healing through the Arts & Nature.

All programs are offered at no cost to Veterans in Maryland.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, Creative Arts Therapists, health workers, educators, researchers, and arts organizations

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (non-arts e.g. health, social service, veterans)

**CONTACT:** JW Rone – Director of Veterans Initiatives [jwrone@tiih.org](mailto:jwrone@tiih.org)



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## Massachusetts



NEW ENGLAND FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS

### New England Foundation for the Arts\*

7th Floor  
145 Tremont Street  
Boston, MA 02111  
617.91.0010  
<http://www.nefa.org>

**Programs available:**

In the fall of 2016, NEFA will convene “Art in the Service of Understanding: New Perspectives from Artists and the Military Community.” This three day think tank will bring together two key groups: theater and dance artists and presenters who are creating new work about the military experience and the current state of America at war, and members of the military community and associated health care and service providers who are investigating the role that creativity and storytelling plays in healing and in building bridges between military and civilian experiences.

Through the National Dance Project and the National Theater Project, NEFA has already invested a half million dollars in the creation of new dance and theater projects that address military issues and that have involved unique partnerships with the military community in both development and presentation. This convening will bring together these artists, additional artists, and other national stakeholders for a critical conversation on creative development methodologies that incorporate the authentic voices of veterans and families impacted by deployment; engagement activities that create opportunities for military-civilian community dialogues and shared learning; and memorable aesthetic impact in the context of issues related to untold stories, conflict, and healing.

**Military focus:** Military servicemembers and veterans, their families, and caregivers; artists and arts organizations

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Dance/movement; drama/theatre; crafts; visual arts; music; opera; and multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Program/Project under the umbrella of a non-profit organization

**CONTACTS:** Sarah Long Holland – Development Manager [slongholland@nefa.org](mailto:slongholland@nefa.org)



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## Minnesota



### Ars Bellum Foundation

147 Virginia Street #13

St. Paul, MN 55102

651.231.3364

<http://arsbellumfoundation.org/>

#### Programs available:

The Ars Bellum Foundation is a non-profit organization that provides research-based art therapy programs for veterans and their families experiencing PTSD and related mental health conditions as a result of trauma from their service. We showcase that art in an exhibition titled, "Beyond the Battlefield" to educate the public about the challenges our soldiers face when they come home.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military youth and children

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Program/Project under the umbrella of a non-profit organization or fiscal agent

**CONTACTS:** Bridget Cronin – Chief Executive Officer [Bridget.Cronin@arsbellumfoundation.org](mailto:Bridget.Cronin@arsbellumfoundation.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/arsbellumfdn/>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/ArsBellum>

Linked In <https://www.linkedin.com/company/ars-bellum-foundation-beyond-the-battlefield>



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Minnesota



## COMPAS

75 5<sup>th</sup> St. West, Suite #304

Saint Paul, MN 55102

504.906.5282

[www.compas.org](http://www.compas.org)

### Programs available:

COMPAS Teaching Artists can help bring creativity to any place you have in mind. COMPAS Teaching Artists bring the power of creativity to you group, wherever you may be.

COMPAS works in libraries, after school programs, youth organizations, community centers, shelters, summer camps, parks, festivals, and more -- and we can't wait to bring new creativity to your site, wherever that might be.

We've had successful programs at Military Kid's Clubs and other veteran service organizations. Here is a quote from one of our Teaching Artists who recently worked with a Military Kids Club, teaching a workshop on comedy writing: "The students really seemed to find ways to use comedy to express some of the challenges they've experienced having parents deployed overseas."

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, military children, volunteers, arts and humanities organizations, artists, Creative Arts Therapies, health workers, educators, and researchers

**Program service providers:** Professional artists

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts (e.g. clay, ceramics, fiber arts (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking, dance/movement, design/architecture, drama/theatre, film/media arts, literary arts, music, visual arts (e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture) and multidisciplinary

**Organization:** For-profit arts LLC, although costs are very low

**CONTACT:** Julie Strand – Arts Program Director [julie@compas.org](mailto:julie@compas.org)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/COMPASMN/>

**Twitter**

@COMPAS\_MN [https://twitter.com/compas\\_mn?lang=en](https://twitter.com/compas_mn?lang=en)

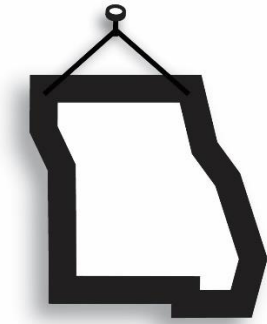
**Video**

<https://vimeo.com/210506012>



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
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## Missouri



## Missouri Arts Council

*The State of the Arts*

### Missouri Arts Council

815 Olive Street Suite 16  
St. Louis, Missouri 63101-1503  
314.340.6857  
<https://www.missouriartscouncil.org/>

#### Programs available:

As funder, partner, and catalyst, the Missouri Arts Council supports the arts that strengthen the cultural, educational, and economic vitality of Missouri. A state agency, the Missouri Arts Council is a division of the Department of Economic Development.

The Missouri Arts and the Military Initiative supports community organizations that provide arts-focused programs to active military, veterans, and their families. This program will build and strengthen the connections between the arts and military communities and promote the arts as a vital part of the military experience in Missouri.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military children, artists, educators, volunteers, arts and humanities organizations.

**Program service providers:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, military children, professional artists, educators, and volunteers.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** State Arts or Humanities Agency

**CONTACT:** Jill Tutt – Program Specialist [jill.tutt@ded.mo.gov](mailto:jill.tutt@ded.mo.gov)

#### SOCIAL MEDIA:

Facebook  
Twitter  
Video

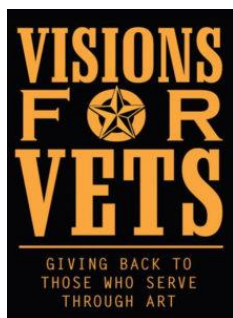
<https://www.facebook.com/missouriartscouncil/>  
<https://twitter.com/moartscouncil?lang=en>  
<https://vimeo.com/user8148928>



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Missouri



## Visions for Vets

6800 Wydown Blvd.

Clayton, Missouri 63105

314.800.5902

<https://visionsforvets.com/>

### Programs available:

Visions for Vets is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization focused on enriching and preserving the lives of Military Veterans, empowering those who served by utilizing the powers of the visual arts. Our aim is to build bridges to reintegrate Veterans back into the community and offer avenues of employment, all in a fun, positive, safe, and encouraging environment.

Everything is free to our Veteran Members. We are not a crafts workshop; we are an Art School teaching art skills from beginner to college levels, utilizing professional Artists and College Art Graduates as instructors. Visions for Vets never claims to be a form of therapy but fully recognizes the documented benefits and healing that creating art provides both physically and emotionally in a peer group environment. Our Veteran Artists are extremely talented and have come to love and depend on our program for many reasons.

Visions for Vets is an exclusive Veterans' organization with limited non-service volunteers (maximum 3 at a time). Due to the sensitivity of many of our Veterans, we must maintain a limited non-veteran-to-veteran proportion to ensure the security and comfort of our Veteran Peer Groups. Our *Mess Guest Program* welcomes outside organizations, restaurants, and civilians to provide meals for our workshops. Sharing a meal is an important emotional activity and is often the only meal our Veteran students have during the week. *"To break bread together builds relationships, buries anger, and provokes laughter."* Please contact us if you're interested in offering a meal.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, their families, professional artists, health workers, and volunteers

**Program service providers:** Veterans, their families, professional artists, health workers and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts - e.g., clay, ceramics, fiber arts (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking; Visual Arts - e.g., drawing, painting, sculpture

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (non-arts e.g. health, social service, veterans)

**CONTACT:** Scott Beaty – Founder [visionsforvets@gmail.com](mailto:visionsforvets@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/VisionsforVets/>



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Missouri



## Spiva Center for the Arts – Vet Art

222 West Third Street

Joplin, Missouri 64801

417.623.0183

<http://www.spivaarts.org/>

### Programs available:

Spiva Center for the Arts is designated nationally as a [Blue Star Museum](#), a collaboration between the National Endowment for the Arts, [Blue Star Families](#), the Department of Defense, and Museums Across America. Each summer since 2010, Blue Star Museums have offered free admission to the nation's active-duty military personnel and their families, including National Guard and Reserve, from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Spiva Center for the Arts' Vet Art program was established in early 2017 to serve military veterans in the Joplin region. Vet Art offers free art workshops to veterans and their families providing camaraderie, reintegration into their communities, and an outlet for self-expression. We are featuring a national Veterans' art exhibit, *At Ease: Veteran Contemporary*, August 17 through October 6, 2018.

Through community partnerships with Compass Quest Veteran Services, Connect2Culture, and Crackpot Pottery, Spiva's Vet Art program has offered printmaking, poetry writing, painting, and clay workshops to over 50 participants.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, military children, artists, educators, volunteers, Arts and Humanities organizations

**Program service providers:** Professional artists and arts facilitators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts - e.g., clay, ceramics, fiber arts (quilting, weaving, needlework), Woodworking, Visual Arts (e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture)

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (arts e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Josie Mai – Executive Director [jmai@spivaarts.org](mailto:jmai@spivaarts.org)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/spivaarts>

**Twitter** @SpivaArts <https://www.twitter.com/spivaarts>



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Missouri



## **Mt. Vernon Regional Arts**

1353 Quail Run

Mt. Vernon, Missouri 65172

417.461.0295

[www.mtvernonregionalarts.webs.com](http://www.mtvernonregionalarts.webs.com)

### **Programs available:**

Mt. Vernon, Missouri is a Veteran City. Veterans' Way, a new designated street on Hickory Street, starts from The Missouri Veterans Home and ends at the Gene Taylor VA clinic. The City of Mt Vernon and Mt. Vernon Regional Arts are developing new programs for veterans, including placing permanent flags throughout the entire Veterans Way and adding public art to honor veterans. The city is redesigning a Veterans Park that currently has flags and a ceremonial flag burning unit that properly disposes our retired flags. While the city has excellent healthcare systems for our veterans, it is currently working to provide an additional rehabilitation center with live-in facilities for veterans and their families.

Our veterans from the Missouri Veterans Home participate in our parades and Veterans Day celebrations. Mt. Vernon Regional Arts has sponsored a touring performance at The Missouri State Veterans Home and also sponsors local artistic groups who perform for veterans. The MARC Theatre Mt. Vernon Arts and Recreation Center) provides excellent seating for wheelchairs and has an inducted hearing loop system for the hearing impaired. We allow our veterans from the nursing home to attend many of our performances free of charge.

The Mt. Vernon Not So Square Arts Festival has moved to Veterans Day weekend. Veterans present flags to festival attendees, and we give tribute to veterans. We have established Movie Night for the Veterans Home. Much of the population of Mt. Vernon, Missouri consists of veterans and their families. Mt. Vernon desires to become truly a home to veterans.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, their families, artists, arts organizations, artists, volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts (clay, ceramics, fiber arts – quilting, weaving, needlework, woodworking), drama/theatre, film/media arts, literary arts, multidisciplinary, music, and/or visual arts (drawing, painting, sculpture)

**Organization:** Local Arts or Humanities organization

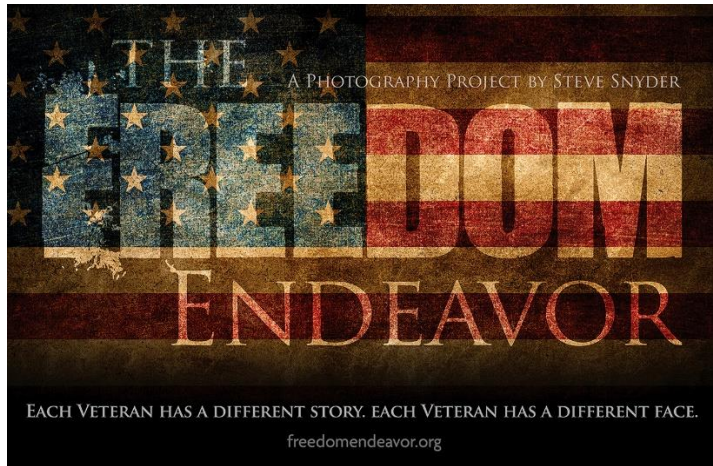
**CONTACTS:** Karen Colton-Millsap – Arts Director [notesquarearts@gmail.com](mailto:notesquarearts@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook [https://www.facebook.com/Mt. Vernon](https://www.facebook.com/Mt.Vernon)



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Missouri



## The Freedom Endeavor Project

9875 Lawrence 1132

Mount Vernon, Missouri 65712

417.380.3413

<https://freedomendeavor.org/>

### Programs available:

The Freedom Endeavor's mission is to recognize and honor the everyday citizens who took the oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. It also works to create community awareness of the veterans we unknowingly see every day.

The Freedom Endeavor honors these Veterans through the use of dramatic photography as well as audio, video and text media. Each image shows the Veteran as you would see them today and as they were during their time in the service. The contrast between their current appearance and their service time can be vastly different. An audio/video interview is recorded as they tell the story of their service time in their own words. Some say little, some say a lot, but each has a different story. The Veterans picture and story are highlighted on our website. The digital files of each veteran's story are donated to local historical societies to archive in their permanent records.

With 22 million Veterans in the US today there is no shortage of subject material. This project is offered at no charge to the Veterans. Each participating Veteran receives an 8" x 12" print and a copy of their digital video file at no charge.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans and their families

**Program service providers:** Professional artists, Veterans, volunteers, military children

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Film/media arts

**Organization:** Program/project under the umbrella of a non-profit organization or fiscal agent

**CONTACT:** Steve Snyder – Photographer [steve@imagesoftheozarks.com](mailto:steve@imagesoftheozarks.com)

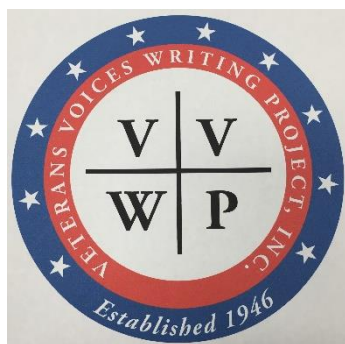
**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/thefreedomendeavor/>

Video <https://vimeo.com/257742379>



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Missouri



## Veterans Voices Writing Project, Inc.\*

406 W. 34<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 103  
Kansas City, MO 64111-3043  
816.701.6844

<http://www.veteransvoices.com/>

### Programs available:

The mission of Veterans Voices Writing Project is to enable military veterans to experience solace and satisfaction through our writing program. Our vision is a world where people appreciate that writing can both heal and entertain.

Writing (prose and poetry) from veterans is considered for publication in Veterans' Voices magazine, published 3 times a year (spring, summer, fall). Art and photos are also accepted. In 2016, VVWP celebrated 70 years of serving veterans with writing programs, primarily in Veterans Administration Medical Centers across the United States.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members and Veterans

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Literary arts

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (non-arts e.g. health, social service, Veterans)

**CONTACTS:** Priscilla Chansky – Administrative Director [veteransvoices@sbcglobal.net](mailto:veteransvoices@sbcglobal.net)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/Veterans-Voices-191896007584247/?fref=ts>

**Linked In** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/veterans'-voices>

### Organization Videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vHwh8e285I>

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFd6xJTh\\_\\_lg1O5bn306PLQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFd6xJTh__lg1O5bn306PLQ)



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Missouri



## Springfield Art Museum

1111 E. Brookside Dr.  
Springfield, Missouri 65807  
417.837.5700  
[www.sgfmuseum.org](http://www.sgfmuseum.org)

**Programs available:** We would be open to collaborations and partnerships in the future on behalf of arts and military programming based on past experience.

In November 2017, the Springfield Art Museum and Drury University were proud to host "Veterans' Views," a juried exhibition that highlighted photographs taken by members of our nation's armed services, related to their military experience. The primary goal of the exhibit was to raise awareness of our veterans' experiences during service to our country. This exhibit featured 60 photographs from 40 veterans across 12 states. Veterans from the Navy, Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, Army Reserve, Missouri National Guard, and the Army Corps of Engineers submitted photographic memories of service tours ranging from 1946-2017, reaching from Missouri to Japan. This exhibition featured a slate of free public programming and admission to the Museum was free.

In addition, guests were invited to bring photos of veterans from their families and post them in the gallery on our interactive "Community Veteran's Family Tree." Photocopier provided. The exhibit also included a notebook where patrons could write their memories of service or their reflections upon having viewed the exhibit. This exhibition opened with a reception in July and ran until November 2017. More information can be found at <http://www.sgfmuseum.org/203/Veterans-Views>.

*Veterans' Views* was a very successful exhibition for us in terms of patronage (over 23,000 patrons visited the museum during the exhibit) and positive community feedback. Drury University has approached us about the possibility of creating a book from the exhibition.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, Military children, Researchers, Arts and Humanities organizations, Artists, Creative Arts Therapies, Health workers, and Educators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual arts – e.g., drawing, painting, sculpture

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (arts e.g., performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Joshua Best – Development & Marketing Coordinator [jbest@springfieldmo.gov](mailto:jbest@springfieldmo.gov)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**

Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/sgfmuseum">https://www.facebook.com/sgfmuseum</a>
Twitter	<a href="https://twitter.com/sgfmuseum">https://twitter.com/sgfmuseum</a>
Instagram	<a href="https://www.instagram.com/sgfmuseum/">https://www.instagram.com/sgfmuseum/</a>



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## Montana Museum of Art & Culture

Meloy & Paxson Galleries in the Performing Arts Radio Television Center

Main Hall 006 - University of Montana

Missoula, MT 59812

406.243.2019

<http://umt.edu/montanamuseum>

### Programs available:

**Every four years** the Montana Museum of Art & Culture at the University of Montana presents the POW collection of art by veteran and artist Ben Steele. From June 4- September 12, 2015, Human Condition: The Art of Ben Steele was exhibited to a diverse audience that included many veterans. Reproductions of works are available as a traveling exhibition.

**Steele, 98, who lives in Billings**, is a World War II veteran and Bataan Death March survivor. As a prisoner he created drawings documenting the Japanese invasion of the Philippines and the capture of POWs. Steele endured forty-one months of starvation, dehydration, hard labor, torture and Japanese "hell ships" while crippled by dysentery, pneumonia, malaria, blood poisoning and beri beri. He attributes art making to his survival, recovery and process of forgiveness after the war.

**These artworks** are among the very few firsthand accounts of the Bataan Death March. Steele, with a near photographic memory, recreated most of his POW art during his recovery at Baxter Hospital in Spokane, Washington, and the Cleveland Art Institute, where he studied from 1947 to 1950. Steele and his wife, Shirley, donated his artworks consisting of 11 oil paintings and 82 drawings to the MMAC Permanent Collection in 2010.

**Steele attributes** his survival to his love of Montana and early experiences on his family ranch near Roundup. Human Condition included a color guard presentation and reading of the Congressional Record contributed by Montana Senator Jon Tester. Programming included a screening of the film Never the Same: The Prisoner of War Experience by Emmy-award winning filmmaker Jan Thompson with special guest Emmy-award winning actress Loretta Swit. Swit, best known for her portrayal of Major Margaret "Hot Lips" Houlihan on M\*A\*S\*H, narrates the documentary. The next exhibition of Ben Steele's POW Collection is planned for 2019.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military youth and children, arts organizations, artists, humanities organizations, health workers, educators, researchers, creative arts therapists, health workers, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts – drawing, painting, sculpture, etc.

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Barbara Koostra – Museum Director [barbara.koostra@mso.umt.edu](mailto:barbara.koostra@mso.umt.edu)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/Montana-Museum-of-Art-and-Culture-200902029055/>



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Montana



## North Valley Music School

PO Box 4446  
432 Spokane Avenue  
Whitefish, Montana 59937  
406.862.8074  
[www.northvalleymusicschool.org](http://www.northvalleymusicschool.org)

### Programs available:

North Valley Music School, a non-profit community music school, offers affordable, quality music classes and instruction in banjo, bass, cello, flute, guitar, harp, mandolin, piano, ukulele, viola, violin and voice, to military service members, veterans, their families and all students from infants through seniors.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, their families, artists, arts organizations, educators, and volunteers.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Marisa van Lawick – Administrator [nvmusicschool@yahoo.com](mailto:nvmusicschool@yahoo.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/north-valley-music-school>



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Montana



## MCT, Inc. – Missoula Children's Theatre & Missoula Community Theatre

200 North Adams St  
Missoula, MT 59808  
406.728.1911  
[www.MCTinc.org](http://www.MCTinc.org)

### Programs available:

The Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT) provides a week-long residency “starring” 50-60 local students in a professionally produced and directed musical. Two MCT actor/directors arrive in each military community with everything to produce the play including set, costumes, props, and lights. The MCT tour team holds an open group audition, casts and rehearses 50-60 school age children grades K-12, teaching music, lines and choreography. The week culminates in two community performances.

Our mission is the development of life skills through participation in the performing arts. We provide year-round touring and our fees are dependent on region. The fee includes an open audition, intensive rehearsals, two public performances and three enrichment workshops.

We are honored to regularly serve more than 100 military locations (Air Force, Army and Navy) in North America and around the world. We've found that our program provides continuity and stability for kids and families who move often yet are able to participate in a familiar program—the Missoula Children's Theatre residency—wherever they go.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, Military families, military youth and children, arts organizations, humanities organizations, educators, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/theatre

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Michael McGill – Executive Director [mmcgill@MCTinc.org](mailto:mmcgill@MCTinc.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA: Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/MissoulaChildrensTheatre>  
<https://www.facebook.com/missoulacommunitytheatre>

**Twitter** <https://twitter.com/mctinc>

**Instagram** <https://instagram.com/missoulatheatre/>

**Linked In** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/mct-inc---missoula-children's-theatre-&-missoula-community-theatre>

**Organization Video** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCe084sJ8F00BVb03hf0P9FA>



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Montana



## Myrna Loy Center for the Performing & Media Arts

15 N. Ewing Street

Helena, MT 59601

406.443.0287

[www.myrnaloycenter.com](http://www.myrnaloycenter.com)

### Programs available:

The Myrna Loy Center creates as many opportunities as possible to engage military members and families in arts experiences of all kinds. We show films, host special film events, show art exhibits, stage special theater events, create storytelling events, and sometimes just invite military members to enjoy a concert with the world-class musicians and artists who perform on our stage. We also take visiting artists to the VA Hospital for special recitals and performances.

New programs in development as opportunities arise.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, Artists, Educators, Volunteers, and Arts Organizations

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music, Dance/movement, Drama/theatre, Film/Media, Literary Arts, Multidisciplinary, Visual Arts (drawing, painting, sculpture)

**Organization:** Non-profit non-arts organization (health, social service, veterans)

**CONTACTS:** Krys Holmes – Executive Director [krys.holmes@myrnaloycenter.com](mailto:krys.holmes@myrnaloycenter.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/myrnaloycenter>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/myrnaloycenter>



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Montana



## Stumptown Art Studio

145 Central Ave

Whitefish, MT 59937

406.862.5929

[www.stumptownartstudio.org](http://www.stumptownartstudio.org)

### Programs available:

Stumptown Art Studio is a non-profit community art center offering ceramics, mosaics, and glass fusing on a daily walk-in basis. Also, the studio offers classes for adults and children in our 2D and 3D classrooms. Private lessons are available upon request. Money derived from our ongoing fundraising campaigns help to offset the cost of classes taught offsite: schools, nursing facilities, organizations, community events, along with many others. Our "Art from the Heart" program specifically provides classes to our special needs friends who would not otherwise have the benefit of art in their lives.

Bi-monthly art classes at the Montana Veterans Home bring new and excited projects into the hands of those who have served our country. Family members are encouraged to join in the fun. The Stumptown Art Studio frequently displays contributions to the art world created by veteran's in hopes of further recognition of all they continue to give us.

