



# FACT SHEET

## **Third National Summit: *Advancing Research in the Arts for Health and Well-being across the Military Continuum***

Hosted by National Center of Complementary and Integrative Health, National Institutes of Health  
Sponsored by Americans for the Arts on behalf of the National Initiative for Arts & Health in the Military

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### **SCHEDULE**

#### **Reception and Opening Event**

Thursday, February 26, 2015 from 5:00 PM to 7:30 PM (EST)

#### **Summit**

Friday, February 27, 2015 from 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM (EST)

#### **Closing Reception**

Friday, February 27, 2015 from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM (EST)

#### **Location(s)**

National Intrepid Center of Excellence at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center; Natcher (Ruth L. Kirschstein) Auditorium, National Institutes of Health; and the Bethesda Marriott Congressional Ballroom, Bethesda, MD

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Hosted by National Center for Complementary and Integrated Health, National Institutes of Health, the 2015 **Third National Summit—*Advancing Research in the Arts for Health and Well-being across the Military Continuum*** will examine the critical research needs impacting military service members, veterans and their families in promoting health, healing and well-being from pre-deployment, deployment to reintegration into civilian life. Through symposia, break-out group discussion, and engagement with prominent researchers and thought leaders, participants will learn about the current evidence base for the efficacy of the arts and creative arts therapies in helping service members and veterans recover from illness and injury, with emphasis on current topics of interest to military and veterans health, including resilience, physical and psychological healing, family strengthening and reintegration. The program and discussions are designed to help advance the strategies and recommendations for Research articulated in the 2012 NIAHM [Blueprint for Action](#) and 2013 [White Paper](#)

### **• What is the National Initiative for Arts & Health in the Military?**

The [National Initiative for Arts & Health in the Military](#) (NIAHM) was established by a small group of military and civilian agencies and leaders, who collaborated in October 2011 to convene the first *National Summit: Arts in Healing for Warriors* hosted by Rear Admiral Alton L. Stocks at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC). The purpose of the Summit was to explore the role of the arts and creative arts therapies in addressing the challenging issues confronting our military, and represented the first time military and civilian leaders convened to discuss the role of the arts in meeting the challenges confronting service members, veterans and their families across the military continuum.

**The mission of the National Initiative for Arts & Health in the Military is to “advance the arts in health, healing and healthcare for military service members, staff, veterans, their families and caregivers.”**

- **What is the purpose of NIAHM National Summit and convenings?**

The National Initiative for Arts & Health in the Military regularly mounts a series large-scale and/or small convenings that are designed to engage a cross-sector of military and civilian leaders in discussion that leads to collective action and opportunities for new collaboration. These convenings further Initiative goal by bringing together additional voices and expertise to focus attention on strategies for advancing the recommendations in Research, Policy and Practice, articulated in [\*Arts, Health & Well-Being Across the Military Continuum—White Paper and Framing a National Plan for Action\*](#) (Americans for the Arts, 2013).

- **What are the dates and times for the 2015 Summit?**

The Summit will begin with an opening reception and kick-off event starting at 5 pm on Thursday, February 26, 2015. The Summit will take place on Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., followed by a closing reception from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

- **Where is the location for the 2015 Summit?**

The sessions on Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup> will take place at the Natcher (Ruth L. Kirschstein) Auditorium located at the National Institutes of Health, 1 Center Drive, Bethesda, MD. (The opening night reception on Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, will take place at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and the closing reception on Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup> will take place at the Bethesda Marriott Congressional Ballroom.

- **Who will attend the Summit?**

The National Summit is by invitation. Approximately 200 - 250 participants from throughout the country will attend, representing a diverse cross-sector of active-duty military and veteran leaders; civilian public and private sector policy leaders; non-profit health, arts and veterans advocate groups; public and private universities and Uniformed Service University researchers and educators, and; individual arts and health researchers, practitioners and administrators, military servicemembers, veterans and family members.

- **What will happen at the 2015 NIAHM National Summit?**

Three symposia will be held to (1) present examples of current NIH and DoD funded research that employ arts-based interventions and integrative approaches; (2) demonstrate NIH-funded innovative tools and outcome measurements, and; (3) discuss how evidence can be translated into action and how arts-related research can be positioned for greater adoption in both military and civilian settings, funding, and reimbursement.. Five break-out sessions will feature facilitated discussions and presentations of case studies/examples that address White Paper Research recommendations or concerns, with emphasis on fostering resilience, physical and psychological healing, family strengthening and reintegration. An opening reception and event will be held on Thursday evening, February 26<sup>th</sup>. The Summit will end with a closing reception on Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm.

- **How can I participate in the Summit?**

Unlike traditional conferences or conventions, the National Summits are by invitation and there is no fee for participation. Summit organizers endeavor to ensure each year that a full cross sector of voices from the military, veteran, health, arts and humanities, public and private sector communities attend. Recommendations for inclusion on the invitation list are welcome, and may be directed to Marete Wester, Senior Director of Arts Policy, Americans for the Arts, at [mwester@artsusa.org](mailto:mwester@artsusa.org).