

# CREATIVE FORCES

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## NEA MILITARY HEALING ARTS NETWORK

### NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION SUMMIT

MAY 14-15, 2018

MEAD CENTER FOR AMERICAN THEATER  
1101 6TH STREET SW, WASHINGTON, DC

#### GOAL OF THE CREATIVE FORCES NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION SUMMIT:

Cultivate collaborative relationships among local artists, community arts organizations, and military populations across the National Capital Region to help support service members as they transition from medical treatment facilities back to their homes and families. Specifically, (1) leverage the knowledge and expertise developed by the National Intrepid Center of Excellence, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (MD) and Fort Belvoir (VA) to educate the broader community about creative arts therapies; (2) further connect their work with the broader arts community in the National Capital Region; (3) build capacity for local artists and arts organizations to engage in this work; and (4) develop a vision for a meaningful and sustainable special project or National Capital Region initiative to advance this work.

#### MONDAY, MAY 14, 2018

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**8:00 AM - 8:30 AM**

**REGISTRATION**

**8:30 AM - 8:35 AM**

**NATIONAL ANTHEM**

**8:35 AM - 9:10 AM**

**OPENING REMARKS**

Jane Chu, chairman, National Endowment for the Arts  
Major General Ronald Place, director, National Capital Region  
Medical Directorate, Defense Health Agency  
Major General Linda L. Singh, Adjutant General of Maryland

**9:10 AM - 9:20 AM**

**CALL TO ACTION**

Bill O'Brien, director of Creative Forces, National Endowment for the Arts



9:20 AM - 10:20 AM

**ENGAGE WITH PATIENT ART**

*Former patients, creative arts therapists, and medical providers discuss their first-hand experiences with the role the arts can play in recovering from the wounds of war.*

**Moderator:** Dr. Sara Kass, senior military medical advisor, Creative Forces

Panelists:

Liz K. Freeman, Creative Forces dance/movement therapist, National Intrepid Center of Excellence, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Jessica Herman, Creative Forces art therapist, Fort Belvoir Community Hospital

CW3 Stephen McCombs, U.S. Army

SGT George Tyler McGibbon, U.S. Army (ret)

SFC Michael "Rod" Rodriguez, U.S. Army (ret)

MSgt Michael Schneider, USMC (ret)

Major Ryan Vangel, U.S. Army

Melissa Walker, healing arts program coordinator, National Intrepid Center of Excellence, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Megan Wong, Creative Forces music therapist, Fort Belvoir Community Hospital

LCDR Amy Zaycek, U.S. Navy

10:20 AM - 10:35 AM

**BREAK**

10:35 AM - 11:30 AM

**THE CREATIVE FORCES CLINICAL NETWORK**

*This discussion will provide an overview of the clinical component of Creative Forces—how the network has expanded from the NICoE and Ft. Belvoir to other installations across the country—including coordinated research.*

**Moderator:** Dr. Sara Kass, senior military medical advisor, Creative Forces

Panelists:

Melissa Walker, healing arts program coordinator, National Intrepid Center of Excellence, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Captain Walter M. Greenhalgh, director, National Intrepid Center of Excellence, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Dr. Heechin Chae, director, Intrepid Spirit One, Fort Belvoir Community Hospital

Patricia Moore Shaffer, deputy director, Office of Research & Analysis, National Endowment for the Arts

Alison F. Winters, wellness coordinator and dance/movement therapist, National Intrepid Center of Excellence, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center



11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

**UNDERSTANDING THE CLINICAL TO COMMUNITY CONTINUUM**

*This discussion will focus on how the local arts and military communities can collaborate to provide opportunities for military service members and veterans transitioning out of clinical care, as well as provide opportunities to engage other service members, veterans, and their families through the arts.*

**Opening Remarks:** Capt. Mark Kobelja, Director-Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

**Moderator:** Nolen Bivens, BG, USA, (ret)

**Panelists:**

Niyati Dhokai, research assistant professor, College of Visual and Performing Arts & program manager, Veterans and the Arts Initiative, Hylton Performing Arts Center, George Mason University  
Lynda MacFarland, senior leader military spouse, author  
Sam Pressler, executive director, Armed Services Arts Partnership  
Ava Spece, president & CEO, Workhouse Arts Foundation

12:30 PM - 12:45 PM

**REMARKS**

Karen Pence, Second Lady of the United States

12:45 PM - 1:45 PM

**LUNCH**

1:45 PM - 2:00 PM

**PERFORMANCE**

Featuring excerpts of writing curated by the Veterans Writing Project

2:00 PM - 2:45 PM

**CREATIVE FORCES CAPACITY BUILDING**

*Overview of the main services and features of the future Creative Forces National Resource Center.*

AnnMarie O'Malley, capacity and National Resource Center director, Creative Forces

2:45 PM - 3:00 PM

**BREAK**

**MONDAY, MAY 14, 2018**



**3:00 PM - 4:45 PM**

**ARTS & MILITARY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT BRIGHT LIGHTS**

*Highlights of community-based arts and artist programs and initiatives in Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia that support military service members, veterans and their families.*

Marete Wester, senior director of arts policy and the National Initiative for Arts & Health in the Military, Americans for the Arts  
Arthur Espinoza, Jr., executive director, DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities

Kenneth Skrzysz, executive director, Maryland State Arts Council  
Margaret Vanderhye, executive director, Virginia Commission for the Arts

**4:45 PM - 5:00 PM**

**PERFORMANCE/CLOSING**

Featuring veteran stand-up comedy performers from the Armed Services Arts Partnership

**TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018**



**8:00 AM - 8:30 AM**

**REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS**

**8:30 AM - 8:45 AM**

**WELCOME | SUMMATION OF NATIONAL MILITARY & ARTS HEALING ACTIVITY**

*This session will summarize national efforts to support military communities through the arts.*

Nolen Bivens, BG, USA, (ret)

Laura Scanlan, consultant, National Endowment for the Arts

Marete Wester, senior director of arts policy and the National Initiative for Arts & Health in the Military, Americans for the Arts

Pam Breaux, president and CEO, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies

**8:45 AM - 9:00 AM**

**PERFORMANCE**

Staged reading by the Veteran Spouses Project



9:00 AM - 9:45 AM

**THE VALUE OF THE ARTS TO MILITARY FAMILIES & CAREGIVERS**

*This discussion will include personal stories and first-hand testimonials from military family members and caregivers whose families have been helped through the arts.*

**Moderator:** Marete Wester, senior director of arts policy and the National Initiative for Arts & Health in the Military, Americans for the Arts

**Panelists:**

Claudia Avila, Army spouse

CAPT Moira G. McGuire, division chief, Ancillary Service and lead, Integrative Health & Wellness, General Internal Medicine Service, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Kathy Roth-Douquet, founder & CEO, Blue Star Families

Amy Uptgraft, founder, The Veteran's Spouse Project

9:45 AM - 10:00 AM

**BREAK**

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS: THE WAY AHEAD**

*This session will summarize key themes and ideas from the summit and begin to develop a vision for a meaningful and sustainable collaboration among local military and arts communities*

Bill O'Brien, director of Creative Forces, National Endowment for the Arts

Nolen Bivens, BG, USA, (ret)

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS REPORT OUTS**

Nolen Bivens, BG, USA, (ret)

Breakout group leaders

12:30 PM - 12:45 PM

**CLOSING**