Our veterans programs are sustained by donations, as our funds increase, so will our programs. Continue to check in with all we have to offer.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, their families, and artists

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts (clay, ceramics, fiber arts, woodworking) and/or Visual Arts (painting, drawing, sculpture)

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Melanie Drown – Director [info@stumptownartstudio.org](mailto:info@stumptownartstudio.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/StumptownArtStudio>



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## Nevada



### Music 4 Life\*

2975 S Rainbow Blvd Suite B  
Las Vegas, NV 89146  
(702) 889-2881  
[info@music4life.us](mailto:info@music4life.us)

**Programs available:** Music 4 Life® empowers people to be responsible for their health with easy, accessible, inexpensive programs and products saving health care costs. We teach user-friendly life skills for mental fitness, building capacity to deal with more stress. Online and soon to spread across the country from our headquarters in Las Vegas, Nevada, effective mental fitness programs synergize music therapy, drum circles and music medicine with wellness circles focused on allowing the job-seeker to relax, open up to the changing environment, and embrace the next opportunity through guided imagery, career development, future job focus and effective stress relief. Music 4 Life® Radio archives weekly shows at [blogtalkradio.com/Music4LifeUSA](http://blogtalkradio.com/Music4LifeUSA). Co-hosts Judith Pinkerton and Amy Frost share music medicine, life skills and guests who dare to BE happy in the midst of crisis.

**Music 4 Life® National Wellness Circles** Director Amy Frost, MBA and MA Spiritual Psychology, is trainer, writer and facilitator for the underemployed, unemployed and over employed who seek mental fitness programs that support emotional resiliency and encourage participants to stay in the game while implementing action plans for their next steps. Located on Solutions Wellness Campus, Music 4 Life® grew out of Founder Judith Pinkerton's hospital experience in the 1980's when her solo violin music replaced routine post-surgical medication. As a licensed music therapist, author, recording artist and trainer, Judith created accredited workshops, healing CDs and music therapy protocol which are nationally recognized in her 2014 TEDx Talk, "Music Powers Potential: Building Mental Fitness." People learn how to restructure music listening habits to heal emotional crisis and trauma, including career transitions. Music can be very effective in neutralizing emotional triggers, soothing anxiety while strengthening mental fitness.

**Military focus:** PTSD; Military Service members, Veterans, and families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Arts & Health

**Organization:** Behavioral Health Agency; local, regional, national, international

**CONTACTS:** Judith Pinkerton – Founder/President [judith@music4life.us](mailto:judith@music4life.us)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Music4LifeUSA>  
Twitter <https://twitter.com/music4lifeus> Video [http://youtu.be/iSFaiyRdu\\_E](http://youtu.be/iSFaiyRdu_E)



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Nevada



## Art for Troops

VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System  
6900 North Pecos Road  
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89086  
702.482.3931  
[www.artfortroops.org](http://www.artfortroops.org)

### Programs available:

The aim of the project is to provide Veterans with mental health issues art classes, giving them an alternate means of self-expression, fun, focus or just distraction. We believe that art is a vital tool for improving communication as well as a chance to create something of our own. We are hoping to expand the nature of the activities and our participants to wider members of the military community including families and active serving personnel. We currently provide 6 classes a month between two locations in Las Vegas.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, Military Families, Veterans' Families, and Creative Arts Therapists

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts e.g. clay, ceramics, fiber arts (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking and Visual Arts e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture

**Organization:** Program/Project under the umbrella of a non-profit organization or fiscal agent

**CONTACTS:** Dell Nichols-Stoltenberg – Volunteer Coordinator [artfortroopsproject@gmail.com](mailto:artfortroopsproject@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/artfortroopslasvegas>



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Nevada



## Note-Able Music Therapy Services

925 Riverside Drive  
Reno, Nevada 89503  
775.324.5521

<https://www.note-ables.org>

### Programs available:

Note-Able Music Therapy Services provides adaptive music opportunities and clinical music therapy services to create lasting change in the lives of all people. NMTS focuses on integrating people into community through music, using evidence-based music interventions to help people be their best selves in relationship with others. We work with individuals, provide group opportunities, and also work with partner organizations to serve clients within other organizations.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, artists, arts organizations, volunteers, humanities organizations, Creative Arts Therapists, health workers, Educators, and researchers.

**Program service providers:** Creative Arts Therapists

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts – clay, ceramics, fiber arts, (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking; multidisciplinary; and visual arts – drawing, painting, sculpture

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Manal Topozada – Executive Director [manal@note-ables.org](mailto:manal@note-ables.org)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/NoteAbleMusicTherapyServices">https://www.facebook.com/NoteAbleMusicTherapyServices</a>
Twitter	<a href="https://twitter.com/noteables">https://twitter.com/noteables</a>
LinkedIn	<a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company/3854455/">https://www.linkedin.com/company/3854455/</a>



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## New Jersey



### Oasis by Design LLC\*

429 Walnut Lane  
Princeton, NJ 08540  
(609) 683-1317  
[www.oasisbydesign.net](http://www.oasisbydesign.net)

**Programs available:** 'Oasis by Design' raises awareness among caregivers, patients, designers and the public about the psychological importance of healing homes and healthcare places. Our groundbreaking 'healing by design psychology' presentations, publications, online columns and design consultation provide military service members, veterans and their families with new ideas and strategies for creating oases that support their positive growth and change: PRESENTATIONS: Our in-person and online talks and workshops such as 'Oasis: Healing by Design Psychology' and 'Home Design Psychology' engage participants in envisioning and creating an ideal home - - especially in the face of trauma and/or homelessness. Such a "design from within" process acts as a unique type of 'design art therapy.'

PUBLICATIONS: Through Design Psychology Press we offer books and other publications such as "Some Place Like Home: Using Design Psychology to Create Ideal Places" that provide how-to methods for creating ideal healing oases. [www.designpsychology.net](http://www.designpsychology.net) ONLINE COLUMNS: Our "Psychology Today" 'Design on My Mind' blog on healing spaces frequently covers issues of relevance to the arts, health and the military. See: <http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/design-my-mind> DESIGN CONSULTATION: We work with agencies and organizations to transform their spaces, often by involving users in creating nurturing oases that match their group's mission and meet the practical, social and emotional needs of staff and clients. [www.oasisbydesign.net](http://www.oasisbydesign.net)

PRODUCTS: Our 'Robe to Wellness' is an empowering designer robe for women going through radiation, recovery and . . . life. [www.robetowellness.com](http://www.robetowellness.com)

**Military focus:** Health Centers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Design/Architecture

**Organization:** Design Psychology Consulting Company

**CONTACT:** Toby Israel – President/CEO [tphoenix3@gmail.com](mailto:tphoenix3@gmail.com)



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New Jersey



## Music For All Seasons: Voices of Valor (NJ, NY, CT, PA, and CA)

336 Park Avenue Suite 2R  
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076-1100  
908.322.6300

[www.musicforallseasons.org](http://www.musicforallseasons.org)    [www.voicesofvalor.org](http://www.voicesofvalor.org)

### Programs available:

Voices of Valor is a therapeutic program created to assist veterans with reintegration into civilian life by addressing issues of stress and trauma through the creative use of music and songwriting. This award-winning program brings together a group of six to ten veterans to work with two professional musician/facilitators and a psychology mentor to write lyrics about their experiences, and compose and record an original song.

Participants do not need any musical experience. This program is free-of-charge to all veterans. A facility psychologist observed, "It is as if a part of them has been re-awakened that had previously been dormant. The recovery is transformative."

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military youth, arts organizations, artists, health workers, and educators.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Brian F. Dallow – Executive Director    [brian@musicforallseasons.org](mailto:brian@musicforallseasons.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**    **Facebook**    <https://www.facebook.com/VoicesOfValor>

**Twitter**    @VoicesofValor1

**Linked In**    <http://www.linkedin.com/Music> For All Seasons



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New Jersey



## ArtPride New Jersey Foundation

432 High Street  
Burlington, NJ 08016  
(609) 479-3377

[www.aahnj.org](http://www.aahnj.org) or [www.artmattersnj.org](http://www.artmattersnj.org)

**Programs available:** The Alliance for Arts and Health NJ (AAHNJ) is a program of ArtPride NJ. AAHNJ connects artists and arts professionals, and those who provide health and wellness services. We engage a network of members to educate, advocate, and advance best practices in arts and health. Our members include arts and healthcare providers that address the wellness of veterans through the arts, including Voices of Valor of Music for All Seasons and Combat Paper, a project of the Printmaking Council of NJ.

**Military focus:** Veterans and active duty military; military families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Arts & Health

**Organization:** State Arts or Humanities Agency

**CONTACTS:** Adam Perle – President & CEO [adam@artpridenj.com](mailto:adam@artpridenj.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ArtPrideNJ>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/ArtPrideNJ>

Pinterest <https://www.pinterest.com/artpride/>



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New Jersey



## Frontline Arts – Combat Paper NJ

440 River Road  
Branchburg, NJ 08876  
(908) 725-2110

<https://www.frontlinearts.org/the-story/>

**Programs available:** \_Combat Paper NJ hosts a free, drop-in, workshop for all veterans every Second Sunday of every month at The Printmaking Center of New Jersey, 440 River Road, Branchburg, NJ 08876, from 12pm – 6pm. All Veterans are welcome. No registration required.

All veterans have a story to tell. For too long, we have lived in a culture where veterans tend to suppress their experiences. *Combat Paper NJ* (CPNJ) can change the taboo surrounding the sharing of their experiences. This unique project offers the artistic tools and professional instruction to veterans, providing a space to use art and writing to explore their experiences. Our specialty is the transformative process of making handmade paper from military uniforms—Combat Paper. This paper creates a platform for veterans to share their stories, providing a “new language” for self-expression. In casual drop-in sessions, on college campuses, in community centers, and at VA and military hospitals, CPNJ brings the art of papermaking and printmaking to veterans of all service eras.

**Military focus:** Veterans and families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual and textile arts

**Organization:** State Arts or Humanities Agency

**CONTACTS:** David Keefe – Director [davidlukekeefe@gmail.com](mailto:davidlukekeefe@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/combatpapernj>  
Twitter <https://twitter.com/combatpapernj>



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New Jersey



## Ani Art Academies

143 Broad St.

Red Bank, NJ 07701

570.822.4111

<http://aniartacademies.org/america>

### Programs available:

Ani Art Academies is a non-profit organization that provides an intensive multi-year art skills education to aspiring artists around the world. Our location in Red Bank, New Jersey is focused on offering our curriculum to veterans fully tuition free.

The Academies' curriculum focuses on essential fundamentals of draftsmanship, properties of light, elements of perception, and various methods of painting without subscribing to any particular aesthetic.

Through a comprehensive series of simple but challenging repetitive exercises, Ani Art Academies' Apprentices develop the ability to communicate with a vocabulary of confident marks, lines, and values. It is the Artist's particular employ of this highly adaptable visual vocabulary that will begin to reveal an artistic vision, and ultimately, a unique voice.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts (drawing, painting, sculpture)

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts - performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Kevin Moore – Head Instructor [kevinmoore2311@yahoo.com](mailto:kevinmoore2311@yahoo.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AniArtAcademyAmerica/>  
Video [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=beMH\\_NUzoCw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=beMH_NUzoCw)



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New Jersey

# MUSIC BEYOND MEASURE

**A Creative Incubator for Life Success**

## **Music Beyond Measure**

81 Whittlesey Ave

West Orange, NJ 07052

618.980.9088

<http://www.musicbeyondmeasure.org>

### **Programs available:**

Music Beyond Measure (MBM) creates unique music programs to help survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and individuals suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) develop healthy coping mechanisms to aid in the recovery process. Using a group-centered format, MBM programming promotes a co-creative environment that seeks to support each person during his/her trauma recovery.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, military children, and educators.

**Program service providers:** Veterans, professional artists, creative arts therapists, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (arts e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Tamara C. Williams – Founder & Director [tamara@musicbeyondmeasure.org](mailto:tamara@musicbeyondmeasure.org)

### **SOCIAL MEDIA:**

**Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/MusicBeyondMeasure>

**Twitter**

@MusicBeyondMeas <https://twitter.com/musicbeyondmeas>

**Linked In**

<http://www.linkedin.com/company/MusicBeyondMeasure>



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## New Mexico



## New Mexico Arts

407 Galisteo Street, Suite 270

Santa Fe, NM 87501

505.827.6490

<http://www.nmarts.org/>

### **Programs available:**

New Mexico Arts' mission is to preserve, enhance, and develop the arts in New Mexico through partnerships, public awareness, and education, and to enrich the quality of life for present and future generations. New Mexico Arts & the Military partners with the NM Dept. of Veterans Services and the Office of the Lt. Governor on statewide community engagement at the intersection of the arts, medicine, and healing.

Through our Arts in Social Service funding category we support non-profits such as the Museum of the American Military Family, Lifesongs at the Academy for the Love of Learning, the NM Music Awards Therapeutic Songwriting Project, and Women at War spoken word performances by Artful Life.

Special events such as the 2018 Love Armor Project 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary exhibition and educational programming at the Center for Contemporary Arts, Santa Fe bring together American Veterans for Equal Rights, the NM Art Therapy Association, the LOC Veterans History Project, and non-profit Espanola Valley Fiber Arts Center for a vibrant exchange of ideas that fosters collaboration.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, military children, volunteers, arts and humanities organizations, colleges, universities and government entities, LGBTQ communities, traditional folk artists, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, health workers, Educators, and researchers

**Program service providers:** Veterans, military family members, Colleges, Universities & Government Entities, LGBTQ-focused non-profits, traditional folk artists, professional artists, Creative Arts Therapists, health workers, educators, and Volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts (e.g. clay, ceramics, fiber arts (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking, dance/movement, Performing Arts Series at rural colleges, design/architecture, drama/theatre, film/media arts, literary arts, music, opera, visual arts (e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture) and multidisciplinary

**Organization:** State Arts or Humanities Agency

**CONTACT:** Phyllis Kennedy – Program Coordinator [phyllis.kennedy@state.nm.us](mailto:phyllis.kennedy@state.nm.us)

**SOCIAL MEDIA: Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/nmarts.org/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/newmexicoartsandthemilitary/>



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New Mexico



## Museum of the American Military Family and Learning Center

PO Box 5085

Albuquerque, NM 87185

505.504.6830

[www.museumoftheamericanmilitaryfamily.org](http://www.museumoftheamericanmilitaryfamily.org)

### Programs available:

The Museum of the American Military Family and Learning Center collects and preserves the stories, documents, photos, and artifacts of the mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, spouses, siblings, and others who have loved and supported a member of the Armed Forces from Revolutionary times to now. We tell these stories through stage dramatizations, documentary film programs, exhibits, seminars, and workshops, to include resiliency workshops for families affected by PTSD. Our all-volunteer board includes an artist, a musician, and a writer in residence along with liaisons to Veteran and spouse organizations. We are partnered with the American Overseas Schools Historical Society and Overseas Brats, Inc. and have established a research library. We have no paid staff and are supported by donations, grants, and special event support.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, military families, military youth and children, creative arts therapists, researchers, historians, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music, crafts, drama, film, literary arts, and music

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Dr. Circe Olson Woessner – Executive Director [505.504.6830](tel:5055046830)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/MuseumoftheAmericanMilitaryFamily>

**Blog:** [americanmilitaryfamilymuseum.wordpress.com](http://americanmilitaryfamilymuseum.wordpress.com)



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New Mexico



## Not Forgotten Outreach, Inc.

461 Valverde Commons Drive

Taos, New Mexico 87571

575.224.1503

<http://notforgottenoutreach.org/>

### Programs available:

Not Forgotten Outreach is dedicated to motivating military Veterans and Gold Star families of fallen Warriors to participate in recreational and/or therapeutic activities in order to facilitate the healing process.

We are sponsors of the Taos Creative Arts Festival, born from the Taos CCBOC's mental health workers speaking with NFO about the number of Veterans that are using the Arts as part of their therapy for PTS(D), anxiety, and depression. We responded to the need for these Veterans to have a venue where they felt safe to show and sell their beautiful art.

Other programs include: Adaptive Sports such as the Military Family Ski Weekend, Sled Hockey, Adaptive Swimming, and the Rio Hondo Handcycle/Bicycle Hill Climb; Taos Farming Project; Education; Entrepreneurship; and the Military Family Respite Center. We also provide disabled veterans and Gold Star Families with information about and referrals to Veteran Administration and other recreational and therapeutic sport activities.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military youth and children, arts organizations, artists, creative art therapists, health workers, educators, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts (clay, ceramics, fiber arts including quilting, weaving, and needlework, and woodworking) and visual arts (drawing, painting, and sculpture)

**Organization:** Non-profit non-arts organization (health, social service, Veterans, etc.)

**CONTACTS:** Don Peters – Executive Director [don@notforgottenoutreach.org](mailto:don@notforgottenoutreach.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/NotForgottenOutreach>

Twitter @NFO\_NM

**Organization Video** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vZwdY9nrK28>



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New Mexico



## Artful Life

11415 Isle Royale Rd. SE  
Albuquerque, NM 87123  
505.603.0866  
[www.artful-life.org](http://www.artful-life.org)

### Programs available:

Artful Life and Women & Creativity present EKCO Poets: Women on War

What do women vets have to say about war? Join us for spoken word/poetry performance based on interviews with military women who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. This year, the EKCO Poets (creating collaborative poetry since 2009) take the words and stories of women vets and weave them into an unusual work of art that is part reading, part movement, part spoken word performance. Upcoming performances are scheduled in March 2017.

Visit our website for more information.

**Military focus and constituents:** Female Veterans, their families, arts organizations, artists, humanities organizations, volunteers, and the general public

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Program/Project under the umbrella of a non-profit organization or fiscal agent

**CONTACTS:** Valerie Martinez – Founding Director [valerie@artful-life.org](mailto:valerie@artful-life.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook [www.facebook.com/artful.life.org](https://www.facebook.com/artful.life.org)  
Twitter @art\_fu\_life [https://twitter.com/art\\_ful\\_life](https://twitter.com/art_ful_life)



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New Mexico



## Love Armor Project

21 Brahma Lane  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87506  
505.954.4012  
[www.lovearmorproject.com](http://www.lovearmorproject.com)

**Programs available:** Our mission is to show support and compassion for our active and veteran military members and their families. The Love Armor Project was a nationwide collaborative project with over 70 participants from all walks of life. In January 2007, at a time when we did not have the protective armor for the military Humvees in Iraq and Afghanistan, Shirley Klinghoffer had a vision of creating a strong protective "Love Armor Cozy" to show compassion and concern for our troops. Sarah Hewitt, a fiber artist, became Klinghoffer's primary facilitator, and a mission statement was sent across the country.

With the support of Stuart Ashman, NM Secretary of Cultural affairs and General Montoya, Klinghoffer was able to work directly with the men and women of the NM National Guard. They were thrilled that we were paying attention to them when it seemed that most of the country was not. We had an interactive program which was well received by both the military and civilian community. We also held trauma treatment discussions that seemed to provide some healing. We showed how an art project could bring community together with a unified humanist voice. We would like to continue with a new updated community program which will provide outlet for healing through interaction.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, Creative Arts Therapists, Educators, Arts and Humanities organizations.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Private initiative

**CONTACT:** Shirley Klinghoffer – Artist/Activist/Community Organizer [fklinghoff@aol.com](mailto:fklinghoff@aol.com)



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New Mexico



NEW MEXICO MUSIC AWARDS  
Thirty Years 1988-2017

## New Mexico Music Awards

PO Box 6552  
Albuquerque, NM 87197  
505.269.7777  
<http://newmexicomusicawards.com>

### Programs available:

The New Mexico Music Awards provides free basic guitar lessons to veterans with post traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury. We also provide therapeutic songwriting workshops for veterans and families as a way of communicating their experiences in the theater of war or their struggles with PTSD or TBI.

All programs are free to veterans.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, their families, arts organizations, artists, humanities organizations

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music

**Organization:** Local Arts or Humanities Agency (public or private arts council or commission, humanities council, culture and tourism agency, etc.)

**CONTACTS:** Jose Antonio Ponce – Owner/Producer [contactnewmexicomusicawards@gmail.com](mailto:contactnewmexicomusicawards@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/TheNewMexicoMusicAwards/>



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New Mexico



## Lifesongs – Academy for the Love of Learning

133 Seton Village Road  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505  
505.995.1860 x124  
[www.aloveoflearning.org](http://www.aloveoflearning.org)

### Programs available:

**Lifesongs**, a program at the Academy for the Love of Learning in Santa Fe, NM, is an intergenerational arts program that engages communities to heal the fear that shrouds aging, illness, and death. Through relationships, storytelling, music, and performance, **Lifesongs** promotes dignity and inclusion for our elders. Working one-on-one and in ensembles, participants develop original works that incorporate music, movement, and multimedia to explore the richness of all stages of life. After many months of collaboration, the pieces are performed in a public concert by professional musicians, local choirs, and artists of all ages. Through witnessing our elders' songs and stories, we connect around what we share as opposed to what separates us, we bless and heal the past, and we hold our elders and the dying in their potential rather than their decline.

In addition to public performances and scalable concerts, **Lifesongs** has implemented the Story Gathering project since 2015. Story Gathering brings youth, community members, and elders together to share stories and life experiences. Participants collaboratively shape stories into new works of writing and art to present to the wider community. While deepening its roots in northern New Mexico, Lifesongs is carefully fostering and mentoring projects in other communities around the country.

In both the Story Gathering and the songwriting programs, we have worked with veterans from World Wars, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War and musicalized their stories through pairings with professional musicians in Santa Fe, New Mexico. In 2017, Orlando Vigil, a Korean War army veteran, told his story of both his time doing service and his life following through the musical style of a Corrido. Lifesongs artist Jordan Wax helped Orlando to tell his story while honoring Orlando's Northern New Mexico heritage.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, Military Families, Veterans' families, Artists, Educators, Volunteers, and Arts Organizations

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Non-profit non-arts organization (health, social service, Veterans)

**CONTACTS:** Laura Pancoast – Development Coordinator [laura@aloveoflearning.org](mailto:laura@aloveoflearning.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AcademyfortheLoveofLearning>

**Organizational Video** <https://vimeo.com/221024669>



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New Mexico



## New Mexico Veterans Art: Veterans Honoring Veterans

83 Paa Ko Drive  
Sandia Park, NM 87047  
505.410.3593  
<http://www.nmveteransart.com>

### Programs available:

New Mexico Veterans Art supports and promotes the talent of Veterans, active-duty, reserves, national guard artists and their spouses.

New Mexico Veterans Art actively organizes art shows and classes for members; the primary art show is the 20th annual art show held during November 2017 in the Fine Arts Gallery of the New Mexico EXPO in Albuquerque.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, artists, and arts organizations.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts – clay, ceramics, fiber arts, (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking; multidisciplinary; and visual arts – drawing, painting, sculpture

**Organization:** Non-profit non-arts organization (health, social service, Veterans)

**CONTACTS:** Roy L. Breckenridge – President [president@nmveteransart.com](mailto:president@nmveteransart.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/nmveteransart>



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New Mexico



## Keshet Dance & Center for the Arts

4121 Cutler Ave NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87110  
505.224.9808  
<http://keshetarts.org/>

### Programs available:

Military discount on Keshet Center for the Arts events (tickets).

Unlimited non-competitive scholarships for youth under 18 years - for Community Dance Classes (running in 3 sessions throughout the year; Fall; Winter/Spring; and Summer).

Work/Study volunteer trade programs for any interested dancer over 18 years (same session as Community Dance Classes).

Spring Break/ Summer Dance Camps \*limited partial scholarships available on request.

Dance for all ages and abilities - from 2 years thru adult; Ballet, Contemporary, Jazz, Hip Hop and Creative Movement + Adaptive Dance for physical or developmental disability; Dance for mature dancers (Fine Wine Dance ages 55+).

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military youth and children, artists, health workers, researchers, Creative Arts Therapists, educators, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Dance/Movement

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Shira Greenberg – Founder, Artistic Director [info@keshetarts.org](mailto:info@keshetarts.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/KeshetArts/>

Twitter @KeshetDanceCo <https://twitter.com/KeshetDanceCo/media>

Linked In <https://www.linkedin.com/company-beta/881172/>

Organization Video <https://www.youtube.com/user/KeshetDance/videos>



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## New York



## Creative Healing Connections\*

PO Box 69  
Bakers Mill, NY 12811  
(518) 576-2063  
<http://www.creativehealingconnections.org>

**Programs available:** Creative Healing Connections presents arts and healing retreats for women who have served in any branch of service at any time, as well as retreats for caregivers, and partners with Homeward Bound Adirondacks to present healing retreats for military families, and others. Since 1999 Creative Healing Connections has been presenting retreats for women living with cancer and other chronic diseases, which are open to veterans, and its specific programs for veterans since 2008.

Our Arts and Reintegration Adirondack Women's Retreats for Women Veterans focus on the unique issues arising out of military service, including invisible wounds. They provide veterans an opportunity to learn from others who have served our country on how to be both a citizen and warrior and gain the skills that will enhance quality of life. Some of our participants are coping with post traumatic stress disorder-. Some are homeless; some are challenged in being able to hold down a job, many suffer from MST (military sexual trauma) and TBI (traumatic brain injury). All these women are proved a place where they can connect, develop and continue friendships, gain new skills, express their feelings and heal. Our retreats are held in unique safe settings that take full advantage of the Adirondack environment of New York State. As one veteran said, "When I am here I feel that I am in a safe place where I can open up, share my feelings, and nobody's judging me. You feel good when you are here. It's just amazing."

**Military focus:** Veterans; Women that are Veterans  
<http://www.creativehealingconnections.org/retreats/veterans/>

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts - clay, ceramics, fiber arts (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking, Dance/movement, Drama/theatre, Literary Arts, Multidisciplinary, Music, Visual Arts - drawing, painting, sculpture

**Organization:** Non-profit arts; local, regional, national, international

**CONTACTS:** Naj Wikoff – Founder and Trustee [naj.wikoff@gmail.com](mailto:naj.wikoff@gmail.com).

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Creative-Healing-Connections-Inc/351044449616>



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New York



## Intrepid Sea, Air, & Space Museum

One Intrepid Square  
46<sup>th</sup> Street & 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
New York, New York 10036  
646.381.5158

<https://www.intrepidmuseum.org/veterans-and-military-families.aspx>

**Programs available:** The Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum's Veterans Access Initiative comprises a constellation of education programs, public programs, exhibits, events and benefits that reach out to veterans and their families. **Military Family Programs** provide a safe and supportive Museum experience for families of current and former service members. These programs include an hour of refreshments and games to help families get to know one another, an hour-long guided experience in the gallery, and an hour of hands-on design challenges and art-making that reinforces the program's theme and encourages families to work together. **Intrepid After Hours** invite veterans to experience the Museum at night without the typical crowds and join peers for conversation, a creative exercise and a catered dinner. These programs promote self-expression in all forms including visual and performance art, creative writing workshops, facilitated dialog and casual conversation. Only military service members are allowed to attend in an attempt to create a specialized, intimate environment for individuals with a shared experience. **Veterans Plus** events are special daytime or evening events that allow service members to bring guests, such as civilian friends and family members, to share in the experience. **The Council of Veteran Advisors** helps to identify possible opportunities, such as a film screening that speaks to the veteran experience or a special musical or theatrical performance. **Vet Video Chats** create social connections and stimulating conversations for veterans who require intensive healthcare services at home or in a hospital setting. Offered as a standalone or series of chats, the online program highlights objects and spaces within the Museum and allows individuals to ask questions, make comments and share stories. **Guided Group Tours for NYC Veterans** are customized to the particular interests, needs and goals for each group.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, educators, and Volunteers

**Program service providers:** Military Service members and Educators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** History and Design

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Barbara Johnson Stemler – Director of Access Initiatives [access@intrepidmuseum.org](mailto:access@intrepidmuseum.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/IntrepidMuseum/>  
Twitter @IntrepidMuseum <https://twitter.com/IntrepidMuseum>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/intrepidmuseum/>

LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/intrepid-sea-air-&-space-museum/>

Organizational Video <https://www.youtube.com/user/IntrepidMuseum>



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New York



# Albright-Knox Art Gallery

## Albright-Knox Art Gallery

1285 Elmwood Avenue  
Buffalo, New York 14222  
716.270.8249

<https://www.albrightknox.org/>

### Programs available:

The Albright-Knox is a Blue Star Museum and welcomes veterans and active military servicemembers and their families to connect with exhibitions, programs and events. In addition to free and reduced admission, we offer programming specifically for the veteran and military communities. Vets AK offers veterans, and their spouses or caregivers, opportunities to engage in group conversation in the galleries followed by a hands-on art making experience.

Blue Star Family Workshops connect military families through gallery activities and artmaking for all ages. All sessions take place on the first Saturday of the month from 2pm to 4pm.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, and military children

**Program service providers:** Educators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts (e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture)

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (arts e.g. Performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Karen Duval – Access and Community Programs Coordinator [kduval@albrightknox.org](mailto:kduval@albrightknox.org)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/albrightknoxartgallery>

**Twitter** @AlbrightKnox <https://twitter.com/albrightknox>

**Video** <https://www.youtube.com/user/AKAGVideo>



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New York



## Coming Home: Journey, Community, Dialog\*

138 W 17 St

Floor 5

New York, NY 10011

(212) 633-0324

[www.cominghomejcd.com](http://www.cominghomejcd.com)

**Programs available:** *Coming Home* is a public art experience conceived and developed by artist Brookie Maxwell, with a mission to build civilian-military communities to help heal the wounds of war through art and open dialog. *Coming Home I*, the pilot exhibition, debuted in June 2015. It featured works by Brookie Maxwell, and photographer and wounded warrior COL Gregory Gadson. Brookie Maxwell's drawings included portraits of veterans and service members whom she met and interviewed during her work with *Coming Home*. COL Gadson's photographs, shot in infrared, and printed on metal are a narrative of changing perception and landscape post deployment. *Coming Home* will begin to tour cities across the United States in 2017, in memory of creator, Brookie Maxwell.

Coming Home: Journey, Community, Dialog is a public art experience that honors and gives voice to warriors and their families, and heals the rift between America's civilian and military communities, creating a bright future for our country. Journey is an art residency culminating in resiliency-training for soldiers and the creation of the "Lazarus in Afghanistan: The Golden Hour" mural. Community is an installation of soldier's photographs of their daily lives, projected on Hesco bunker house. Dialog is a space for constructive civilian-military conversations. Journey is a resiliency-building project for soldiers, designed to strengthen "bounce back", trauma coping skills, cultural awareness, and consideration for others. Journey includes a workshop and a *casevac* reenactment drill. Journey includes a resiliency building workshop and reenactment. Journey will be photographed and the photos will be used to create a mural. Journey, Community, Dialog will be exhibited as an interactive public art experience that will tour CONUS, building awareness and support for soldiers and their families. Our featured photographer for Community is COL Gregory D. Gadson, a warrior, double amputee, movie star, inspirational speaker and photographer. Photographs from his deployment and at home will be exhibited as part of the Coming Home project as well as projected on a Hesco bunker house as part of the Community installation. Dialog will be an opportunity for spontaneous dialogs between any two civilian and military individuals and will also be used as a space for scheduled dialogs between American leaders and influencers. A voice-activated reflective pool will be installed at the Dialog space to encourage speakers to speak to each other with compassion and respect.

**Military focus:** Military service members, veterans, and their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Arts for awareness and healing of military and civilian communities

**Organization:** Program/Project under a non-profit organization; regional

**CONTACTS:** Ellis Maxwell [ellis@cominghomejcd.com](mailto:ellis@cominghomejcd.com)



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New York



## The Art Therapy Project!

132 West 21st Street, 6th Floor

New York, NY 10011

212. 592.2755

<https://thearttherapyproject.org/>

**Programs available:** The Art Therapy Project is dedicated to helping trauma survivors through the creative process. Centered around challenges of Family, Violence and Health, we are the only nonprofit in New York dedicated solely to providing guided art therapy to those seeking hope and support. We go beyond traditional talk therapy. Our clients and art therapists work together to turn negative energy positive.

The Art Therapy Project was the first, and remains the only, organization dedicated to providing free art therapy in the New York City area. The very first group we ran was for female veterans and they remain at the heart of our focus. Currently, The Art Therapy Project has two female veteran groups, three male veterans groups and two co-ed veterans groups. We also run workshops for military families, homeless veterans and veterans who have returned to college. All of our clients have experienced trauma and have been diagnosed with mental and/or physical ailments including post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), Military Sexual Trauma (MST), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), drug addiction and/or homelessness.

Art therapy is a unique combination of art and psychology that uses the power of the visual arts as a vehicle for healing, communication, self expression and personal development. It provides an alternative, non-verbal way for people who have experienced trauma to explore and express their feelings. Art therapy groups offer a safe creative space where people can form supportive connections, manage stress, and gain an overall sense of well-being. In a non-threatening therapeutic environment, the universal language of the visual arts can encourage emotional resilience, behavioral change, a new capacity for self-reflection and personal growth. With our Veterans groups we deal with issues around PTSD, MST, TBI, transitioning into civilian life, changing family dynamics and self identity.

**Military focus:** Military Service members, Veterans, and their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (health, social services, and veterans)

**CONTACTS:** Martha Dorn – Executive Director [martha@thearttherapyproject.org](mailto:martha@thearttherapyproject.org).

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/TheArtTherapyProject/>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/arttherapyproj>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/thearttherapyproject/>

LinkedIn [https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-art-therapy-project?trk=company\\_logo](https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-art-therapy-project?trk=company_logo)



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New York



## Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival

140 Main Street  
Cold Spring, NY 10516  
(845) 809-5750  
[www.hvshakespeare.org](http://www.hvshakespeare.org)

**Programs available:** HVSF engages the widest possible audience in a fresh conversation about what is essential in Shakespeare's plays. Our theater lives in the here and now, at the intersection between the virtuosity of the actor, the imagination of the audience, and the inspiration of the text. HVSF's Education and Outreach Department strives to increase access to, and participation in, Shakespeare and live theater, especially for underserved populations.

In addition to providing discounted tickets to our summer season at Boscobel for veterans, service men and women and their families, in 2015 we're producing *An Iliad*, a contemporary adaptation of Homer's epic poem about the fall of Troy, the original war story in our literary tradition. *An Iliad* will be included in our main stage programming, and simultaneously tour throughout the Hudson Valley region to facilities that specifically serve veterans and military families.

**Military focus:** Veterans, military families, veterans' families, military youth

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama and theatre

**Organization:** non-profit - arts

**CONTACTS:** Sean McNall - Associate Artistic Director [smcnall@hvshakespeare.org](mailto:smcnall@hvshakespeare.org)



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New York



## Warrior Songs\*

1437 Dean Street  
Niskayuna, NY 12309  
(518) 878-8579  
[www.warriorsongs.org](http://www.warriorsongs.org)

**Programs available:** Warrior Songs is committed to facilitating healing through the creative arts. Our mission is to assist veterans in more fully understanding and integrating all aspects of the military experience by transforming their traumatic experiences and struggles into a music and art which both inspires and is life affirming, thus motivating their continued healing. Warrior Songs hosts four day healing arts retreats for veterans designed to facilitate introspection, expression, creativity and connection. Held in a peaceful setting, retreats provide a safe container for each person's truth to be shared and honored. We explore departure, service, and transition home, allowing art to become testimony to the pain of war and to the joy of the healing process.

On the last evening, stories are shared through song and art form to a supportive gathered community allowing veterans to speak their truth and for family/others to provide a 'welcome home'. Warrior Songs retreats are all inclusive and free of charge.

**Military focus:** Veterans – recent combat, since 2001 (OEF, OIF, OND), Gulf War, Vietnam War

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Non-profit arts; local, state, national

**CONTACTS:** Paula Griffin - Manager      [info@warriorsongs.org](mailto:info@warriorsongs.org)



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New York



## **Songwriting With: Soldiers\*** (TX, NY, CA, MD, and VA)

Barton Oaks Plaza II

901 S. Mopac Expy – Suite 225

Austin, Texas 78746

512.387.5857

<http://www.songwritingwithsoldiers.org/>

**Programs available:** Songwriting With: Soldiers (SW:S) uses collaborative songwriting to transform lives through creativity, connections, and strengths. Our program pairs veterans with experienced professional songwriters, in workshop and retreat settings, to craft songs about combat and the return home. Through the collaborative process, participants build trust, forge bonds, and transform pain into art. Each event concludes with a performance of all the songs written. As the participants listen to each other's songs, an important truth reverberates: I'm not alone; other people understand how I feel. Service members are enrolled in ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers) as co-writers of their songs; they have ownership. After returning home, they receive CDs of their songs and lyric books with photographs, a lasting source of pride and a means of reconnecting with family and friends, co-workers and communities. "I can bring this song home and play it for my kids, and they can understand what I've been through," said one participant. Songwriting With: Soldiers also organizes collaborative songwriting events for military families. Parents and their children come together, share stories, and write songs. SW: S songs are available through our website, concerts, and social media, raising awareness and building bridges between military and civilian communities. Songwriting With: Soldiers covers costs for all participants and family members.

**Military focus:** Recent combat since 2001 (OEF, OIF, OND), Gulf War, Vietnam War; all military branches

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music; multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Non-profit health, veterans, national

**CONTACTS:** Darden Smith – Founder & Creative Director [info@songwritingwithsoldiers.org](mailto:info@songwritingwithsoldiers.org)

Mary Judd – Executive Director [mary@songwritingwithsoldiers.org](mailto:mary@songwritingwithsoldiers.org)

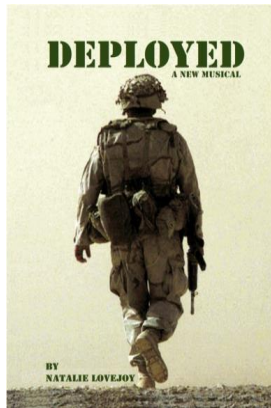
**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/SongwritingWithSoldiers>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/songwritingwith> Video <http://vimeo.com/97853485>



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
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New York



## Deployed: A New Musical\*

[www.deployedthemusical.nyc](http://www.deployedthemusical.nyc)

### Programming:

*Deployed* is a musical by former Army spouse Natalie Lovejoy that explores the impact of deployments on veterans and their families. It centers on the fictional story of a new Army recruit on his first deployment to Iraq.

The American civilian population is, for all practical purposes, disengaged from the military service. The recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have highlighted this disconnect, as the day-to-day life of the average American has not been affected by the fighting and bloodshed in these engagements which began more than 10 years ago. There presently is a deep chasm of understanding between those Americans that voluntarily enlisted in the military and served tours of duty in these two wars (with the resulting physical and psychological wounds) and those Americans who remained at home.

The hope for *Deployed* is that it offers a bridge for this chasm by providing a candid and compelling glimpse into these theatres of war and their aftermath, and into the lives of our veterans as humans first, soldiers second, in a way that is uplifting, educational, authentic, and memorable.

**Military focus:** Military service members, veterans, arts organizations, humanities organizations, military and veteran families, artists, creative arts therapists, health workers, educators, researchers, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/theatre and music

**Organization:** Non-profit (arts)

**CONTACTS:** Natalie Lovejoy – Composer/Lyricist/Librettist [natalie@natalielovejoymusic.com](mailto:natalie@natalielovejoymusic.com)

**Social Media:** Facebook [www.facebook.com/deployedthemusical](http://www.facebook.com/deployedthemusical)

Twitter <https://twitter.com/deployednyc>

Video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FxScBsQUQCc>



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New York

# ARTS IN THE ARMED FORCES

## Arts in the Armed Forces

220 36<sup>th</sup> Street, B520, Unit 21

Brooklyn, NY 11232

646.737.2137

[www.aitaf.org](http://www.aitaf.org)

### Programs available:

AITAF bridges the cultural gap between the United States Armed Forces and the performing arts communities by bringing the best of contemporary theater to the military free of charge. AITAF programming accentuates the shared humanity of all Americans by using performance to unite artists and service members and encourage dialogue. AITAF enlists artists of the highest quality and chooses thought-provoking content with an eye to what might speak to this particular audience.

**Military focus:** Military service members, veterans, their families, artists, and health workers.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/theatre

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (arts, for example, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museums, and cultural institutions).

**CONTACTS:** Clare McLaughlin – Executive Director [mclaughlin@aitaf.org](mailto:mclaughlin@aitaf.org)

### Social Media:

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ArtsintheArmedForces>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/contactaitaf>



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New York



## Theatre Communications Group/Blue Star Theatres\*

520 Eighth Avenue  
New York, New York 10018  
212.609.5900 x 228  
[www.tcg.org](http://www.tcg.org)

### Programs available:

**Blue Star Theatres** is a collaboration between Theatre Communications Group and Blue Star Families, with leadership support from the MetLife Foundation. The launch of the program was September 28, 2012, with 22 theatres participating. There are currently 153 participating theatres. Through Blue Star Theatres, we help to better connect theatres to military personnel across the United States.

This initiative is intended to recognize the contributions of service families, to build stronger connections between the theatre community and military families in communities all across the country, and to help in whatever small way we can to aid service people and their families as they seek to be integrated into the lives of their communities. Each participating Blue Star Theatre is offering discounted or complimentary admission to all military personnel and their families, as well as veterans. Education programs and other theatre opportunities may be discounted as well. Please visit the Blue Star Theatres map for participating theatres at [www.tcg.org](http://www.tcg.org).

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military youth and children, arts organizations, and artists

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/theatre

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Laurie Baskin – Director of Research, Policy & Collective [lbaskin@tcg.org](mailto:lbaskin@tcg.org)



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New York



## VA Hudson Valley Healthcare System, Montrose

2094 Albany Post Road

Montrose, NY 10548

914.737.4400 x3953

[www.hudsonvalley.med.va.gov](http://www.hudsonvalley.med.va.gov)

### Programs available:

The VA Hudson Valley provides a veteran centered, multi-modal arts approach. Please contact Rosemarie Rogers, MS, ART-BC, L-CAT for further information.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans and their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Literary arts and Visual Arts (drawing, painting, and/or sculpture)

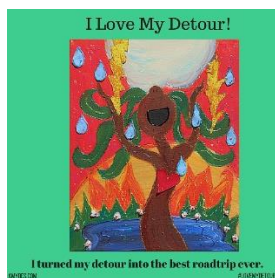
**Organization:** Program/Project/Department within a federal agency

**CONTACTS:** Rosemarie Rogers – Art Therapist [rosemarie.rogers@va.gov](mailto:rosemarie.rogers@va.gov)



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New York



## Love My Detour: Post Traumatic Gifts

Online: <https://amyoes.com/trauma> New York, New York

203.209.4948

**Programs available:** Post Traumatic Gifts is a program that combines storytelling, creative mental health advocacy and sexual assault prevention, which was originally devised for the National Mental Health America Conference. This program has toured internationally to organizations, conferences, hospitals and universities since 2012, in order to empower individuals struggling with physical and mental illness and provide communities with a comprehensive education on trauma and its psychological aftermath. The program can include:

**Part 1)** 60-90-minute multi-faceted keynote: “Gutless & Grateful” – a comedic yet poignant story of healing through PTSD. Through interwoven song and dialogue, this primal piece of live-storytelling is a powerful message that it’s possible to overcome physical and mental health obstacles.

**Part 2)** An educational session/speech on a compassionate approach to well-being, how to develop a resiliency toolbox, and how to feel comfortable reaching out to a support system. Individuals will learn self-soothing techniques rooted in mindfulness practices, creative arts therapies, and Somatic Experiencing.

**Part 3)** A Q&A session and creative participation segment: to introduce local and national resources for trauma, to explain symptoms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, to define Post Traumatic Growth, and to discuss trauma's societal impact, and the gifts that trauma survivors are ultimately able to share with the community. Participants will engage in creative exercises involving music, theatre, movement and art. This can also be used as an information session for friends and families.

Having been affected by illness, dissociation, disability and chronic conditions, Oestreicher's mission with “Gutless & Grateful” is to start a vital conversation for society on trauma's extensive impact, provide insights from a survivor's experience of the physical and psychological impact of PTSD, as well as tremendous gifts that can be reaped. Individuals will learn to come forward as survivors, allies, and leaders for all.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, health workers, researchers, volunteers, arts organizations, humanities organizations, students, survivors of PTSD and sexual violence, patients, and educators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Dance/movement, Drama/theatre, Literary arts, Music, Visual Arts ( drawing, painting, sculpture), storytelling, creative writing, Crafts ( clay, ceramics, fiber arts, woodworking), multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Independent Contractor

**CONTACTS:** Amy Oestreicher – Founder/Facilitator [amyoes70@gmail.com](mailto:amyoes70@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://amyoes.com/lovemydetour>  
Twitter @amyoes <https://twitter.com/amyoes>  
LinkedIn <http://www.linkedin.com/in/amyoes>  
Organization Videos [https://youtu.be/tvfl9x\\_w0bA](https://youtu.be/tvfl9x_w0bA)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0x5KtBAW2EI&feature=youtu.be>



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New York



TURNING THE PERFORMING ARTS INTO AN INTERACTIVE GLOBAL EVENT

## VirtualArtsTV\*

106 West 32nd, Suite 153  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10001  
917.992.2217

<http://virtualarts.tv>

### Programs available:

VirtualArtsTV specializes in interactive, state-of-the-art live-streamed theater, dance and music. VATV is expert at creating extremely high quality, lean forward live-streamed experiences that reach interactive audiences all over the world. Our live-streamed events have been trending topics on Twitter, have produced 1000's of hashtagged uploads from supportive viewers and have received major national and international press. Past Arts & Military clients include Exit12 Dance Company and the Patriot Brass Ensemble.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, veterans, military families, Veterans' families, military youth and children, artists, educators, and arts organizations

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Dance/movement, drama/theatre, music, and opera

**Organization:** A Live-Streaming Arts Company – multi-camera interactive live-streamed arts events

**CONTACTS:** Kathryn Jones – CEO [Kathryn@virtualarts.tv](mailto:Kathryn@virtualarts.tv)

**SOCIAL MEDIA: Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/VirtualArtsTV>

**Twitter** <https://twitter.com/VirtualArtsTV?lang=en>

**Video** <http://virtualarts.tv>

**Linked In** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/virtualartstv>



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New York

# robinbeckerdance

## Robin Becker Dance\*

345 Riverside Drive, 5A

New York, NY 10025

212.316.2958

<http://www.robinbeckerdance.org>

### Programs available:

Robin Becker Dance is a New York based dance company founded in 1987. Under the artistic direction of Robin Becker, the Company has an extensive repertory of work and is distinguished by performances in New York City at the Joyce Theater's Altogether Different Series, the inaugural season of the 92nd St. Y, Harkness Playhouse 91 Series, Florence Gould Hall, St. Marks Church-in-the-Bowery, the Fiorello Festival, the Merce Cunningham Studio Theater, and the opening performance series of the Joyce SoHo.

The company's dance work, *Into Sunlight*, premiered in 2011 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Hofstra University, where it was the inspiration and centerpiece for interdisciplinary conferences examining the effects of war and violence on the individual body and the social body, from Vietnam to our present era. The conferences addressed perspectives of History, Psychology, Political Science, Trauma Studies, Anthropology, Visual Art and Theater through the lens of war's impact. After every performance, audiences, which included many war veterans, were engaged in discussion, expressing their emotions, concerns, interpretations, and ideals for action. Subsequent performances include Georgetown University, the 92nd Street Y, Stony Brook University's Festival of the Moving Body, Florence Gould Hall, West Point Military Academy, and at Holy Trinity Diocesan High School, as the focal point of an extensive residency. *Into Sunlight* recently toured in Vietnam.

*Into Sunlight* Veteran/Military program includes performances of *Into Sunlight*, post-performance discussions and movement workshops. We hope to continue engaging the military/veteran and general community with dance that inspires dialogue, gives voice, and offers hope & healing around issues of war and violence.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military servicemembers, veterans, their families, and healthworkers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Dance and movement

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts - performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Gloria Hage – Executive Director [gloria@robinbeckerdance.org](mailto:gloria@robinbeckerdance.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Robin-Becker-Dance-128678943816219/>



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## North Carolina



### Arts Council of Wayne County VetStories

102 N John Street  
Goldsboro, NC 27530  
(919) 736-3300  
[www.artsinwayne.org](http://www.artsinwayne.org)

#### Programs available:

The Arts Council of Wayne County ensures the arts are thriving in our community by providing free arts programming, concerts, workshops, and festivals to area residents. As home to Seymour Johnson AF Base, we have many military families in our community. VetStories was founded in 2016 to tell their stories through poetry, music, dance, and theatrical presentations.

VetStories performances began Memorial Day 2017, workshops began Feb 2018 and will continue through the Spring, and performances are scheduled for May & Nov 2018.

**Constituents served:** Military service members, veterans, their families, military children, artists, creative arts therapists, health workers, educators, and volunteers.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Program service providers:** Professional artists, creative arts therapists, educators, volunteers

**Organization:** Local Art & Humanities agency (e.g. public, private, arts council or commission, humanities council, cultural and tourism agency, etc.)

**CONTACTS:** Wendy Walker – Executive Director [wendy@artsinwayne.org](mailto:wendy@artsinwayne.org)

#### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/artsCouncilofWayneCounty>

**Twitter** @ArtsinWayne <https://twitter.com/artsinwayne>

**Linked In:** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/arts-council-of-wayne-county/>

**Organization video:** <https://youtu.be/-GmuBaF-D2A>



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North Carolina



## Rudd Photography LLC\*

2525 Booker Creek Rd

Apt 2H

Chapel Hill, NC 27514

(910) 992-2769

[www.ruddphotography.com](http://www.ruddphotography.com)

**Programs available:** Rudd Photography is a Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business that focuses on providing high quality commercial photography to meet the needs of clients in and around the Chapel Hill and Durham, NC, region.

In addition, the organization provides outreach services to support the health, success and healing of veterans as identified through organizations such as the Veterans Affairs Department, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and American Legion, in addition to others. We are open to supporting volunteer and commercial projects that highlight our veteran community and support ongoing efforts to improve the lives of those affected by war.

Rudd Photography also exhibitions the work of its principal photographer, Hunter Rudd, to support efforts to increase awareness of the healing power that art has against trauma related illness.

**Military focus:** Military service members, veterans, and families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Photography, film, media arts

**Organization:** Service disabled veteran owned small business

**CONTACTS:** Hunter Rudd – owner [hunter@ruddphotography.com](mailto:hunter@ruddphotography.com)



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North Carolina



## Charles George VA Medical Center

1100 Tunnel Road  
Asheville, NC 28805  
(828) 298-7911 x2805  
[richard.kelly4@va.gov](mailto:richard.kelly4@va.gov)

**Programs available:** With the support of local, state, and national 'partners' we have two years' experience of programming in arts and the humanities, with four new programs set to begin January '16, all with a focus on the recovery and healing of our wounded veterans. We are also one of six pilot sites for the VHA funded MyStory project, ours devoted to capturing the stories of our World War II veterans as both a legacy and enhanced medical care initiative.

We're set to become an official workgroup within the organizational structure, with a multi-disciplinary membership to guide and lead the work throughout the medical center. We've received key support to build our programming from The North Carolina Arts Council, North Carolina Humanities Council, UNC-Asheville, a small group of talented, committed community artists and VA staff, and our leadership here. We've engaged our veterans to provide leadership with us.

The arts and humanities is a developing field. Its mission is aligned with the VA Blueprint for Excellence, the MyVA initiative, and the missions of the Office of Patient Centered Care & Cultural Transformation, and the National Initiative for Arts and Health in the Military. We are committed to putting into action the White Paper Recommendations of the NIAHM. Our focus is on our wounded veterans, but we believe as well that programming in the arts and humanities will also help our dedicated staff find more meaningful engagement with their work to enhance person centered care for all veterans.

Our most recent developing thrust is to help lead a collaborative effort, within the VA and beyond, to begin building a consensus-driven, meaningful evidence base for this emerging discipline. Those of us engaged in the work know it's deep value for our veterans. It's incumbent on us to demonstrate that.

**Military focus:** Veterans; Center for Community Living, Veterans Restoration Quarters, and combat veterans with post-traumatic stress

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Arts and Health; poetry

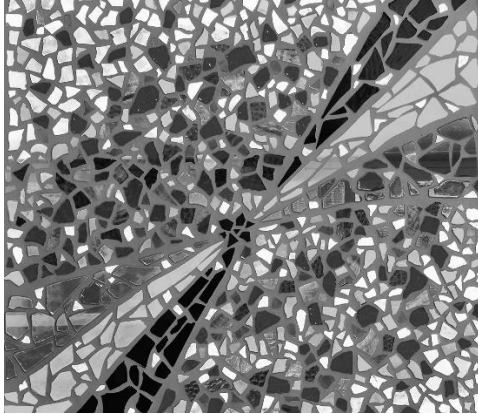
**Organization:** Veterans Department Division/Unit

**CONTACTS:** Richard Bruce Kelly, MD – Primary Care Physician [richard.kelly4@va.gov](mailto:richard.kelly4@va.gov)



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
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North Carolina



## Myahuasca Expressive Arts

22 Brook Forest Drive

Arden, NC 28704

954.260.2426

<https://www.myahuasca.com>

### Programs available:

Expressive Artist Jimi Seidel brings over thirty years' experience as Performer, Producer and Facilitator creating and delivering Arts based Programs to diverse groups in settings from Fortune 500 corporations to universities, schools and organizations. He brings the Arts to them in unique ways as tools for empowerment, self-discovery and healing through an Interdisciplinary approach.

Seidel is currently conducting ongoing Workshops at the Charles George VA Medical Center in Asheville NC and plans to expand to other facilities to help meet the needs of Veterans, their families and all those involved in their care as well as administration and staff. A no cost pilot program for the Charles George Veterans Administration Medical Center's Substance Abuse Residential Rehabilitation Therapy Program will focus on creating individual mosaic mandalas as well as group piece but may include other artistic disciplines such as music and creative writing.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military youth and children, arts organizations, humanities organizations, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, health workers, educators, researchers, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Independent Contractor

**CONTACTS:** Jim Seidel – Expressive Artist [myahuasca@gmail.com](mailto:myahuasca@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.myahuasca.com>



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North Carolina



## Dare County Arts Council

300 Queen Elizabeth Avenue  
PO Box 2300  
Manteo, NC 27954  
(252) 473-5558  
[www.darearts.org](http://www.darearts.org)

### Programs available:

In 2013, Dare County Arts Council began a series of artistic programs for veterans in collaboration with our areas most trusted civic partners - the Dare County Veterans Advisory Council, the Outer Banks Visitor's Bureau and the Outer Banks Community Foundation. The primary focus of our efforts has been a partnership with Ron Capps of the Veterans Writing Project in Washington, DC. Each of the past two years, Mr. Capps has led a two-day writing workshop for local and visiting veterans. In 2015, our program will expand to include more visual and performing arts opportunities.

The Outer Banks of North Carolina have a strong support system for veterans' programs. Our community has a healthy contingent of both retired and active-duty military and our local businesses and institutions are highly supportive of veterans programs. In addition, as a resort destination, we've been able to serve visiting veterans and their families. We are eager to collaborate with like-minded organizations on arts and art therapy projects.

**Military focus:** - Military Service Members, Veterans, Volunteers, Arts organizations, Military Families, Veterans' Families, Military Youth, Military Children, Artists, Creative Arts Therapists, Health workers, and Educators.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Local Arts and Humanities agency

**CONTACTS:** Chris Sawin – Executive Director [dareartsinfo@gmail.com](mailto:dareartsinfo@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/darecountyartscouncil>  
Twitter <https://twitter.com/darearts>



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North Carolina



## The Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County

301 Hay Street, Fayetteville, NC 28301

910.323.1776

[www.TheArtsCouncil.com](http://www.TheArtsCouncil.com)

### Programs available:

**The Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County (NC)** is a link between artists, cultural arts organizations and the community. Through its mission to support individual creativity, cultural preservation, economic development and lifelong learning through the arts, the Council administers programs in partnership with local agencies to stimulate community development. Home to one of the nation's largest military communities, there is a high concentration of military-affiliated residents and visitors. Arts Council programs are free and open to the public. Services include increasing access to the arts by funding arts, culture and history projects by area nonprofits; providing grants to individual artists; and producing events that showcase our community's diversity and unity. The Council has a long history of collaborating with our military neighbors. It facilitates the Artists in Schools program for all DOD schools on Ft. Bragg, collaborates with the Army Ground Forces Band, and partners with on- and off-post museums on relevant exhibitions. In 2011, the Council worked with all 100 North Carolina counties reaching 400 veterans, their families and community members to produce 51 amazing pieces of public art for the North Carolina State Veterans Park in Fayetteville, NC. The Council worked with artists who created service walls using military salvage materials to depict the core values of Commitment, Courage, Dedication, Heroism, Honor, Sacrifice and Service and provides continued support of the park that hosts over 50,000 visitors annually. Designated three times as an All-America City, Fayetteville embraces our active-duty, retired, veterans and family members. The cultural industry is deeply integrated with our military, who in turn immerse themselves as board members, volunteers, musicians with the Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra, teachers at our universities, performers with the Cape Fear Regional Theatre and more. It is a cherished partnership that makes Fayetteville/Cumberland County a great place to work, live and play.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military youth and children, arts organizations, humanities organizations, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, health workers, educators, nonprofits, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Local Arts and Humanities Agency

**CONTACTS:** Deborah Martin Mintz – Executive Director [deborahm@theartscouncil.com](mailto:deborahm@theartscouncil.com)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/ArtsCouncilofFayetteville.CumberlandCounty>

**Instagram** <https://www.instagram.com/theartscouncil/>

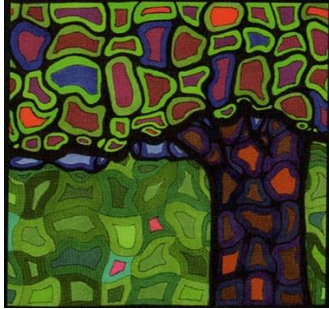
**Organization Video** <https://www.youtube.com/ArtsCouncilFayNC>



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North Carolina



## Sadie's Place for Veterans' Arts

6 Landover Ct  
Durham, NC 27713  
919.672.3340

[www.sadiesplaceforveteransarts.org](http://www.sadiesplaceforveteransarts.org)

### Programs available:

Sadie's Place for Veterans' Arts is in the developmental stage as a pending 501c3 non-profit corporation. The Durham, North Carolina general area is the anticipated flagship location for this 5-10 acre campus. Occupancy expected in 2017. IF YOU'RE A VETERAN AND WANT TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE LEADERSHIP PLANNING AND ACTION TEAM please message Diane Baren, Founder, below.

**Our purpose** is to provide a tranquil and private place for Vets to use their skills while working with other Vets in business or in the arts, and to be the best place to match a Vet with the partner they need in order to achieve their particular artistic goal.

We do this by acting as a larger whole, with a centralized Human Resources initiative organizing work and matching skill-sets across our small businesses and art studios.

A byproduct is a variety of vet-to-vet MENTORING possibilities in interesting business situations, either artistic or administrative. Additionally, there will be opportunities for Vets to share knowledge and coach students of Biomedical Engineering (prosthetics and exoskeletons) who need to complete the INTERNSHIP phase of their studies.

Our campus will have private grounds. It will also have space open to the public for family-friendly events we plan, and select veteran operated small businesses and art galleries.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, their families, Creative Arts Therapists, arts organizations

**Arts & Humanities focus:** A variety of arts by US Military Veterans

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Diane Baren – Founder      [diane.baren@gmail.com](mailto:diane.baren@gmail.com)  
[sadiesplaceforveteransarts@gmail.com](mailto:sadiesplaceforveteransarts@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**      Facebook      <https://www.facebook.com/sadiesplaceforveteransarts>



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North Carolina



## People of Pine

5203 Calumet Ct  
Aberdeen, NC 28315  
703.835.3866  
[www.peopleofpine.com](http://www.peopleofpine.com)

### Programs available:

People of Pine is a locally owned and operated start-up founded by transplant, Bridget Sheffler. Over the past three decades, Bridget has moved a total of 21 times since her military upbringing, career, and marriage. She has developed a solid reputation as a reliable source of information for local business and events wherever she goes. Her home is her heart, and her heart now belongs in North Carolina.

The People of Pine emphasizes events that impact the lives of native readers – what’s happening on local stages, fine arts, music, food, and where to go when readers have free time to appreciate their neck of the woods, in this case, pines. A key to the success of People of Pine is the dedicated members of the community. They live in the little triangle area and make a point to attend local events and be active citizens in the community. As we grow, we look forward to becoming an even greater and more important resource for area residents.

Bridget Sheffler is also a freelance graphic designer, photographer, and artist. She has already made her mark on the local businesses in the area including Moore County Head Start Program and Providence Group as a freelancer for Tier 1 Graphics Plus. She hopes to use her skills to capture your candid moments throughout Aberdeen, Pinehurst, Southern Pines, and beyond.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Servicemembers, Veterans, their families, artists, volunteers, arts organizations, and humanities organizations

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts (clay, ceramics, fiber arts (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking; design /architecture; film/media arts; music; and visual arts (drawing, painting, sculpture)

**Organization:** Independent Contractor

**CONTACTS:** Bridget Sheffler – Designer/Photographer [bridget.e.sheffler@gmail.com](mailto:bridget.e.sheffler@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Twitter [www.twitter.com/peopleofpine](http://www.twitter.com/peopleofpine)



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North Carolina



## Bright Star Touring Theatre

565 Long Shoals Road  
Suite 204  
Arden, North Carolina 28704  
336.558.7360  
[www.brightstartheatre.com](http://www.brightstartheatre.com)

### Programs available:

Bright Star Touring Theatre provides educational plays primarily at schools, libraries, historical sites, museums, and community centers. Young audiences are entertained and educated throughout the magic of theatre. We also offer residencies and theatre camps to empower our audiences around the world.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, artists, educators, and arts organizations.

**Program service providers:** Educators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/theatre

**Organization:** Non-profit non-arts organization (health, social service, Veterans)

**CONTACTS:** Joshua Batenhorst – Chief Operating Officer [josh@brightstartheatre.com](mailto:josh@brightstartheatre.com)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/nmveteransart>

**Twitter** <https://twitter.com/Brightstartours>

**LinkedIn** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/22299251/>

**Organization Video:** <https://www.youtube.com/user/brightstartheatre>



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North Carolina



## Homefront Room Revival

Goldsboro, North Carolina

910.622.0299

<https://homefrontroomrevival.org/>

### Programs available:

Homefront Room Revival is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching the lives of deployed service member's spouses, and military families in need, through complementary custom home decorating. The nonprofit is driven by a veteran/ military spouse to spouse comfort initiative where 90% of volunteers are active military spouses, veterans, and small military based artisan business owners. We are a donation and volunteer driven community initiative of re-purposing old furniture, adding personalized touches, and customizing a space plan to the likes and preferences of a military member's spouse; at zero cost to the project recipients. It is our mission to boost the morale of military spouses by building an authentic sense of military community. We believe in the therapeutic benefits of creating and surrounding ourselves with personalized art and home decor. We find painting and crafting a relaxing way to give back through a void we see in our own military community, home comfort and furnishing support. Through decorating and design we creatively serve the heroes on the homefront, military spouses.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, artists, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Refinishing furniture/home decorating; crafts – clay, ceramics, fiber arts, (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking; design architecture; multidisciplinary; and visual arts – drawing, painting, sculpture

**Organization:** Non-profit non-arts organization (health, social service, Veterans); arts (performing, visual, literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Kate Tinsley – Executive Director [kate@homefrontroomrevival.org](mailto:kate@homefrontroomrevival.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/homefrontroomrevival/>



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## North Dakota



### Nelson County Arts Council

121 Main Street  
PO Box 83  
Pekin, ND 58361  
701.296.4410  
[www.nelsoncountyarts.com](http://www.nelsoncountyarts.com)

#### Programs available:

The Nelson County Arts Council works with North Dakota Homeless Veterans' advocate Ellen McKinnon to bring arts and poetry in the lives of homeless veterans. An exhibit of their works and other Veterans' works are exhibited in Pekin, North Dakota the week of Veterans Day. Special stories are provided by Ellen to help the community to better understand some of the works. Donations during this time go to help Veterans in need.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, artists, and volunteers

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/theatre, music, and visual arts (drawing, painting, and sculpture)

**CONTACTS:** Jennifer Parker – Executive Director [ncac@gondtc.com](mailto:ncac@gondtc.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA: Facebook** <http://www.facebook.com/ncacpekin>

**Twitter** @NCArtsC <https://twitter.com/ncartsc>

**Linked In** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/nelsoncountyarts>



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## Ohio



## Vet Art Project\*

798 Bloomfield Avenue  
Akron, OH 44302  
(708) 715-5488  
[www.vetartproject.com](http://www.vetartproject.com)

**Programs available:** The Vet Art Project creates opportunities for veterans and family members to work with creative media to foster storytelling about war and service to attain a greater level of personal understanding, awareness, and peace. Programs include workshop series with expressive arts therapists for women veterans and women who support veterans and service members; male veterans; young adults from military families; and civilians who are interested in building bridges and assisting members of the veteran community. Workshops use a variety of expressive art forms including drama, art, music, and movement to foster storytelling in an affirming, accepting environment.

We partner with area arts organizations for veteran artist shows and more. There is programming for veterans who are homeless and refugee populations, too. College courses, staff trainings, half-day and weekend workshops are offered across the United States. Claude AnShin Thomas, author of *At Hell's Gate* uses these words to describe the healing power of storytelling: "Together we are much stronger than we are alone. This is how we can rebuild bridges, rebuild homes, rebuild lives. It is through this process [of storytelling] that we can begin to experience joy, the result of waking up and learning to live harmoniously with the whole self."

**Military focus:** Women veterans and women who support veterans and service members; male veterans; young adults from military families; and civilians who are interested in building bridges and assisting members of the veteran community.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** A variety of expressive art forms including drama, art, music, and movement to foster storytelling in an affirming, accepting environment.

**Organization:** Non-profit Program/Project; local, regional, national, international

**CONTACTS:** Lisa Peacock, MA, RDT – Founder & Director [vetartproject@gmail.com](mailto:vetartproject@gmail.com)



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Ohio



## Family & Community Services (Veteran Programming)

705 Oakwood St.  
Suite 221  
Ravenna, OH 44266  
[www.fcsohio.org](http://www.fcsohio.org)

**Programs available:** Family & Community Services, Inc.'s (FCS) veterans programming provides creative arts therapeutic programming for program participants. FCS provides over 100 beds to serve veterans who find themselves homeless in Northeast Ohio. Veterans participate in a 12-week homeless recovery program. Through this program veterans receive creative writing, drama, music, and art therapy. This is not merely creative art in therapy, but art as therapy. All therapists have their master's degrees and are registered with their discipline's board.

This program works in partnership with The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Grant and Per Diem Social Workers. The model has created a system where services are not being duplicated by the VA and the local service provider. It also allows the veterans to experience a variety of therapeutic and counseling programming to help them in their process of reintegrating into the community, obtaining income, and obtaining and maintaining permanent housing.

**Military focus:** Veterans; homelessness and re-integration

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Creative writing, drama, music, visual arts

**Organization:** Non-profit organization; health and social services; regional

**CONTACTS:** Matthew K. Slater – Director of Veterans Services [mslater@fcsohio.org](mailto:mslater@fcsohio.org)



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Ohio



## Dublin Arts Council

7125 Riverside Dr.  
Dublin, Ohio 43016  
614.889.7444  
[www.dublinarts.org](http://www.dublinarts.org)

### Programs available:

Dublin Arts Council engages the community, cultivates creativity and fosters life-long learning through the arts. Dublin Arts Council, based in Dublin, Ohio serves the community and the region through programming that includes award-winning interactive public art, a year-long schedule of engaging visual arts exhibitions, a 32-year-old annual summer concert series supporting local and regional performing artists and classes and workshops for all ages.

Dublin Arts Council further supports artistic excellence and education in the community by re-granting funds to community arts organizations and integrates artwork and cultural awareness into the community as both a project leader and project collaborator.

Dublin Arts Council serves as a thought leader for using art as the catalyst for social change and cultural cohesion in the community. In 2015, Dublin Arts Council hosted the photography exhibition Eddie Adams: Vietnam, developed in partnership with various veterans and social agencies. Response to engagement activities, which included a video feedback booth, a visit from a 1967 "Huey" helicopter, a letter-writing station, an audio timeline and educational workshops, encouraged Dublin Arts Council to begin to tour the exhibition, with permission of the photographer's widow.

Current planning is underway in collaboration with Department of Veterans Affairs Chalmers P. Wylie Ambulatory Care Center in Columbus, Ohio to add cross-disciplinary artmaking and veteran created artwork exhibition and/or performance components to the experience, with hopes to tour the project throughout the State of Ohio and beyond.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, their families, Artists, Health Workers, Educators, Volunteers, Arts organizations, and Humanities organizations.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts (clay, ceramics, fiber arts, woodworking), Dance/movement, Multidisciplinary, Music, Visual Arts (drawing, painting, sculpture)

**Organization:** Local Arts or Humanities Agency (public or private arts council or commission, humanities council, culture and tourism agency, etc.)

**CONTACTS:** Warren Williams – Manager of Community Relations [wgwilliams@kennedy-center.org](mailto:wgwilliams@kennedy-center.org)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/DublinArtsCouncil>

**Twitter** <https://twitter.com/DublinArts>

**Instagram** @dublinarts <https://instagram.com/dublinarts/>

**Linked In** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/dublin-arts-council>

**Organization Video** <https://www.youtube.com/DublinArts>



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Ohio

*Contemporary Art on The Square*



**20 Public Square, Nelsonville, OH 45764**

**MAJESTICGALLERIES.COM**

## **Majestic Galleries**

20 Public Square

Nelsonville, Ohio 45764

419.463.3775

[www.majesticgalleries.com](http://www.majesticgalleries.com)

### **Programs available:**

Majestic Galleries is a non-profit, co-op gallery. We hold 10-11 exhibits each year and have held classes/workshops in our galleries.

We currently do not have any specific programming for military servicemembers or Veterans and their families, but would like to be involved somehow. We are open to partner with VSO's or healthcare facilities, public or private. Any advice would be greatly appreciated!

**Military focus and constituents:** General population

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts – clay, ceramics, fiber arts, (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking; multidisciplinary; and visual arts – drawing, painting, sculpture

**Organization:** Non-profit non-arts organization (health, social service, Veterans)

**CONTACTS:** Connaught Cullen – Executive Director [majesticgalleries@gmail.com](mailto:majesticgalleries@gmail.com)

### **SOCIAL MEDIA:**

**Facebook** [https://www.facebook.com/Majestic-Galleries-Nelsonville-OH-352897116424/?ref=br\\_rs](https://www.facebook.com/Majestic-Galleries-Nelsonville-OH-352897116424/?ref=br_rs)



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## Oklahoma



## Tulsa Symphony Orchestra

117 N Boston Ave

Suite 201

Tulsa, OK 74103

(918) 584-3645

[www.tulsasymphony.org](http://www.tulsasymphony.org)

**Programs available:** Our program is titled **Heart Strings**. We send a chamber ensemble (woodwind, string, brass, or harp) to the Jack C. Montgomery VA Hospital in Muskogee, OK once or twice a month to perform for patients/family members, staff and physicians in a concert setting to entertain and bring the healing power of music to those who have served and serve. We also provide strolling musicians who are able to enter private patient rooms where desired, for those that are unable to attend the concert. We also provide performance tickets through the [Veterans Tickets Foundation](#).

**Military focus:** Veterans and families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music and performance

**Organization:** Nonprofit arts

**CONTACTS:** Todd Cunningham – Marketing Director [todd@tulsasymphony.org](mailto:todd@tulsasymphony.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook [www.facebook.com/TulsaSymphony](http://www.facebook.com/TulsaSymphony)

Twitter <https://twitter.com/tulsasymphony>



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Oklahoma



## Oklahoma Arts Council

PO Box 52001-2001

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73152-2001

405.521.2931

[www.arts.ok.gov/](http://www.arts.ok.gov/)

### Programs available:

The Oklahoma Arts Council is a state arts agency whose mission is to lead, cultivate and support a thriving arts environment, which is essential to quality of life, education and economic vitality for all Oklahomans.

The Oklahoma Arts and the Military Initiative will serve veterans in the state as part of their reintegration and clinical rehabilitation. Additional reach will be made to as active duty troops, including guardsmen and reservists, and family members. The initiative aims to aid community organizations in providing arts-focused programs to those who have courageously served our country. Additionally, we would like to build and strengthen the connections between arts and military communities and leverage the arts as part of the military experience in Oklahoma.

**Military focus and constituents:** Arts Organizations, veterans, military service members, and their families,

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** State Arts or Humanities Agency

**CONTACTS:** Chandra Boyd – Arts Learning in Communities Director [chandra.boyd@arts.ok.gov](mailto:chandra.boyd@arts.ok.gov)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OklahomaArtsCouncil>

Twitter @OKArtsCouncil <https://twitter.com/OKArtsCouncil>



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Oklahoma



## Oklahoma Contemporary Art Center

3000 General Pershing Blvd.  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73107  
405.951.0000  
[www.oklahomaccontemporary.org](http://www.oklahomaccontemporary.org)

### Programs available:

Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center encourages artistic expression in all its forms through education, exhibitions, and performance. We endeavor to instill in the public a lifetime appreciation of the arts and enthusiasm for creative practice. We are a nonprofit organization that offers art camps and classes for youth and adults. We currently offer free initiatives in ceramics and writing for veterans with approved scholarship applications.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, military children, artists, volunteers, arts and humanities organizations.

**Program service providers:** Professional artists, Veterans, Educators, and Volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts (e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture), Crafts – e.g. clay, ceramics, fiber arts, (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking, dance/movement, drama/theatre, multidisciplinary, and music

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (arts e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Lori Brooks – Director of Communications [lbrooks@okcontemp.org](mailto:lbrooks@okcontemp.org)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/OklahomaContemporary/>  
**Twitter** @OKContemporary <https://twitter.com/OKContemporary>  
**Instagram** <https://www.instagram.com/okcontemporary/>



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## Oregon



### Earthtones Northwest

5441 SE Belmont  
Portland, OR 97215  
503.284.6794

<http://earthtonesmusictherapy.com/>

**Programs available:** Earthtones Music Therapy Services, based in Portland, Oregon, provides several innovative music therapy and horticultural therapy programs for veterans, children and adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities, adults living with Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease, and people in hospice care. Facilitated by drummer and board certified music therapist Ted Owen, the Aluna Rhythm Project is a peer-centered rhythm-based group music therapy program designed to provide the following benefits for combat veterans experiencing war-related symptoms such as post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). — help build feelings of group connectedness and group cohesion — increase awareness of an expression of feelings — learn to modulate and control emotions — practice ways of changing or controlling behavior — increase feelings of control and empowerment. Program Offerings — Monthly Drum Circles — for veterans and their friends and family members.

6-8 Weekly Group Sessions — Presented in small group settings with 5-10 other veterans, participants will have opportunities to experience success, connect with others, and share experiences on a nonverbal level. As they participate successfully in music experiences, they begin to view themselves as an integral part of the group and begin to see their value as a person within a safe environment. Group sessions of 60–75 minutes duration are offered weekly in a confidential therapeutic setting at no charge to referred veterans.

**Military focus:** Veterans, friends, and families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music

**Organization:** For-Profit Agency providing pro bono work with veterans

**CONTACTS:** Jodi Winnwalker, LCSW, MT-BC – Director [Jodi@EarthtonesNW.com](mailto:Jodi@EarthtonesNW.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/EarthtonesMusicTherapy>



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Oregon

# MIRIAM REED One-Woman **POWERFUL Women** PRODUCTIONS

## **Miriam Reed: One Woman *Powerful Women* Productions**

Ashland, Oregon 97250  
[www.miriamreed.com](http://www.miriamreed.com)

### **Programs available:**

**MIRIAM REED** earned her doctorate in Comparative Literature (UCLA 1980) and launched a series of Women's History 101 one-woman performances to educate, entertain, and to inform. She is also the author of *Margaret Sanger: Her Life in Her Words* (Barricade Books, 2003).

As an advocate for women and women in history, Ms. Reed would like to perform for military audiences and in military communities.

### **MIRIAM REED'S** productions include:

Susan B. Anthony: Says a Word; Louisa May Alcott: Living Little Women; and Margaret Sanger: Radiant Rebel 1916. For details and demo videos, please visit [www.miriamreed.com](http://www.miriamreed.com).

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, military children, educators, and volunteers

**Program service providers:** Professional storyteller/performer

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/theatre

**Organization:** Independent Contractor

**CONTACT:** Miriam Reed – Artist [miriam@miriamreed.com](mailto:miriam@miriamreed.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/miriam.reed.3>

Organizational Video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dz5wr9j9ePc>



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## Pennsylvania



### Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra

Heinz Hall  
600 Penn Ave  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
(412) 392-4841  
<http://www.pittsburghsymphony.org>

**Programs available:** The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra's Music and Wellness Program utilizes the expertise of PSO staff and musicians to serve as a resource to patients, families, and healthcare staff in Western Pennsylvania in order to empower individuals to use music for the promotion of health and wellness. Through the Music and Wellness Program, the PSO works with music therapists and other healthcare professionals to bring therapeutic, live music to individuals at multiple Pittsburgh area facilities, including the H.J. Heinz Campus of the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System.

PSO musicians lead music and wellness sessions for small yet diverse groups of participants that include patients or residents, their families, and healthcare staff. By interacting with participants and performing relevant and meaningful music, PSO musicians help participants meet their physical, emotional, and social needs. PSO musicians have collaborated with the VA's music therapists multiple times since their inaugural visit on Veterans Day in 2011. At the VA, musicians have provided music that sparks memories and conversations during cognitive therapy group sessions. They have also energized participants and encouraged social interaction through large group programs, and they have relaxed and uplifted participants through bedside hospice visits.

To learn more about the program in general or watch videos demonstrating the impact of past events, visit the Music and Wellness Program website at [wellness.pittsburghsymphony.org](http://wellness.pittsburghsymphony.org).

**Military focus:** Veterans and their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music

**Organization:** Non-profit arts, regional

**CONTACTS:** Jessica Ryan – Education and Community Programs Manager  
[education\\_outreach@pittsburghsymphony.org](mailto:education_outreach@pittsburghsymphony.org) or [jryan@pittsburghsymphony.org](mailto:jryan@pittsburghsymphony.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**  
**Facebook** [www.facebook.com/PittsburghSymphonyOrchestra](http://www.facebook.com/PittsburghSymphonyOrchestra)  
**Twitter** <https://twitter.com/pghsymphony>  
**Video** <http://wellness.pittsburghsymphony.org/gallery/>



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Pennsylvania



## From War to Home\*

3900 Woodland Av  
Bldg 4100, Suite 202  
Philadelphia, PA 19104  
(215) 823-5800

<http://www.va.gov/FromWarToHome/>

**Programs available:** Veterans returning from deployments in support of Operations Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Iraqi Freedom (OIF) face complex challenges in making the transition to post-deployment life. The VA is uniquely positioned to meet the health care needs of veterans and support successful reintegration. However, many OEF/OIF veterans lack a sense of connection with the VA, and in return, VA leadership, providers and staff may have difficulty relating to the deployment and post-deployment experiences of combat veterans.

From War to Home started as a year-long participatory research project conducted by Gala True, PhD, in partnership with 29 OEF/OIF veterans, designed to help bridge these gaps in knowledge and understanding and to promote an environment of patient-centered care for OEF/OIF veterans within the VA. Using Photovoice methods, these veterans shared their experiences of military service, deployment, and homecoming through visual images and first person narratives. Collaboratively, the project team and participants developed an exhibit of veterans' photos and stories that premiered at the Philadelphia VA Medical Center in November 2012 and has since been installed at several venues within and outside the VA. In addition to the traveling exhibit, Dr. True continues to collaborate with veterans from the project to share the message of From War to Home with new audiences through presentations, interviews with the press, and publication in peer-reviewed journals. From War to Home provides a blueprint for conducting community-engaged research with a variety of veteran populations and opens up numerous pathways for improving care of OEF/OIF veterans.

**Military focus:** Veterans – recent combat since 2001 (OEF, OIF, OND)

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Arts & Health; storytelling

**Organization:** Veterans Department; national

**CONTACTS:** Gala True – Project Director [jennifer.true2@va.gov](mailto:jennifer.true2@va.gov)



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Pennsylvania



## **Drexel University, Department of Creative Arts**

Three Parkway, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
1601 Cherry Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19102  
267-359 5508  
[www.drexel.edu](http://www.drexel.edu)

### **Programs available:**

Drexel University's Department of Creative Arts Therapies is collaborating with the National Intrepid Center of Excellence at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center to examine the impact of their NICoE Healing Arts Program on Service Members who receive care at the NICoE.

**Military focus:** Military Service Members, Military families, and Creative Arts Therapists

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Dance/movement, music, and visual arts including drawing, painting, and sculpture.

**Organization:** University Department/Division/Program

**CONTACT:** Joke Bradt – Associate Professor [jbradt@drexel.edu](mailto:jbradt@drexel.edu)

### **SOCIAL MEDIA :**

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Drexel-University-PhD-in-Creative-Arts-Therapies/>



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Pennsylvania



## Operation Valor Arts

PO Box 5244  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206  
412.719.7677  
[www.ovarts.org](http://www.ovarts.org)

**Programs available:** **Operation Valor Arts (OVArts)** is a 501c3 non-profit organization whose mission is to secure Veterans the necessary resources to design and construct public art as a means to (1) process and interpret their experience of war (2) engage collaboratively with fellow service members to accomplish a new mission (3) connect with opportunities in art, design and technology fields and (4) create a lasting tribute to the service members and families who sacrificed so dearly. We focus our services on returning men and women from Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF).

**OVArts** is designed around an art and civic engagement model. Within this context, Veterans create art that acts as a catalyst to focus attention on the social and health issues they face and motivates the public to address these issues. Our programming is based on units, or Veteran Design Teams, each led by a professional artist. Using stories and experiences as inspiration for their projects, the Teams work collaboratively with architects, engineers, and landscape designers. While these individuals guide and mentor our Veteran Teams, they expose them to various career paths and new horizons.

**Operation Valor Arts** brings family and community members into our earliest sights with every project. When a soldier makes the ultimate sacrifice for his or her country or becomes disabled, not only is the loss felt by fellow soldiers and family but the wider community as well. We know that a new “mission” helps Veterans but equally important is our connection and support of families in their healing process. What is truly exciting about our innovative programming: Veterans themselves are empowered to create public art that tells their story. Historically, this work has been left to professional artists who may never have served nor experienced combat.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Servicemembers, Veterans, their families, artists, educators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Design/Architecture, Visual Arts

**Organization:** Non-profit organization – Arts (e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Allyson Holtz – Executive Director [aholtz@ovarts.org](mailto:aholtz@ovarts.org)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/OVArts/>

**Linked In** [https://www.linkedin.com/company/operation-valor-arts-a-national-veteran%27s-initiative?trk=top\\_nav\\_home](https://www.linkedin.com/company/operation-valor-arts-a-national-veteran%27s-initiative?trk=top_nav_home)



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Pennsylvania



## **Daniel F. Fonner\***

**Carnegie Mellon University/Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council**

6230 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Apt A3-E  
Pittsburgh, PA 15232  
304.771.6115

### **Programs available:**

I am a Master of Arts Management student at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA. Along with my education, I intern for the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council where I am currently researching the creative arts offerings at VA facilities across the U.S.

Upon completion of this research, I will publish a white paper describing creative arts at the VA. This baseline study can then be used to craft policy and legislation regarding veteran health through the arts.

**Military focus:** Veterans and creative arts for veterans within VA facilities

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Military/Veterans Health Policy Research; Creative arts

**Organization:** Research, Policy & Advocacy Intern within the Arts and Humanities

**CONTACTS:** Daniel Fonner – Research, Policy, and Advocacy Intern, Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council  
[dfonner@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:dfonner@andrew.cmu.edu)



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Pennsylvania



## Warrior Writers of Culture Trust\*

5026 Hazel Ave  
Philadelphia, PA 19143  
989.621.1934  
[www.warriorwriters.org](http://www.warriorwriters.org)

### Programs available:

We are a community of military veterans, service members, artists, allies, and healers dedicated to creativity and wellness. We use writing, painting, photography, and a host of other mediums to reflect on our experiences and express them creatively. Warrior Writers is a national non-profit organization, based in Philadelphia, with members and activities across the country.

Warrior Writers is a veteran-focused arts organization that fosters artistic exploration and expression through casual, welcoming workshops and retreats. By reflecting and creating in a comfortable space, we encourage and support healing and community building. Art making becomes the creative tool through which we understand and transcend experiences of trauma and emotional disruptions that are not easily identified but constantly felt.

Creative works are shared with the public in the form of books, performances and exhibitions, empowering veterans to share experiences openly and artistically, and providing opportunities for the broader public to understand veterans' experiences. Through Warrior Writers, veterans have created a network of support and reprieve where artistic growth is developed and lasting friendships are built. Using art as language, we help bridge the gap between veterans and civilians.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Literary Arts

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (non-arts)

**CONTACTS:** Lovella Calica - Director [lovella@warriorwriters.org](mailto:lovella@warriorwriters.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Warrior-Writers-100408730072553/>



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Pennsylvania



## Fine Art Miracles, Inc.

3307 Shady Ave. Ext.

Pittsburgh, PA 15217

412-432-9559

<https://www.fineartmiracles.com>

### Programs available:

Fine Art Miracles, Inc., (FAM), is a nonprofit organization that provides the cognitive, social and emotional benefits of Fine Art lessons, art and music therapy and social robot enhanced learning, to the elderly living in nursing homes and assisted living facilities, children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, veterans, those who are economically challenged and basically, anyone having difficulty with the activities of daily living. FAM works with all levels of capability, designing special programs for Memory Care Units and people with profound challenges, as well as for people who possess a higher cognitive ability.

We are a mobile organization, serving Western PA and Western NY. We bring our services to our clients, removing transportation as a barrier to participation!

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members and Veterans, and children and adults with challenges of all kinds.

**Program service providers:** Professional artists, creative arts therapists, educators, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music, visual arts (e.g. drawing, Painting, sculpture), and multi-sensory programs.

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Tess Lojacono – CEO [Tess@fineartmiracles.com](mailto:Tess@fineartmiracles.com)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/fineartmiracles>

**LinkedIn** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/tess-almendarez-lojacono-3bb52648/>

**Video** <https://about.me/tess.lojacono>



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Pennsylvania



## Carmen Gentile

900 Penn Ave. Apt 505  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
202.684.6519

[www.carmengentile.com](http://www.carmengentile.com)

### Programs available:

I am a longtime journalist covering who has covered the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq as well as other conflicts. My new book, "Blindsided by the Taliban," is a dark-humor retelling of my unusual injury in Afghanistan, prolonged recovery and return to front line reporting.

I am available for writing workshops and speaking engagements as needed.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, and artists

**Program service providers:** Professional artist

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Literary Arts, Film/Media

**Organization:** Independent contractor

**CONTACT:** Carmen Gentile - Author and Journalist [carmen@carmengentile.com](mailto:carmen@carmengentile.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/carmen.j.gentile.jr>

Other: <https://www.facebook.com/kbttbook/>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/CarmenGentile>

Linked In: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/carmengentile/>

**Organizational Video:** [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSVLa\\_I6wQaQERMDjuD-WnQ?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSVLa_I6wQaQERMDjuD-WnQ?view_as=subscriber)



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South Carolina



## Team Backpack Journalist\*

323 Harbor Pointe, 15  
Mt. Pleasant, SC 25464  
843.284.8026

[www.abackpackjournalist.com](http://www.abackpackjournalist.com)

### Programs available:

Scholastic Journalism Curriculum developed by A Backpack Journalist, we are considered a precursor to high school or college coursework focused on Mass Communication, Broadcast and Journalism. A notable fact, all careers require writing and good observation skills to succeed. Recently added film making for youth to adult.

Team Backpack Journalists, since 2009 and serving 1600 military youth and their families, we provide writing, photograph and film making workshops, military youth and family symposiums, and after school program venues

Our team as of this date has also published three books: *Nature Storytelling* (military youth, Colorado Springs, Florissant Monument), *Baseball, the RiverDogs and the Life of Larry Doby* (at-risk youth, Charleston, SC) and *Cars & Parts*, (at risk youth, Hendrick Automotive Group). Symposium books have been created for Oregon National Guard, the Florida National Guard and Colorado Yellow Ribbon Program.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military youth and children, arts organizations, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Film/Media Arts, Literary Arts, and multidisciplinary arts

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Linda Dennis – Program Manager [Ldennis@abackpackjournalist.com](mailto:Ldennis@abackpackjournalist.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/backpackjournalist/?fref=ts>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/backpackjrnlst/status/710632597483855876>

Organization Video <https://www.youtube.com/user/bpjvideos>



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## Tennessee



### Clarence Brown Theater

1714 Andy Holt Avenue

Knoxville, TN 37996

(865) 974-5161

[www.clarencebrowntheatre.com](http://www.clarencebrowntheatre.com)

**Programs available:** The mission of the Department of Theatre and the Clarence Brown Theatre Company shall be to achieve regional, national and international distinction by: providing quality programs of study at both the graduate and undergraduate levels, supporting a resident professional theatre to foster professional standards of production and performance, enriching the study and practice of theatre with projects and pursuits which facilitate national and international artistic exchange among teachers, students and professional artists, and providing a cultural resource for both the university and the larger East Tennessee community that affirms diversity and inclusivity in all their forms.

**Military focus:** Military Service members, veterans, and families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/theatre

**Organization:** University Department

**CONTACTS:** Robin Conklin – Marketing Director [rconkli1@utk.edu](mailto:rconkli1@utk.edu) or [box\\_office@utk.edu](mailto:box_office@utk.edu)

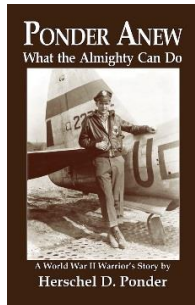
**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Clarence-Brown-Theatre/9042337122>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/clarencebrown>



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Tennessee



## My Father's War\*

PO Box 68226 Nashville, TN 37206 615-227-3876 <http://www.myfatherswar.org>

**Our Mission:** Through performances of the highest artistic quality, post-show discussions, and creative workshops, to honor and serve our veterans and to help our communities process the social and cultural effects of war with integrity, in an honest and responsible manner.

**Programs available:** On July 4, 1989, Lt. Herschel Ponder sat down at his kitchen table to write his war memoir. He began with a dedication to his daughters, "...I had a sudden urge to tell you about my war, World War II – and the subsequent coping – my peace...." His daughter, Carol Ponder, and her husband, Robert Kiefer, have adapted Lt. Ponder's powerful memoir into a two-person performance that honors the great tradition of Appalachian storytelling with compelling songs.

Lt. Ponder wrote in his storytelling voice – droll, sincere, and cruelly straightforward. He described his fears, his joys, and his struggle to remain human during and after an inhumane war; but it's not just about WWII. It's about going to war and coming home again in any generation. This production evokes the essence of war and warriors, their victories, sacrifices, loyalty to each other, and the sweet pain of coming home, including the struggle with PTSD.

The discussions after every performance are rich with shared experiences. Veterans and family members are inspired to tell their own stories, many for the FIRST time. Civilians share a new understanding of what we ask from those who serve. Supported by members of the military, mental health professionals, and theater-goers, Carol and Robert perform for diverse audiences in traditional and nontraditional venues. Counselors and clergy use the piece as a powerful catalyst for healing and understanding.

The performance and workshops are perfect for schools, churches, arts centers, community centers, and conferences – almost any setting. **MY FATHER'S WAR**, from a primary historical document, engages, entertains, and educates every audience.

**Military focus:** Active duty military, veterans, and their families, humanities organizations, any organization that serves veterans with PTSD and other unseen wounds of war, their families and communities, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, health workers, educators, and arts organizations.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/theatre; literary arts; multidisciplinary arts; music; and storytelling

**Organization:** Program/Project under the umbrella of a non-profit organization or fiscal agent

**CONTACTS:** Carol Ponder – Director [myfatherswar@aol.com](mailto:myfatherswar@aol.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PonderAnewAWWIIWarriorsStory>

**Twitter** <https://twitter.com/carolandrobert> **Video** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MEXHL5q-avw>



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Tennessee



## Tennessee Shakespeare Company

3092 Village Shops Drive  
Germantown, TN 38138  
901.759.0604  
<https://www.tnshakespeare.org/>

### Programs available:

**Tennessee Shakespeare Company** is a professional, 501(c)(3) theatre and education organization which performs the plays of William Shakespeare seasonally outdoors and indoors with partnering organizations; performs classical and Southern writers seasonally indoors and outdoors; and provides innovative year-round educational and training programming.

**Feast of Crispian South, the Memphis Veteran's Project:** We are currently serving 18 United States veterans, ages 19-82 in the Chemical Dependency Center of the Memphis VA Medical Association. This program, modeled after Feast of Crispian of Milwaukee, brings together service veterans with theatre practitioners to use the plays of Shakespeare in addressing combat-related traumatic and re-integration issues. More information on Feast of Crispian can be found in the Wisconsin section of the National Initiative Directory.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, artists, educators, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/theatre

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Carmen Mandley – Education Manager [carmenmandley@tnshakespeare.org](mailto:carmenmandley@tnshakespeare.org)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/Tennessee-Shakespeare-Company-118041651566246/>  
**Twitter** <https://twitter.com/tnshakespeare>  
**Instagram** <https://www.instagram.com/tnshakespeare/>



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## Texas



## VSA Texas: Distinguished Artist Veterans

3710 Cedar St. #7

Austin, TX 78705

512-454-9912

<http://www.vsatx.org/veteranServices.html>

**Programs available:** VSA Texas is the state organization on arts and disability. We are a nonprofit arts organization based in Austin, TX and our mission is to challenge perceptions of how people contribute by creating an arts-inspired, inclusive community of individuals with diverse abilities. One of the ways we reach this mission is through our Artworks: Creative Industries program. This is our career development program for artists with disabilities. We work with artists in all stages of their careers (or hobbies) to help with the business side of the arts. VSA Texas started services specifically for veterans with disabilities/wounded warriors in 2009.

We host an annual exhibition of veterans artwork called Distinguished Artist Veterans and provide writing classes for veterans. We provide opportunities year-round for artists to get involved with our Artworks: Creative Industries professional development program. This includes opportunities for visual artists, a monthly open mic, monthly mixed-ability dance classes, and more. Another aspect of our services for military service members is our classes held on military bases for children, siblings, and parents through partnership with the Exceptional Family Members Program. These classes include visual art, dance/movement, and theater. Finally, our Veteran program also includes working closely with veteran service organizations to provide in-person and webinar trainings to arts organizations who would be interested in providing art programs for veterans and military families in their areas.

**Military focus:** Veterans with Disabilities; Wounded Warriors

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Dance/movement, Drama/theatre, Film/Media Arts, Multidisciplinary, Music, Visual Arts (drawing, painting, sculpture), photography and digital arts

**Organization:** Non-profit arts; state

**CONTACTS:** April Sullivan – Artworks Director [april@vsatx.org](mailto:april@vsatx.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/VSATexas>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/vsatexas> Instagram <https://instagram.com/vsatexas/>



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Texas



## Songwriting With: Soldiers\* (TX, NY, CA, MD, and VA)

Barton Oaks Plaza II

901 S. Mopac Expy – Suite 225

Austin, Texas 78746

512.387.5857

<http://www.songwritingwithsoldiers.org/>

**Programs available:** Songwriting With: Soldiers (SW:S) uses collaborative songwriting to transform lives through creativity, connections, and strengths. Our program pairs veterans with experienced professional songwriters, in workshop and retreat settings, to craft songs about combat and the return home. Through the collaborative process, participants build trust, forge bonds, and transform pain into art. Each event concludes with a performance of all the songs written. As the participants listen to each other's songs, an important truth reverberates: I'm not alone; other people understand how I feel.

Service members are enrolled in ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers) as co-writers of their songs; they have ownership. After returning home, they receive CDs of their songs and lyric books with photographs, a lasting source of pride and a means of reconnecting with family and friends, co-workers and communities. "I can bring this song home and play it for my kids, and they can understand what I've been through," said one participant. Songwriting With: Soldiers also organizes collaborative songwriting events for military families. Parents and their children come together, share stories, and write songs. SW: S songs are available through our website, concerts, and social media, raising awareness and building bridges between military and civilian communities. Songwriting With: Soldiers covers costs for all participants and family members.

**Military focus:** Recent combat since 2001 (OEF, OIF, OND), Gulf War, Vietnam War; all military branches

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music; multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Non-profit health, veterans, national

**CONTACTS:** Darden Smith – Founder & Creative Director [info@songwritingwithsoldiers.org](mailto:info@songwritingwithsoldiers.org)

Mary Judd – Executive Director [mary@songwritingwithsoldiers.org](mailto:mary@songwritingwithsoldiers.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/SongwritingWithSoldiers>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/songwritingwith> Video <http://vimeo.com/97853485>



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Texas



## VetCraft\*

18771 FM 2252 Suite 9  
Bracken, TX 78266  
210-865-3367  
[www.vetcraft.org](http://www.vetcraft.org)

**Programs available:** At VetCraft we are dedicated to helping Military Veterans cope with and recover from the effects Post Traumatic Stress Disorder brought about by their experiences during and after their service to our country. Our organization aims to provide an introduction to the creative process and the stress management benefit that comes with it. Through our work together you will have the opportunity to learn a variety of craft skills that you can use anywhere to relax yourself and, if you are interested, to build a self-sustaining business. We offer everything from leathercraft and chainmail, to welding, bee keeping, and woodcarving.

We have volunteer instructors around the country willing to teach you what they know at no cost to you. Students will eventually be able to locate artists and craftsmen in their area and schedule their classes. Our goal is to have as many different offerings in as many locations as we can to help you find a skill that interests you.

Along with this basic offering we are also able to provide instruction in Mindfulness techniques through the assistance of the good people at the International Center for Mental health and Human Rights. They specialize in teaching grounding and centering techniques designed to help the individual focus on the "here and now" and control the fight or flight response governed by the Amygdala. We also have access to the BrainTones binaural entrainment system, developed by Dr. Erin Stair MD, as another tool assist in retraining the brain to better deal with issues such as stress, depression, anxiety, focus, and other aspects of PTSD.

**Military focus:** Military service members, veterans, researchers, arts organizations, humanities organizations, military and veterans' families, military children, artists, creative arts therapists, health workers, and educators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts; visual arts; design/architecture; and film/media

**Organization:** Veteran Support Organization, Veteran Founded, seeking non-profit (arts) status

**CONTACTS:** Tony Fantasia – Director/Lead Instructor [tony.fantasia@vetcraft.org](mailto:tony.fantasia@vetcraft.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook [www.facebook.com/vetcraft](https://www.facebook.com/vetcraft)

Twitter <https://twitter.com/vetcraftusa>

LinkedIn [https://www.linkedin.com/company/vetcraft?report.success=KJ\\_KkFGTDCfMt-A7wV3Fn9Yvgwr02Kd6AZHGx4bQCDiP6-2rfP2oxyVoEQiPrcAQ7Bf](https://www.linkedin.com/company/vetcraft?report.success=KJ_KkFGTDCfMt-A7wV3Fn9Yvgwr02Kd6AZHGx4bQCDiP6-2rfP2oxyVoEQiPrcAQ7Bf)



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Texas



## Monica E. Gomez - Expressercise\*

908 De Leon  
El Paso, TX 79912-4949  
915-584-9298  
[www.expressercise.com](http://www.expressercise.com)

### Programs available:

I am an individual writer and teaching artist, and the author of EXPRESSERCISE: Write Answers, a creative writing workbook that uses dialogue and prompts to elicit written work regarding a range of life experiences, including PTSD. When appropriate, I incorporate elements of music and meditative movement, qigong, which is related to the martial art of tai chi.

**Military focus:** Active duty service members, veterans, their families, researchers, volunteers, arts & humanities organizations, creative art therapists, military children and youth, health workers, and educators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Literary Arts, music, and multidisciplinary arts

**Organization:** Independent Contractor

**CONTACTS:** Monica E. Gomez - Artist/Owner [monica@monicagomez.com](mailto:monica@monicagomez.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** LinkedIn [www.linkedin.com/pub/monica-gomez/13/989/8a1/en](https://www.linkedin.com/pub/monica-gomez/13/989/8a1/en)



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Texas



## The Telling Project\*

1006 W Monroe St

Austin, TX 78704

917-843-8571

<http://thetellingproject.org>

### Programs available:

The Telling Project is a performing arts non-profit that employs theater to deepen our understanding of the military and veterans' experience. Greater understanding fosters receptivity, easing veterans' transitions back to civil society, and allowing communities to benefit from the skills and experience they bring with them. Through this understanding, a community deepens its connection to its veterans, itself, and its place in the nation and the world. The most direct path to understanding veterans' experience is person-to-person contact.

With the dramatic decline in the numbers serving in the military – less than one percent of the population over the last eleven years of war – this contact will not happen through day-to-day life. It must be created and supported. Through performance, The Telling Project puts veterans and military family members in front of their communities to share their stories. We give veterans and military family members the opportunity to speak, and their communities the opportunity to listen.

**Military focus:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, artists, educators, researchers, volunteers, arts organizations, and humanities organizations.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/theatre

**Organization:** Non-profit (arts)

**CONTACT:** Jonathan Wei – Executive Director [info@thetellingproject.org](mailto:info@thetellingproject.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tellingproject/>  
Twitter <https://twitter.com/TellingProject>



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Texas



## **Dallas Film Society: Veterans Institute for Film & Media**

110 Leslie Street Suite 200

Dallas, TX 75207

214.354.6077

[www.dallasfilm.org](http://www.dallasfilm.org)

### **Programs available:**

The Dallas Film Society, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, celebrates films & provides leadership in screen education.

The DFS Veterans Institute for Film and Media provides education, resources and mentorships for honorably discharged US veterans to prepare them for careers in the film and video production industry.

Film Basic Training is a 3-month, 3-phase, fully sponsored program that combines theoretical education (Phase 1) with hands-on experience through paid internships (Phase 2) & paid placements (Phase Three).

Participation is limited to no more than 10 students per session.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members and Veterans

**Program service providers:** Veterans

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Film/Media Arts

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (arts e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Maggy Croxville – Director, Film Basic Training [prospermaggy@gmail.com](mailto:prospermaggy@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/DallasFilmSociety>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/DallasFilm>

Organization Video: <https://www.youtube.com/user/DallasFilmSociety>



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Texas



## Young Audiences, Inc. of Houston

4550 Post Oak Place, Suite 230  
Houston, TX 77027  
713.520.9264  
<http://www.yahouston.org>

### Programs available:

For more than 20 years our organization has partnered with local children's hospitals and specialized treatment centers serving children to provide free Young Audiences of Houston programming for children undergoing treatment and their families. The goal of Young Audiences of Houston's Healing Arts programming is to use the tremendous power of the arts to spread joy, give hope, manage pain, support treatment, and leave positive memories for hospitalized children and their caregivers.

In addition, as many hospitalized children are required to be out of school for extended periods of time, Young Audiences of Houston programs also serve to enrich children's social, cultural, and academic education. Young Audiences Healing Arts programs also serve homeless youth facing challenging and tackling issues, the arts become a valuable tool for creation, discovery, expression, teamwork, cooperation and healing.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veteran's families, Artists, Creative Arts Therapists, Health workers, Educators, Volunteers, and Arts organizations

**Program service providers:** Artists and Art Therapists

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (arts e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Mary Curry Mettenbrink – Executive Director [mary@yahouston.org](mailto:mary@yahouston.org)

<b>SOCIAL MEDIA:</b>	<b>Facebook</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/yahouston/">https://www.facebook.com/yahouston/</a>
	<b>Twitter</b>	@yahouston <a href="https://twitter.com/yahouston?lang=en">https://twitter.com/yahouston?lang=en</a>
	<b>Video:</b>	<a href="https://vimeo.com/121492028">https://vimeo.com/121492028</a>



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## Utah



### Art Access

230 S 500 W  
Suite 125  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101  
(801) 328-0703

<http://www.accessart.org/programs/veterans-workshops>

**Programs available:** Our Mission: Art Access provides equal opportunities to inclusive arts programming for Utahns with disabilities and those with limited access to the arts. Our Vision: Our vision is to create community understanding that the arts are a universal vehicle to celebrate our differences and ultimately connect people. Our History: Founded in 1984, Art Access is a community-focused organization that strives to share our philosophy of inclusion. We offer twelve mission-driven programs, including gallery exhibitions, workshops, artist residencies, literary arts activities, professional development, and community outreach. Many of these programs have benefitted from partnerships with local educational, artistic, and public service organizations.

We are an affiliate of VSA, which is a program of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts through its Office of VSA & Accessibility, and we recently have been assigned ZAP Tier 1 status and awarded an NEA Art Works grant. We are the only arts organization in Utah that focuses on serving individuals with disabilities. We are currently celebrating 30 years of making a creative difference in our community!

**Veterans Workshops:** Art Access partners with the George E. Wahlen Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center to provide a series of art workshops for veterans. Workshops are open to veterans of the U.S. Military. Space is limited to twelve participants per each 4-week workshop session. Four sessions are offered annually. We also recently developed a partnership with the University of Utah's Veterans Support Center to offer creative writing workshops to student veterans, as well as veterans from the broader community. Workshops in 2015 will focus on writing short memoir. We will also host a book group featuring texts by female veterans, as well as an inaugural annual Veterans Art exhibition and literary salon that will publicly feature participant artwork and creative writing.

**Military focus:** Veterans and family members

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Creative writing; multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Non-profit arts; regional

**CONTACTS:** Amanda Finlayson – Programs Director [amanda@accessart.org](mailto:amanda@accessart.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook [www.facebook.com/pages/Art-Access/21382787](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Art-Access/21382787)

Twitter <https://twitter.com/artaccess> Instagram [@artaccessgallery](https://www.instagram.com/artaccessgallery)

Pinterest <https://www.pinterest.com/accessart1984/>



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## Vermont



## Vermont Veterans Home

325 North Street  
Bennington, VT 05201  
802.447.6539  
[www.vvh.vermont.gov](http://www.vvh.vermont.gov)

### Programs available:

The Vermont Veterans Home works closely with the Vermont Arts Exchange to provide our Veterans and Members the ability to express themselves via art. Art therapy is an important part of the lives of our Veterans with dementia and PTSD.

We also use individualized iPods for our Veterans and Members to help deal with symptoms of depression, anxiety, PTSD, and dementia.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans and Veterans' families

**Program service providers:** professional artists and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music, Visual Arts (e.g. drawing, painting, and sculpture)

**Organization:** Public Agency (Federal, State, Local)

**CONTACT:** Gary Yelle – Director of Marketing and Admission [gary.yelle@vermont.gov](mailto:gary.yelle@vermont.gov)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/vtvetshome/>



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Vermont



## Saragail Benjamin

17 Mansion St.

Winooski, Vermont 05404

914.500.7157

<http://www.saragailbenjamin.com/>

**Programs available:** GROUP DRUMMING FOR RENEWAL & CELEBRATION Everyone plays a drum. Play, rhythm games, and in-the-moment music-making alternate with targeted discussion and stress reduction exercises. Why drums? Drums are fun. Playing makes people happy. Drum play has been clinically proven to reduce stress and support healing.

*What? How does that work?* No one knows, exactly. But... You need to be fully present to play in a drum circle. You need to breathe. Be in the moment. Be aware. Feelings emerge. The drum circle becomes a safe space where people can connect with their own deepest selves, the people in the circle, their families, their communities, and their own joy in life.

Anyone can participate, no previous musical training required. We have age-appropriate programs for all ages, 1 to 102. We provide instruments for everyone to play for the duration of each program. We can handle programs ranging 12-500 participants.

Drum circle facilitator, Saragail Benjamin, has 30+ years' experience working with people dealing with challenges like PTSD, depression, anxiety, cancer, MS, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, autism, and more. Out of this work, Saragail created her Playalong video project: [www.SaragailBenjamin.com/Playalong-App](http://www.SaragailBenjamin.com/Playalong-App). Stream the free app and sound sets (Latin and African drums, monsters, laughing, unicorns & fairies, & more!) and play along with Saragail's video, *DEEP DOWN*, or any YouTube video. In her healing work, Saragail experienced firsthand the healing power of drumming. With her playalong app, she makes that power available to anyone, anywhere, anytime.

Saragail lives in Winooski, VT. She continues her healing drum work and brings communities together with drumming events, teambuilding and leadership programs, music classes, and celebration.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, military children, musicians, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, health workers, Educators, Researchers, Volunteers, Arts and Humanities organizations

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music and Multidisciplinary **Organization:** Independent Contractor

**CONTACT:** Saragail Benjamin – Artist/Musician, Drum Circle Facilitator [Saragail@SaragailBenjamin.com](mailto:Saragail@SaragailBenjamin.com)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/SaragailBenjaminWordsandMusic/>

**Twitter** <https://twitter.com/SaragailB>

**Organizational Video** [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC15yoRwcGZQ\\_1SnTpPKZdFQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC15yoRwcGZQ_1SnTpPKZdFQ)



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Vermont



## World Story Exchange

PO Box 41  
Norwich, Vermont 05055  
603.359.7983  
[www.worldstoryexchange.org](http://www.worldstoryexchange.org)

### Programs available:

World Story Exchange partners with schools and educational organizations to offer documentary story creation workshops to youth and groups of individuals. Our workshops invite students to explore their lives, their dreams, their concerns, while finding their creative voice using a variety of media tools and artistic approaches. We teach photography, filmmaking, writing, painting and drawing - all from a documentary perspective with ethnographic ethics. The students' finished stories, with permission, are then shared with their local community before being shared with a group of students in another part of the world. The second group of students then responds by making their own documentary stories through a World Story Exchange workshop.

In this way students learn about the world not from mass-media representations, but directly from the eyes and minds of their peers. Our workshops provide a space for young people to think critically about their communities, to imagine change, and to value their ideas for how the world could be.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, their families, military children, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, Educators, Volunteers, Arts organizations, and Humanities organizations

**Program service providers:** Professional artists and Educators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Film/Media Arts, Multidisciplinary, and Documentary Storytelling

**Organization:** Independent Contractor

**CONTACT:** Lindsay McClure – Co-Director/Teacher [lindsay@worldstoryexchange.org](mailto:lindsay@worldstoryexchange.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/worldstoryexchange/>  
Organization Video <https://www.worldstoryexchange.org/projects-new->



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## Virginia



## The Center for American Military Music Opportunities\*

8651 John J Kingman Road  
#104

Fort Belvoir, VA 22060

888.562.6220

[www.cammomusic.org](http://www.cammomusic.org)

**Programs available:** The Center for American Military Music Opportunities (CAMMO), is an innovative 501(c)3 nonprofit organization committed to joining American Service members, Veterans and family members together to share their love of music, performance, production, writing and entertainment technology, as well as benefiting from the healing power of music and sound. CAMMO was founded in 2009 by U.S. Navy veteran Cathie Lechareas and U.S. Army veteran Victor Hurtado.

### Our Mission:

1. Create music based therapeutic programming and outlets for Service Members, Veterans and Family Members.
2. To Train and educate Service Members, Veterans in music industry career opportunities including artist development.

**Military focus:** All branches, service members, veterans, and family members

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music

**Organization:** Non-profit

**CONTACTS:** Cathie Lechareas – Executive Director/Co-founder    [cathie@cammomusic.org](mailto:cathie@cammomusic.org)

**MEDIA CONTACT:** Christine Colburne    [Christine @commomusic.org](mailto:Christine@commomusic.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**      Facebook    <https://www.facebook.com/cammomusic>

Twitter    [https://twitter.com/cammo\\_music](https://twitter.com/cammo_music)



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
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Virginia



## Workhouse Arts Center Military Arts Initiative

9518 Workhouse Way  
Lorton, Virginia 22079  
703.584.2900

<http://www.workhousearts.org/>

**Programs available:** The **Workhouse Military in the Arts Initiative (WMAI)** is a program developed from a desire to provide access to greater art therapeutic services and free classes in arts, for the benefit of current and former military members and their families. The programs materials, facilities and services, together with the time from our program artists, are provided through fundraising, donations or supplied by sponsors. Through this we are able to provide free regular monthly art activities, developed to provide an exploratory experience in a range of visual arts. Below is a list of the programmatic goals broken into the categories of personal growth of individual participants in our program, the social impact on that participant, and what we hope to achieve as an organization in support of current and former military members and their families. Participants engage in whole human wellness for transformative experiences in therapeutic art making, performance art, culinary arts, and health and wellness as a multidisciplinary experience designed to support healing.

The Workhouse currently consists of six artist studio buildings, the main galleries, and the W-3 Theatre. We support over 100 professional and emerging artists by providing them affordable studios and galleries to exhibit their work. Instead of only viewing the art, visitors are encouraged to interact with the artists when they visit. In addition to visual arts, the Workhouse Arts Center is home to performing arts, including: theater; musical theater; film; music; and dance performances. The Workhouse also offers over 800 arts education classes and workshops in a broad spectrum of art disciplines.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, artists, Creative Arts Therapists, health workers, educators, researchers, volunteers, arts and humanities organizations

**Program service providers:** Professional artists, creative arts therapists, and educators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts (e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture), crafts (e.g. clay, ceramics, fiber arts, woodworking), fiber arts (quilting, weaving, needlework), dance/movement, design/architecture, drama/theatre, film/media, literary arts, music, and multidisciplinary,

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization

**CONTACT:** Debra Balestreri – Director of Visual Arts Education [debrabalestreri@workhousearts.org](mailto:debrabalestreri@workhousearts.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/workhouseMAI>  
<https://www.facebook.com/WorkhouseArts>



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## Arts on the Horizon

1100 Wythe Street #26093  
Alexandria, VA 22313  
(703) 967-0437  
[www.ArtsOnTheHorizon.org](http://www.ArtsOnTheHorizon.org)

**Programs available:** **Arts on the Horizon** was founded as a non-profit theatre company with a unique and specific focus of providing performances and education programs for young people ages 0 to 6 years old. We were the first theatre company in the country to focus our work solely on this age range. **Arts on the Horizon** strives to present high-quality theater for young audiences and their families at an affordable rate. We believe that the arts play an important role in the life of a child. Our interactive, nonverbal shows are performed by professional, adult actors. We offer ticket discounts for active duty military personnel and their families to all of our performances located in the Northern Virginia area.

**Military focus:** Discount tickets for active duty military personnel and their families; children of military ages 0-6

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Theater, performance

**Organization:** Non-Profit (arts)

**CONTACTS:** Michelle Kozlak – Producing Artistic Director [mkozlak@ArtsOnTheHorizon.org](mailto:mkozlak@ArtsOnTheHorizon.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ArtsOnTheHorizon>

Twitter [https://twitter.com/arts\\_on\\_horizon](https://twitter.com/arts_on_horizon)



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## The Art League

105 N Union Street  
Alexandria, VA 22207

703.549.5450 x11

<http://www.theartleague.org>

### Programs available:

**The IMPart visual arts education program** at The Art League connects returning Injured Military Personnel with transformative art experiences. These experiences are designed for creative enrichment, relaxed social engagement, redevelopment of fine motor skills, and expressive catharsis.

IMPart is an evolving partnership between The Art League, Fort Belvoir's Warriors in Transition Unit B, the USO of Washington Metro, and the National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE) for patients dealing with TBI, PTS, and other psychological health conditions.

IMPart participants, their techs, caregivers, and families are provided with artist-led, visual arts education every week, 50 weeks a year, on-site at The League's ceramics and metals studios.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts ((clay, ceramics, fiber arts – quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking and Visual arts (drawing, painting, sculpture)

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Suzanne Bethel – Executive Director [suzanneb@theartleague.org](mailto:suzanneb@theartleague.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/theartleague>

Twitter @theartleague <https://twitter.com/theartleague>

Organization Video <http://www.youtube.com/theartleague>



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## Beyond High C \*

714.728.2144

<http://www.beyondhighc.com>

### Programs available:

We help veterans and other service members with brain injuries reduce social isolation, depression and anxiety through live, interactive online video conferences where they talk with one another, engage with musical elements and make music together.

Participants are grouped by age, ability level and circumstance, so caregiver, family member and Military children's groups are also available.

We are based in Virginia but operate online to reach and connect our constituency nationally.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, and military children

**Program service providers:** Professional artists and educators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music

**Organization:** For-profit arts LLC, although costs are very low

**CONTACT:** Kiersten Kanaster – Founder [beyondhighc@gmail.com](mailto:beyondhighc@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/beyondhighc>

Twitter @beyondhighc <https://twitter.com/beyondhighc>

Linked In <https://www.linkedin.com/in/kiersten-kanaster/>



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Virginia



## MTBC Music for Wellness, LLC

PO Box 9372

Norfolk, VA 23505

(757) 563-3488

<http://music4wellness.net/>

**Programs available:** Music for Wellness, LLC provides products and programs to enhance the quality of life in supporting the health and well-being of veterans, community heroes and retirees through the active use of MUSIC. We provide recreational music making experiences through drumming, keyboard and other musical experiences to enhance the quality of life, health and well-being of aging seniors and veterans. We utilize an evidenced based program with research demonstrating that one hour of group empowerment drumming boosted immune system, increased mood, decreased stress and anxiety, and bonding. Additionally, we provide private or group “strumming up health” lessons on guitar or ukulele (you are never too old to learn how to play an instrument)!

Currently we provide music therapy services and recreational music making services to all veterans, military service members and their families in the southeast Virginia area (Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Newport News, Hampton, Williamsburg, Portsmouth). We partner with military health organizations at the 16 military bases. We facilitate Drum Circles for Wellness Centers, Independent Care Facilities, Over age 55 communities, Nursing Homes, Adult Day Care Facilities, Health Care Facilities, Hospital and Clinical Settings, Support Group Meetings (i.e. Cancer, Alzheimer's, Dementia, Diabetes), Corporate Wellness Programs, Nonprofit Organizations, Spiritual Gatherings, Retreats, Community Building, Religious Celebrations, and more.

**Military focus:** Veterans, military service members, and their families Regionally - southeast Virginia area (Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Newport News, Hampton, Williamsburg, Portsmouth)

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music

**Organization:** Independent contractor – Arts and Humanities

**CONTACTS:** Becky Watson, MBA, MT-BC - Founder and Owner    [Becky@music4wellness.net](mailto:Becky@music4wellness.net)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**

**Facebook**    <https://www.facebook.com/MusicForWellness>

**Twitter**    <https://twitter.com/music4well>

**Video**    <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mpWoDhEYULA>



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## Arlington Arts Center

3550 Wilson Blvd  
Arlington, VA 22201  
(703) 248-6800  
[www.arlingtonartscenter.org](http://www.arlingtonartscenter.org)

**Programs available:** Arlington Arts Center (AAC) is a nonprofit contemporary visual arts center dedicated to presenting and supporting new work by regional artists in the mid-Atlantic States. Through exhibitions, educational programs, and subsidized studio spaces, AAC serves as a bridge between artists and the public. The goal is to increase awareness, appreciation of, and involvement in, the visual arts in Arlington County VA and the region. AAC was established in 1974 and has been housed since 1976 in the historic Maury School. Our facility includes nine exhibition galleries, working studios for thirteen artists, and three classrooms. At 17,000 square feet, we are one of the largest non-federal venues for contemporary art in the Washington metropolitan area.

**Military focus:** Military service members, active duty, veterans, military families, and caregivers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Film/Media Arts, Multidisciplinary, Visual Arts, (drawing, painting, sculpture)

**Organization:** Non-profit organization; arts; local, regional, state

**CONTACTS:** Holly Koons McCullough – Executive Director [director@arlingtonartscenter.org](mailto:director@arlingtonartscenter.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/arlingtonartscenter>  
Twitter <https://twitter.com/findyourartist>



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Tidewater Arts Outreach

## Tidewater Arts Outreach

809 Brandon Avenue suite 300  
Norfolk, VA 23517  
(757) 965.9211  
[www.tidewaterartsoutreach.org](http://www.tidewaterartsoutreach.org)

### Programs available:

Utilizing the talents of artists within the Hampton Roads, Virginia community, Tidewater Arts Outreach (TAO) presents participatory arts programs in a wide variety of genres for adults in the Hampton VA Domiciliary, children of military families receiving care at the Portsmouth Naval Medical Center, and military caregivers residing in the Hampton Roads region.

TAO's programs include hands-on visual art workshops, drum circles, jam sessions, performing arts and participatory music-making sessions.

**Military focus:** Military service members, veterans, and military families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Arts and Health

**Organization:** Non-profit arts; local

**CONTACTS:** MaryAnn Toboz – Founder & Executive Director [maryann@tidewaterartsoutreach.org](mailto:maryann@tidewaterartsoutreach.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/TidewaterArts>

Twitter <https://www.facebook.com/TidewaterArts>

Instagram <https://instagram.com/tidewaterartsoutreach/>



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## Songwriting With: Soldiers\* (TX, NY, CA, MD, and VA)

Barton Oaks Plaza II

901 S. Mopac Expy – Suite 225

Austin, Texas 78746

512.387.5857

<http://www.songwritingwithsoldiers.org/>

**Programs available:** Songwriting With: Soldiers (SW:S) uses collaborative songwriting to transform lives through creativity, connections, and strengths. Our program pairs veterans with experienced professional songwriters, in workshop and retreat settings, to craft songs about combat and the return home. Through the collaborative process, participants build trust, forge bonds, and transform pain into art. Each event concludes with a performance of all the songs written. As the participants listen to each other's songs, an important truth reverberates: I'm not alone; other people understand how I feel. Service members are enrolled in ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers) as co-writers of their songs; they have ownership. After returning home, they receive CDs of their songs and lyric books with photographs, a lasting source of pride and a means of reconnecting with family and friends, co-workers and communities. "I can bring this song home and play it for my kids, and they can understand what I've been through," said one participant. Songwriting With: Soldiers also organizes collaborative songwriting events for military families. Parents and their children come together, share stories, and write songs. SW: S songs are available through our website, concerts, and social media, raising awareness and building bridges between military and civilian communities. Songwriting With: Soldiers covers costs for all participants and family members.

**Military focus:** Recent combat since 2001 (OEF, OIF, OND), Gulf War, Vietnam War; all military branches

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music; multidisciplinary

**Organization:** Non-profit health, veterans, national

**CONTACTS:** Darden Smith – Founder & Creative Director [info@songwritingwithsoldiers.org](mailto:info@songwritingwithsoldiers.org)

Mary Judd – Executive Director [mary@songwritingwithsoldiers.org](mailto:mary@songwritingwithsoldiers.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/SongwritingWithSoldiers>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/songwritingwith> Video <http://vimeo.com/97853485>



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## Kristin La Flamme: Artist\*

Exhibits: Military Wife, Healing Arts Walter Reed, Homefront/Downrange

1680 Poe's Lane  
Charlottesville, VA 22911  
(808) 349-3425  
<http://kristinlaflamme.com>

**Programs available:** Kristin La Flamme is an Army wife and artist currently residing in Charlottesville, Virginia. She has a BFA in Graphic Design from Otis Art Institute in Los Angeles, CA. Kristin sees herself as an artist who sews. She enjoys traditional quilt piecing by machine and varied hand embroidery embellishments, but is not opposed to using any technique or material if it is appropriate to the message to be conveyed in the artwork. Kristin's experiences as a military spouse almost always influence her subject matter. Her solo exhibit, "The Army Wife" was shown at McGuffey Art Center in Charlottesville, VA in 2013, and will combine with photography by Hunter Rudd in "Homefront & Downrange" and military appreciation activities at Arts Council of Moore County in North Carolina in the summer of 2015. Selected pieces from Kristin's show have also been included in many group shows nationally. Kristin has had her art quilts and other textiles shown internationally, and is a co-author of "Twelve by Twelve: The International Art Quilt Challenge."

**Military focus:** The Active Duty Military Family's experience

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Narrative textile art for exhibits

**Organization:** Individual artist

**CONTACTS:** Kristin La Flamme – artist and speaker [kristinlaflamme@gmail.com](mailto:kristinlaflamme@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Instagram <https://instagram.com/kristinlaflamme/>

**Blog** Musings - [http://kristinlaflamme.com/?page\\_id=2613](http://kristinlaflamme.com/?page_id=2613)



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## Blue Star Families\*

PO Box 322  
Falls Church, VA 22040  
(202) 630-2583  
<http://bluestarfam.org/>

**Programs available:** Founded in 2009 by a group of military spouses, Blue Star Families strengthens military families and our nation by connecting communities and fostering leadership. As the largest Chapter-based nonprofit organization serving active duty service members, Guard and Reserve, wounded and transitioning veterans and their families, Blue Star Families delivers proven, popular programs and resources to meet the unique challenges of military service in partnership with the larger civilian population.

The Blue Star Arts program encompasses Blue Star Museums and Theatres. Blue Star Museums offers free admission to museums for all active duty, National Guard and Reserve military personnel and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Blue Star Theatres recognizes the profound contributions of service families and as a result, seeks to build stronger connections between theatres, military families and their communities. Each Blue Star Theatres participant is offering discounted or complimentary admission to all military personnel and their families, as well as veterans.

Blue Star Arts partners with the Department of Defense, the National Endowment for the Arts, and Theatre Communications Group, with leadership support provided by the MetLife Foundation through Blue Star Families.

**Military focus:** Active duty service members, National Guard and Reserve, wounded and transitioning veterans, and their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Arts and Health

**Organization:** Non-profit health, social services; international

**CONTACTS:** Sheila Stevens – Deputy Director of Programs     [arts@bluestarfam.org](mailto:arts@bluestarfam.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/BlueStarFamilies>  
Twitter <https://twitter.com/bluestarfam>  
Instagram <https://instagram.com/bluestarfamilies/>  
<http://bluestarfam.org/strengthen/blue-star-arts>



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## American Art Therapy Association\*

4875 Eisenhower Avenue  
Suite 240  
Alexandria, VA 22304  
703) 548-5860  
[www.arttherapy.org](http://www.arttherapy.org)

**Programs available:** The American Art Therapy Association, Inc. (Association) is an organization of professionals dedicated to the belief that making art is healing and life enhancing. Its mission is to serve its members and the general public by providing standards of professional competence, and developing and promoting knowledge in, and of, the field of art therapy.

**Military focus:** Military service members, active duty, veterans, families and caregivers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts – clay, ceramics, fiber arts (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking, Film/Media arts, Multidisciplinary, Visual Arts (painting, drawing, sculpture)

**Organization:** Non-profit arts; local, state, national

**CONTACTS:** Cynthia Woodruff – Executive Director    [info@arttherapy.org](mailto:info@arttherapy.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**        **Facebook**    <https://www.facebook.com/TheAmericanArtTherapyAssociation>

**Twitter**    <https://twitter.com/arttherapyorg>



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## Armed Services Arts Partnership\*

625 N. Washington St.

Suite 425

Alexandria, VA 22314

202.730.8206

<http://www.asapasap.org/>

### Programs available:

We reintegrate Veterans into their communities through the arts. We offer intro-level courses free of charge to veterans, service members, and military family members. All our classes culminate with a public performance for members of our local communities. We provide our alumni with continuous opportunities for growth as artists, performers, and people.

**Military focus:** Military Service Members, Veterans, and their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/theatre, Literary Arts, Comedy, Improv, Storytelling, and Writing

**Organization:** Non-profit (arts e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Sam Pressler – Executive Director [sam@asapasap.org](mailto:sam@asapasap.org)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ArmedServicesArtsPartnership>

Twitter [https://twitter.com/ASAP\\_Vets](https://twitter.com/ASAP_Vets)

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/armedservicesartspartnership/>

Organization Linked In: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/armed-services-arts-partnership>

Organization Video: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7zCoSeo\\_FyK4RESqA3pN1g](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7zCoSeo_FyK4RESqA3pN1g)



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## National Symphony Orchestra

John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts

P.O. Box 101510

Arlington, VA 22210

202.416.8112

[www.nationalsymphony.org](http://www.nationalsymphony.org)

### Programs available:

Sound Health - Sound Health is the National Symphony Orchestra's year-round community engagement initiative that sends musicians into local hospitals, pediatric units, and military health centers in the Washington, D.C. area. Activities include performances in lobby spaces, treatment areas and patient rooms, designed to serve all ages.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military youth and children, arts organizations, artists, health workers, educators, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Warren Williams – Manager of Community Relations [wgwilliams@kennedy-center.org](mailto:wgwilliams@kennedy-center.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/National.Symphony>

Twitter @NSOtweets <https://twitter.com/NSOtweets>

Linked In <https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-john-f.-kennedy-center-for-the-performing-arts>

Organization Video [www.youtube.com/user/TheKennedyCenter](http://www.youtube.com/user/TheKennedyCenter)



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Washington



## Museum of Glass

1801 Dock St  
Tacoma, WA 98402  
253.284.4750  
[www.museumofglass.org](http://www.museumofglass.org)

**Programs available:** In 2013, Museum of Glass introduced Hot Shop Heroes: Healing with Fire. This partnership with the Warrior Transition Battalion (WTB) at Joint Base Lewis-McChord serves soldiers with the most complex and devastating physical and mental injuries. Most recently, the classes have expanded to serve soldiers outside of the WTB and veterans.

Hot Shop Heroes offers glassblowing and flame-working classes to soldiers and is a core education program at MOG with two 8-week classes, introductory and intermediate, offered three times a year. Each weekly class serves 9 soldiers. Evaluation has shown that the program has been particularly effective for participants with Traumatic Brain Injury and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

For many participants, the benefits are physical, emotional and spiritual. "This class awakened a previously hidden joy in creating things by hand. I was able to actually feel something other than numb," shares one of the program's pilot course participants.

**Military focus:** Military servicemembers and veterans

**Creative Forces Network site:** Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts – glassblowing, sculpture, drawing, painting

**Organization:** Non-profit (arts)

**CONTACTS:** Greg Owen – Hot Shop Heroes Program Manager

[gowen@museumofglass.org](mailto:gowen@museumofglass.org)

[hotshopheroes@museumofglass.org](mailto:hotshopheroes@museumofglass.org)

**Social Media:** Facebook <https://facebook.com/museumofglass>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/MuseumofGlass>

Video <https://youtube.com/museumofglass>



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Washington



## Prosthetic Ink\*

2981 Lowren Loop  
Port Orchard, WA 98366  
360.895.1976  
[www.ProstheticInk.com](http://www.ProstheticInk.com)

### Programs available:

Dan Horkey launched his start up in 2008. In November of 2009, Prosthetic INK Technology's unique systems and methods of personalizing prosthetic limbs, and orthopedic leg braces became Approved options by the Veterans Administration. The VA gave Dan Horkey permission to contact and market to all 175+ Veterans Affairs Hospitals.

The options approved included painting Prosthetic Limbs a solid color finish, chrome finish; fine art airbrushing designs; and hand brushed designs.

Prosthetic Ink is a Certified Small Disadvantaged Business, Government vendor.  
System Award Management #024489295

Purchase orders and sales were awarded by VA Hospitals from 2009-2012: Durham, NC, Indianapolis, IN, Jackson, MS, Decatur VA, Atlanta, GA, Baltimore, MD, Topeka, KS, Memphis, TN.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, their families, artists, arts organizations, artists, volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts (e.g., drawing, painting, sculpture)  
- Patented Innovative Arts Personalizing, Prosthetic Limbs, Leg Braces and Wheelchairs

**Organization:** Registered Small Disadvantaged Business in S.A.M. Gov't Vendor

**CONTACTS:** Dan Horkey – CEO/President [Dan@ProstheticInk.com](mailto:Dan@ProstheticInk.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ProstheticInk/>

Twitter <https://twitter.com/ProstheticINK>

Linked In <https://www.linkedin.com/company/prostheticink-com>

Organization Video <https://www.pinterest.com/ProstheticINK/>



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Washington



## Teresa Marie Art and Design

2836 Calais Lane NW

Olympia, Washington 98502

360.480.9955

<http://www.teresamarieartanddesign.com>

### Programs available:

I have been teaching mixed media arts and crafts and calligraphy at The Fleetwood Apartments in Downtown Olympia, Washington since January 2017. The focus began with Military residents and has expanded to include residents in Low Income Housing. We exhibited our art at Olympia's Art Walk, October 2017 at the Billy Frank Jr. Building in Downtown Olympia. We have also exhibited our art at Thurston County Family and Juvenile Court in Tumwater, Washington and Museum Contempo in Shelton, Washington. We are interested in 2018 expanding the art program to the Billy Frank Jr. Building in Downtown Olympia.

We are also interested in fundraising and applying for grants for 2018 and looking for additional opportunities for arts and crafts exhibitions.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military children, Artists, Creative Arts Therapists, Health workers, Educators, Researchers, and community partners (The Fleetwood Apartments and Billy Frank Jr. Apartments in downtown Olympia)

**Program service providers:** Professional Artist, Art Teacher, and Calligrapher

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts – e.g., drawing, painting, sculpture and Calligraphy, Decorative Arts, and Crafts

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Teresa M. Stahl-Cowley – Mixed Media Artist [teresamarie4art@gmail.com](mailto:teresamarie4art@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook  
LinkedIn

<https://www.facebook.com/teresamarieartanddesign>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/teresa-marie-staal-cowley-4641088a/>



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## **Puget Sound Music Therapy, LLC**

2522 N Proctor Street #350

Tacoma, WA 98406

223.448.1400

<http://www.PugetSoundMusicTherapy.com>

### **Programs available:**

We provide direct music therapy services to the following populations:

- 1) military service members and veterans diagnosed with PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder), TBI (traumatic brain injury), substance abuse and other stress-or trauma-related physical and psychological diagnoses.
- 2) children with special needs (such as autism, down syndrome, cerebral palsy and other developmental delays)
- 3) military family for support for transition/adjustment/trauma-related issues.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members (active, guard and reserves) Veterans, military families, military children, community members, artists, creative arts therapists, health workers/caregivers, educators, researchers, volunteers, arts organizations, and humanities organizations

**Program service providers:** Music therapists

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music

**Organization:** For profit business (e.g. LLC, Veterans Service Disabled organization, etc.)

**CONTACT:** Megumi Azekawa, MM, MT-BC - Founder, Neurologic Music Therapy, Fellow  
megumi@pugetsoundmusictherapy.com

### **SOCIAL MEDIA:**

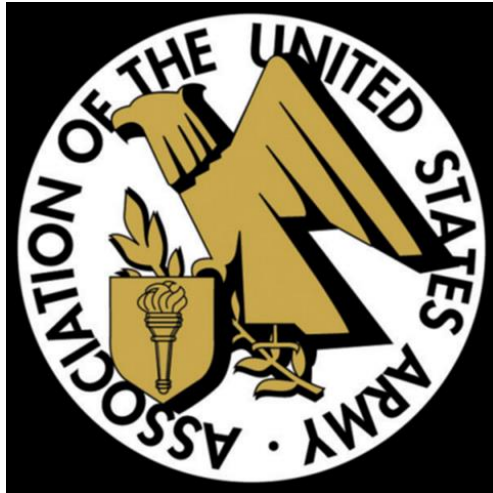
**Facebook**  
**Twitter**

<https://www.facebook.com/PugetSoundMusicTherapy/>  
<https://twitter.com/pugetsoundmt>



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Washington



## **AUSA: Association of the United States Army**

2307 Clark Road  
JBLM, Washington 98433  
931.302.3254  
<http://www.ausatacoma.com/>

### **Programs available:**

For the past 16 years, soldiers and their families have experienced high levels of stress and/or traumatic events that can influence their health and well-being. Many find it difficult to find balance and wellness and do not always know whom to turn to when the going gets tough. The Army and various non-profit organizations have rallied to create programs aimed at increasing resilience and readiness. These programs could be the driving force towards healing. Please contact us for more information about current arts programming.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members (active, guard, and reserves), Veterans, their families, military children, and community members.

**Creative Forces Network site:** Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma

**Program service providers:** Health workers, educators, volunteers, military service members, Veterans, and their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Family readiness programs

**Organization:** Non-profit non-arts organization (e.g. health, social service, education, Veterans service organization)

**CONTACT:** Patty Morgan – Director of Family Programs [patty3263@msn.com](mailto:patty3263@msn.com)



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
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Washington



## 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Horse Cavalry Buffalo Soldiers Museum

1940 South Wilkeson

Tacoma, Washington 98405

253.272.4257

<http://www.buffalosoldierstacoma.org/>

### Programs available:

As a former soldier who spoke very little about his time as a prisoner of war in the Korean War, William Jones' request to preserve the memory of his time as a Buffalo Soldier is something his family took to heart. Following his death in 2009, his daughter, Jackie Jones-Hook, began formalizing a museum in honor of the all-black regiment of the United States military. In 2012, the Buffalo Soldier Museum in Tacoma opened its doors as a haven for students and members of the community to learn about a piece of history that took place between 1866 and 1944 – and is all-too-often forgotten in the textbooks.

The museum is one of only two of its kind in the country dedicated to honoring the Buffalo Soldiers, the other being the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum in Houston. Formally called the 9th and 10th (Horse) Cavalry Buffalo Soldiers Museum, this nonprofit group educates the public through its vast collection of military artifacts, books, articles and DVDs from Jones' time in the military.

The museum offers military appreciation programs with Arts partnerships in events such as the screening of *The Buffalo Soldiers* with Danny Glover as the keynote speaker.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military children, and community members.

**Creative Forces Network site:** Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma

**Program service providers:** Educators, volunteers, military service members, Veterans, and their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Dance/Movement, photography, drama/theatre, Literary arts, and crafts (clay, ceramics, woodworking, fiber arts)

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Jackie Jones-Hook – Executive Director [SoldiersMuseum@aol.com](mailto:SoldiersMuseum@aol.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** **Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/BufaloSoldiersMuseum>



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Washington



## Capacity4Good

12336 15<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW  
Burien, Washington 98146  
360.528-7420  
[www.capacity4good.com](http://www.capacity4good.com)

### Programs available:

Capacity4Good provides Drama therapy, psychodrama, and Expressive arts therapies that apply two or more art forms during the course of treatment.

A trauma-sensitive theatre project (musical theatre and Shakespeare) is currently in development. Please contact us for more program information and opportunities.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members (active, guard, and reserves), Veterans, their families, military children, and community members

**Creative Forces Network site:** Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma

**Program service providers:** Professional artists

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/Theatre, Film/Media Arts

**Organization:** Independent Contractor

**CONTACT:** Amy L. Erickson – CEO [capacity4good@gmail.com](mailto:capacity4good@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/capacity4good>



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Washington



# COLLATERAL

## Collateral – University of Washington Tacoma (UWT)

1900 Commerce Street  
SIAS, Box 358436  
Tacoma, Washington 98375  
253.692.5756  
[www.collateraljournal.com](http://www.collateraljournal.com)

### Programs available:

Collateral is an online literary journal that publishes poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction and visual art concerned with the impact of military service beyond the combat zone. Our editors are based at the University of Washington Tacoma, where we host readings that feature our local contributors and engage the public and military populations in conversations about art.

Through Collateral, we also offer free creative writing workshops to vets, military families, and trauma survivors in the Pierce County area.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members (active, guard, reserves), Veterans, their families, military children, community members, artists, creative arts therapists, health workers/caregivers, educators, researchers, and volunteers

**Creative Forces Network site:** Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma and JBLM

**Program service providers:** Professional artists, educators, volunteers, military service members, Veterans, and their families, poetry therapy

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts (e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture), Literary arts

**Organization:** Program/Project/Department within a Public Agency (Federal, State, Local), University department/division/unit, and Individual Artist

**CONTACT:** Abby Murray – Editor, Lecturer at University of Washington Tacoma [amurray1@uw.edu](mailto:amurray1@uw.edu)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/uwtcollateral/>



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## Divina Clark

4218 Hornet Drive NE  
Lacey, Washington 98516  
360.972.4568

### Programs available:

As an independent artist, I provide art tutoring, education services, as well as art lessons in painting and mosaic.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members (active, guard, and reserves), Veterans, military families, military children, community members, and volunteers.

**Creative Forces Network site:** Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma

**Program service providers:** Professional artists and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts (e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture)

**Organization:** Artist

**CONTACT:** Divina Clark – Artist [divinabc2@gmail.com](mailto:divinabc2@gmail.com)

<b>SOCIAL MEDIA:</b>	<b>Facebook</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/divinaclark2art/">https://www.facebook.com/divinaclark2art/</a>
	<b>Instagram:</b>	<a href="https://www.instagram.com/divinaclark2art/">https://www.instagram.com/divinaclark2art/</a>
	<b>Linked In:</b>	<a href="http://linkedin.com/in/divinaclark">http://linkedin.com/in/divinaclark</a>



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Washington

# feast

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## ARTS CENTER

### **Feast Arts Center**

1402 S. 11<sup>th</sup> St.  
Tacoma, Washington 98405  
303.601.5040 or 360.531.0064  
[www.feastarts.com](http://www.feastarts.com)

**Programs available:**

Feast Arts Center offers arts classes through partnerships with organizations such as Tacoma Housing Authority, Senior University, and would love to offer classes in accordance with Art Therapy goals for veterans. Contact us for a partnership opportunity!

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, artists, educators, and volunteers

**Creative Forces Network site:** Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma

**Program service providers:** Professional Artists and Educators

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Art Therapy, Visual Arts (e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture)

**Organization:** Local Arts or Humanities Agency

**CONTACT:** Chandler Woodfin – Executive Director [feastartscenter@gmail.com](mailto:feastartscenter@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/feastarts/>



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Washington



## Gallery One Visual Art Center

408 North Pearl Street  
Ellensburg, Washington 98926  
509.925.2670  
[www.gallery-one.org](http://www.gallery-one.org)

### Programs available:

Gallery One offers free admission to exhibits as a member of Blue Star Museums. They also offer art classes for youth and adults as well as focuses on adults with disabilities and brain trauma injury.

Gallery One Visual Arts Center is dedicated to the creation, exhibition and appreciation of visual arts in Central Washington. To that end, the facilities, board of directors, and staff of Gallery One provide:

- High-quality, innovative, and diverse visual arts exhibits
- Educational programs for the appreciation and skills of the arts
- Studios for a diverse group of resident artists
- Networking opportunities with business organizations and educational institutions in support of the arts
- A meeting place to foster community cohesion and arts appreciation

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military children, community members, and artists

**Program service providers:** Professional artists and educators

**Arts and Humanities focus:** Visual Arts (e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture)

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Monica Miller – Executive Director [director@gallery-one.org](mailto:director@gallery-one.org)

### SOCIAL MEDIA:

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/GalleryOneEllensburg>

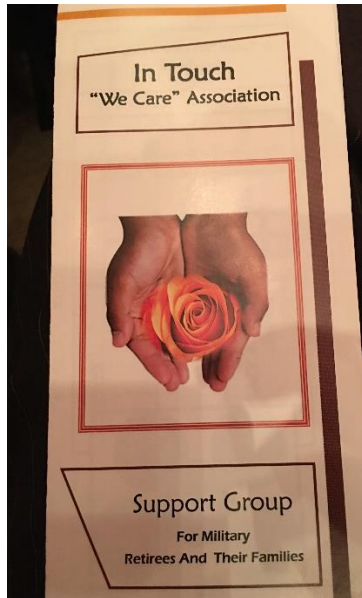
**Pinterest** <https://www.pinterest.com/g1arts/>

**YouTube** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC50FP7CUSDjSbnuqDE6zmLQ>



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Washington



## In Touch “We Care” Support Group

PO Box 135

Spanaway, Washington 98387

253.273.5482 or 253.846.5193

### Programs available:

Retired Family Supports Group that provides emotional, physical and financial support to our Retiree Veterans and their families in time of need. Provide quarterly food bank runs to Rescue Mission in Tacoma to provide meals for our homeless veterans in the area. We also support our Veterans Widows through the Gold Star Organization due to active members of our organization that are also Gold Star Active Members.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans and their families

**Creative Forces Network site:** Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma

**Program service providers:** Military Service Members, Veterans, and their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** other

**Organization:** Non-profit non-arts organization (e.g. health, social service, education, Veterans service organization)

**CONTACT:** Miguel DJ Padilla – President padillamdj@q.com



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Washington



## Music Works 4 Veterans

Lakewood, Washington 98498

253.272.4257

[www.MusicWorks4Veterans.org](http://www.MusicWorks4Veterans.org)

### Programs available:

MusicWorks4Veterans (MW4V) is a project of the Veterans Family Fund of America (VFFA), an organization dedicated to meeting urgent needs that are not covered through other Veterans programs by raising and dispersing funds to improve the lives and futures of Veterans and their families. Veterans benefit from this MW4V project by participating in our music programs that encourage them to be a part of the creative process. This benefits Veterans as they work toward healing & recovery because it allows them to express themselves in a fun way, in a friendly environment. The enjoyment from this can open the door to newfound happiness. We want to make "Music & Creativity; A way towards Healing" available to our Veterans.

MW4V's Music Projects, such as Music Nights held at the Washington Soldiers Home in Orting, Washington, provide an opportunity for Veterans young and old to actively participate by sharing songs, musical performances, writings and stories. Creative collaborations are encouraged and it is not uncommon for original song compositions to come from music nights.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military children, and community members.

**Creative Forces Network site:** Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma

**Program service providers:** Military service members, Veterans, their families, musicians, artists

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** John Leonard Selzler – Songwriter/Veteran/Project Manager  
[john.selzler@musicworks4veterans.org](mailto:john.selzler@musicworks4veterans.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/MusicWorks4Veterans/>



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Washington



## Music Works Northwest

1331 118<sup>th</sup> Ave SE Suite 400  
Bellevue, Washington 98005  
425.644.0988  
[www.musicworksnw.org](http://www.musicworksnw.org)

**Programs available:** Studies overwhelmingly point to the value of music study. It improves critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills, enhances self-esteem, stimulates memory, and fosters team work. Sessions can be individualized and catered to each client's needs. Some common interventions we use are:

- Movement to Music: physical organization, orientation, and expression
- Singing/Vocalizing: expressive communication, vocal inflections
- Instrument Playing: fine and gross motor skills, structured and free-playing opportunities
- Songwriting: self-expression, communication, problem solving, teamwork

Music therapy is administered by trained professionals who have been educated at an approved music therapy program and nationally certified by the Certification Board for Music Therapy (CBMT). Music therapists possess musical, clinical, therapeutic, and professional skills. We look forward to partnering with the local arts & military community

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military children, and community members.

**Creative Forces Network site:** Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma

**Program service providers:** Creative Arts Therapists

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music; Music Therapy; MT-BC (Board Certified Music Therapist)

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution); Non-profit non-arts organization (e.g. health, social service, education, veterans service organization)

**CONTACT:** Patti Catalano, MM, MT-BC – Music Therapy and Early Childhood Program Manager  
[pattic@musicworksnw.org](mailto:pattic@musicworksnw.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/MusicWorksNW/>



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Washington



## Northwest Stone Sculptors Association

PO BOX 27364  
Seattle, Washington 98165-1864  
206.930.0060  
[www.NWSSA.org](http://www.NWSSA.org)

### Programs available:

Our mission is to nurture the community of stone sculptors by developing educational opportunities, providing a support system to members, and facilitating interaction with regional, national, and international communities. NWSSA is a 501c non-profit membership organization.

NWSSA is an association of stone sculptors that was founded in 1984 by Meg Pettibone in Seattle. Our first symposium was in 1986 in the Methow Valley east of the Cascade mountains in Washington state. We have since grown to include stone sculptors and associates throughout the western US, Canada, and other parts of the world.

We are interested in partnering with arts & military organizations to facilitate symposia and teach stone carving.

**Military focus and constituents:** Currently serving community members, artists, educators, and arts organizations.

**Creative Forces Network site:** Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma

**Program service providers:** Educators, volunteers, military service members, Veterans, and their families

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts (e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture)

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Carl Nelson – President [office@nwssa.org](mailto:office@nwssa.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**

<b>Facebook</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/NWSSA/">https://www.facebook.com/NWSSA/</a>
<b>Twitter</b>	<a href="https://twitter.com/NWSSA_renee">https://twitter.com/NWSSA_renee</a>



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Washington



## Path with Art

312 Second Avenue South  
Seattle, Washington 98104  
206.650.0669  
[www.pathwithart.org](http://www.pathwithart.org)

**MISSION:** Path with Art transforms the lives of people recovering from trauma by harnessing the power of creative engagement as a bridge to community and a path to stability.

**VISION:** Our work is driven by our Vision: A world where arts engagement is recognized as transformative – connecting the individual with the self, the self with community, and communities with society. In this world, the power of arts engagement is available for all.

**WHAT WE DO:** Formed in Seattle in 2008, the Path with Art model is being sought after by communities nationwide. This year, Path with Art will serve over 600 participants in Seattle and 32 social service agencies at no cost to them or our partner organizations through:

- Arts education- across a variety of mediums taught by award winning teaching artist - from printmaking to Shakespeare. We even have a choir. You can see our teaching artists roster here: <http://www.pathwithart.org/teachers/>
- Public exhibitions and performances - Our students work has been showcased at Path with Art exhibitions and performances from the Washington State Convention Center and City Hall to SAM and the Seattle Symphony.
- Access Art - guided trips and tickets to museums and civic arts institutions See a list of the places our students go through the generosity of our arts partners: <http://www.pathwithart.org/arts-partners/>
- Community Connections – art making opportunities that bring our participants in collaboration with the broader public in order to foster deeper understanding and learn how to see each-other through the human lens of art.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans

**Creative Forces Network site:** Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma

**Program service providers:** Professional artists; Dance/Movement Therapy, drama Therapy, Music and Poetry Therapy, Expressive Arts Therapies (applying two or more art forms during the course of treatment)

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts (e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture), Music, and Dance/Movement

**Organization:** Local Arts or Humanities Agency

**CONTACT:** Sheeka Arbuthnot – Associate Director [info@pathwithart.org](mailto:info@pathwithart.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**

<b>Facebook</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/pathwithart/">https://www.facebook.com/pathwithart/</a>
<b>Twitter</b>	<a href="https://twitter.com/PathWithArt">https://twitter.com/PathWithArt</a>



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Washington



## Seattle Theatre Group

911 Pine Street  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
206.467.5510  
[www.stgpresents.org](http://www.stgpresents.org)

### Programs available:

Seattle Theatre Group (STG) is a non-profit performing arts organization dedicated to operating Seattle's historic Paramount, Moore & Neptune Theatres, presenting diverse programming and maintaining extensive Education & Community Programs. We are committed to keeping these theatres alive and vibrant with a broad range of performing arts that enriches our community in so many ways.

Producing over 600 public performances annually at our three theatres (The Paramount, The Moore, The Neptune) and in the Pacific Northwest, our Theatre Access Program has the potential to serve many Veterans and their families.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, their families, community members, artists, and creative arts therapists

**Creative Forces Network site:** Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma

**Program service providers:** Professional artists, Creative Arts Therapists (Dance/Movement Therapy and Expressive Arts Therapy - (applying 2 or more art forms during the course of treatment)

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts (e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture), Music, Dance/Movement, Drama/Theatre, Film/Media Arts, Multidisciplinary, other

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (e.g. performing, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACT:** Martin Sepulveda – Special Artistic Projects Manager [martins@stgpresents.org](mailto:martins@stgpresents.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/seattletheatregroup/>  
Twitter <https://twitter.com/stgpresents>



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Washington



*"Serving Those Who Served"*

## Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs

1102 Quince St  
Olympia, Washington 98504  
360.725.2223 or 800.562.2308  
[www.dva.wa.gov](http://www.dva.wa.gov)

### Programs available:

The Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) program provides advocacy and support to the veterans, military and their families through a variety of means ranging from individual case management to resource and referral. The connection between the WDVA program and Creative Forces is where the TBI program conducts training, advocacy, support and case management to thousands of veterans across the state, has access to community resources that deal with Veteran's issues, participates in Veterans related summits/conferences, meets Veterans in the communities but also within the jails and prisons and participates in numerous policy making committees.

The program can serve as a "bridge" into community resources by making the opportunities and resources known to those across the state.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members (active, guard, reserve), Veterans, their families, military children, community members, artists, creative arts therapists, health workers/caregivers, educators, researchers, volunteers, arts and humanities organizations

**Creative Forces Network site:** Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma

**Program service providers:** Health workers, educators, military service members and Veterans

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Veterans Creative Arts Festival competitions; managing TBI symptoms and increased "brain strength" through MAX, the virtual service dog

**Organization:** Public agency (Federal, State, Local); Program/Project/Department within a Public Agency (Federal, State, Local); Veterans department/division/unit

**CONTACT:** Dan Overton MC, LMHC, MHP, CBIS - Traumatic Brain Injury Programs Coordinator  
[danielo@dva.wa.gov](mailto:danielo@dva.wa.gov)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/wsdva/>



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## West Virginia



**Military Experience & the Arts**  
militaryexperience.org

## Military Experience & the Arts\*

P.O. Box 821

Morgantown, WV 26507

<http://militaryexperience.org/>

### Programs available:

MEA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, volunteer-run organization whose primary mission is to work with veterans and their families to publish creative prose, poetry, and artwork.

Our volunteers are based all over, including college professors, professional authors, veterans' advocates, and clinicians. As such, most of our services are provided through email and in online writing workshops. All editing, consultations, and workshops are free of charge to those accepted for publication.

Veterans and their families pay nothing for our services, and they never will. In addition to its primary publishing mission, MEA hosts online and in-person writing workshops and orchestrated national symposia in 2012 and 2015.

MEA's in-person events are free or low-cost opportunities for veterans and their spouses to build skills in the creative and therapeutic arts.

**Military focus:** Military service members, veterans, their families, researchers, arts organizations, creative arts therapists, educators, and artists.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Film/media Arts, Literary Arts, Visual Arts, and crafts such as woodworking, ceramics, and fiber arts

**Organization:** Non-profit (non-arts organization e.g. health, social service, veterans)

**CONTACTS:** David Ervin – President and Editor-in-Chief [president@militaryexperience.org](mailto:president@militaryexperience.org)

**Social Media:** Facebook [www.facebook.com/militaryexperienceandthearts](https://www.facebook.com/militaryexperienceandthearts)

Twitter <https://twitter.com/milexperience>



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## Wisconsin



### West Side Soldiers Aid Society

5830 S. 92<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Hales Corners, WI 53130  
(414) 427-3776  
<http://westsidesoldiers.weebly.com/>

**Programs available:** West Side Soldiers Aid Society is an all-volunteer non-profit educational and veteran support organization; a member of Voluntary Service at the Zablocki VA Medical Center, Milwaukee; and a recreational social dance group, providing free demonstrations, classes, and dance events.

Dances are from the early American tradition, including dances of the 1860s, barn dances, and contras. Programs for veterans have included socials and formal dances at Zablocki VA and at Reclaiming Our Heritage, a patriotic festival held on the VA grounds, 2002-2012. Free sessions are held twice a month in Hales Corners. At present a quarter of regular participants are veterans.

**Military focus:** Veterans, Veterans' Families, Educators, Volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Dance and Education

**Organization:** Local Non-profit

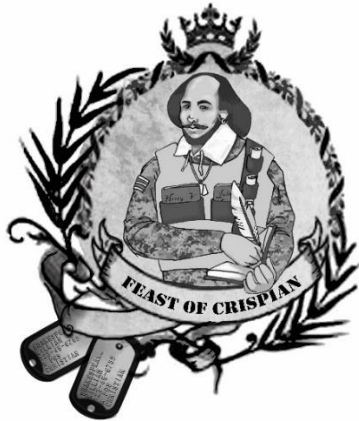
**CONTACTS:** Patricia A. Lynch – Dance Director [harvestgraphics@hotmail.com](mailto:harvestgraphics@hotmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/287723871801/>



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Wisconsin



## Feast of Crispian, Inc.

1065 N 68<sup>th</sup> St  
Milwaukee, WI 53213  
414.203.1960

<http://www.feastofcrispian.org/>

### Programs available:

Feast of Crispian brings together professional theater practitioners and service veterans to build community by using acting skills and the words and stories of Shakespeare in order to teach and deepen emotional resources that veterans need to overcome traumatic and reintegration issues.

Feast of Crispian, is a therapeutic intervention for military veterans dealing with the symptoms of PTSD and who are experiencing reintegration issues such as difficulty connecting with loved ones, lack of belonging and disassociation. Using scenes of Shakespeare that deal indirectly with issues that these men and women are struggling with, they are given an oblique route to recognize and name their own feelings, and to begin to imagine a different outcome to their question of, "who am I now?" Our work is delivered through three day intensives and full productions. We keep a consistent presence with a weekly class and an informal company of veterans who occasionally perform scenes for events and organizations. We work both inside and outside the VA system.

**Military focus and constituents:** Veterans, their families, and health workers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Drama/theatre

**Organization:** Non-profit arts organization (arts, performing arts, visual and literary arts, museum, cultural institution)

**CONTACTS:** Nancy Smith-Watson Project Director [feastofcrispian5@gmail.com](mailto:feastofcrispian5@gmail.com)

**SOCIAL MEDIA: Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/FeastOfCrispian/>

Organization Video <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMis1ZBH7bztJ7tqvADTflw>



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Wisconsin



## Guitars for Vets\*

6501 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue

Kenosha, Wisconsin 53143

855.448.4376

[www.guitarsforvets.org](http://www.guitarsforvets.org)

### Programs available:

*Guitars4Vets* pursues its mission to share the healing power of music by providing free guitar instruction, a new acoustic guitar and a guitar accessory kit in a structured program run by volunteers, primarily through the Department of Veterans Affairs facilities and community based medical centers. Today, there may be as many as 800,000 service members living with "invisible wounds of war", particularly PTSD. Additionally, troops serving in military operations after September 11, 2001 have experienced more frequent deployments, of greater lengths, with shorter rest periods than previous generations of warriors resulting in prolonged periods of exposure to combat stress. Furthermore, thanks to lower casualty rates overall as well as significant advances in emergency medical treatment and body armor, Veterans are increasingly surviving the battlefield, but with significant psychological and emotional trauma.

As a result, there has never been a better time to support Veterans mental health wellness programs that are cost effective, safe, do not require specialized equipment or supplies and can be rapidly expanded to meet the very large need we face. *Guitars for Vets* (G4V) encourages self-expression and relationship building through music by working with Veterans to restore feelings of joy and purpose that can be lost after suffering trauma. Over the past ten years, our organization has refined a guitar instruction program aimed at providing Veterans struggling with PTSD and other emotional distress a unique therapeutic alternative. Weekly private guitar lessons provided by volunteers are individualized and designed to help students learn at their own pace while accommodating any physical and/or emotional challenges. *Guitars for Vets* currently operates 70 chapters in 35 states across the USA.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members and Veterans

**Program service providers:** Veterans, active duty service members, their families, professional artists, musicians, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Music

**Organization:** Non-profit non-arts organization (health, social service, Veterans)

**CONTACT:** Patrick Nettesheim - Founder [patrick@guitarsforvets.org](mailto:patrick@guitarsforvets.org)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:**

Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/nmveteransart">https://www.facebook.com/nmveteransart</a>
Twitter	<a href="https://twitter.com/guitarsforvets">https://twitter.com/guitarsforvets</a>
LinkedIn	<a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company/9229955/">https://www.linkedin.com/company/9229955/</a>
Organization Video:	<a href="https://youtu.be/91tKolhyG3w">https://youtu.be/91tKolhyG3w</a>



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## Wyoming



## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Heroes

PO Box 806  
Teton Village, WY 83025  
307.690.4805  
<http://www.21stcenturyheroes.org/>

### Programs available:

21st Century Heroes is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization committed to providing therapeutic and recreational woodcarving camps for wounded veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. The sponsored camps provide five days of woodcarving instruction in the beautiful and relaxing setting of Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

Starting in 2013, the woodcarving camps were inspired by a group of Jackson Hole residents who wanted to show their support to our dedicated servicemen and women. Their idea stemmed from the understanding that learning a craft, like woodcarving, could aid in the healing progress.

In addition to building camaraderie and support amongst the participants, the experience introduces a new hobby, artistic outlet, or possibly, even career.

The 21st Century Heroes founders teamed up with a group of expert woodcarving instructors to develop the course curriculum. The camp is designed to give the Veterans a solid understanding of woodcarving--from learning how to use and maintain the tools, basic techniques and learning how to approach and execute different woodcarving projects. The week concludes with the skillful construction of a wood statue using a chainsaw. The veterans leave with new-found woodcarving knowledge and a set of basic tools that they can use when they get home.

**Military focus:** Iraq/Afghanistan wounded veterans

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts; visual arts; woodworking

**Organization:** Non-profit (arts)

**CONTACTS:** Christine Tatosian – Director [christine.21stcenturyheroes@gmail.com](mailto:christine.21stcenturyheroes@gmail.com)



NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR  
ARTS & HEALTH IN THE MILITARY  
National Network Directory

Wyoming



## Honoring Our Veterans\*

PO Box 526  
Moran, WY 83013  
(307) 543-2135  
[www.honorvets.org](http://www.honorvets.org)

### **Programs available:** HONORING OUR VETERANS-PHOTOGRAPHY TRIP

Honoring Our Veterans has put together an outdoor photography workshop situated in the high mountain town of Jackson, Wyoming. This quaint setting is surrounded by numerous National Forests along with Grand Teton Park a few minutes' drive from town. The majestic Tetons are considered the most iconic mountain range in the United States and provide a stunning backdrop to the winding Snake River. Yellowstone National Park is our 1<sup>st</sup> National Park in the country and is world renowned for its geothermal landscapes, wildlife and numerous waterfalls. All this adds to fantastic photo opportunities for our group. Honoring Our Veterans covers all costs involved, there is no cost to the veteran.

Our programs are open to any OEF/OIF combat wounded veteran. We have teamed up with some of the area's top outdoor photographers to enhance your knowledge of digital photography through lectures and on-location shoots that include wildlife, historic buildings, and stunning scenery around Jackson, Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks. This workshop is geared to anyone wanting to increase their knowledge and hone their photographic skills through lectures and personal instruction in the field by our staff of 5 photography leaders. Participants should bring a Digital SLR or a high end point and shoot that is capable of manual, aperture priority and shutter priority modes. Suggested lenses are anything from wide angle to telephoto along with a tripod, cable release (if available) and personal computer.

This is a once in a life opportunity to learn from the best photographers in Wyoming and all skill levels welcome.

**Military focus:** OEF/OIF combat veterans

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Film; media arts

**Organization:** Non-profit organization (non-arts)

**CONTACTS:** Sandra Budak – Executive Director [sandrabudak@honorvets.org](mailto:sandrabudak@honorvets.org)



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## Canada



### Art Hives Network\*

Concordia University  
1455 De Maisonneuve Blvd. W.  
Montreal, QC H3G 1M8 CANADA  
438.886.7716  
<http://www.arthives.org>

#### Programs available:

Art Hives are special types of third-spaces, located in neighborhood storefronts and within institutions that bolster mental and social health while fostering inclusion, reciprocity, new connections, and community building through creativity, self-expression, skill sharing, and dialogue. A free and welcoming protected place, an Art Hive welcomes everyone as an artist or bricoleur, a maker of things at hand, and extends a warm welcome to all veterans and their families. Adding university students as partners provides support for establishing a rich and energizing environment, offering a cost-effective vehicle for civic empowerment, mutual healing, and exchange. In Quebec, we are a part of a wide sector initiative to address the needs of veterans who are homeless, some who are dealing with traumas of their war experience.

**Military focus and constituents:** Military Service Members, Veterans, their families, military youth and children, arts organizations, artists, health workers, educators, Creative Arts Therapists, researchers, and volunteers

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Crafts – clay, ceramics, fiber arts, (quilting, weaving, needlework), woodworking; multidisciplinary; Visual Arts – drawing, painting, sculpture,

**Organization:** Program/Project under the umbrella of a non-profit organization or fiscal agent

**CONTACTS:** Janis Timm-Bottos – Associate Professor/Director Art Hives  
[janis.timm-bottos@concordia.ca](mailto:janis.timm-bottos@concordia.ca)

**FACEBOOK** [https://www.facebook.com/arthivesorg/?hc\\_ref=SEARCH&fref=nf](https://www.facebook.com/arthivesorg/?hc_ref=SEARCH&fref=nf)

**TWITTER** @arthivesorg  
[https://twitter.com/arthivesorg?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor](https://twitter.com/arthivesorg?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor)

**ORGANIZATION VIDEO** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-CYiROXwczw>  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7guF\\_0qeug](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7guF_0qeug)



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## Exclusively Online



## Art Therapy Alliance\*

<http://www.arttherapyalliance.org>

### Programs available:

The Art Therapy Alliance embraces social media and connection online to promote art therapy resources and the work of art therapists, including veterans, military service members, and their families.

**Military focus:** Military service members, veterans, their families, researchers, volunteers, military youth and children, and artists.

**Arts & Humanities focus:** Visual Arts and Art Therapy

**Organization:** Virtual Community & Network within the arts & humanities

**PRIMARY CONTACT:** Gretchen Miller, MA, ATR-BC – Art Therapy Alliance Community Organizer/Registered Board Certified Art Therapist [info@arttherapyalliance.org](mailto:info@arttherapyalliance.org)

### Social Media:

Facebook <http://www.arttherapyalliance.org/arttherapyalliance>

Twitter <http://www.twitter.com/arttxalliance>

Other <https://www.pinterest.com/arttxalliance/art-veterans>



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