



# Arts Gram

The Official Publication of the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival

Advance Edition • October 2011



## See You in Arkansas!



*Arts in the Ozarks* Fayetteville, Arkansas

Hosted by the Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks

# Count Down to the 2011 National Veterans Creative Arts Festival

October 17-23

The 2011 National Veterans Creative Arts Festival begins in less than one week! The host site, the Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks, in Fayetteville, Ark., has been hard at work preparing for your arrival and to make this year's Festival an event to remember. In fact, there is a committee of more than 22 staff members, many more subcommittee members and countless volunteers who are working diligently to make everything happen.

Don't forget that registration for the Festival begins on Monday, October 17 at 12 noon in the lobby of the John Q. Hammons Convention Center (connected to the Embassy Suites hotel). Veterans will receive important information and details about the events throughout the week.

## Schedules for Monday, October 17th



### Artists

#### All day arrivals

- 10 a.m. – 11 p.m. Hospitality Room Open (Snacks served): Rogers Room, 2nd floor, Embassy Suites
- 12 – 6 p.m. Festival Registration: Hammons Convention Center Foyer
- 5:30 p.m. All team leaders and team support meeting: Commerce Ballrooms, Embassy Suites
- 6:30 p.m. Pre-Dinner Music: Grand Ballroom 6
- 7 p.m. Opening Banquet and Ceremonies: Grand Ballroom 6
- 8:30 p.m. Team Meetings: Team leaders, team support and Veterans



### Performers

#### All day arrivals

- 10 a.m. – 11 p.m. Hospitality Room Open (Snacks served): Rogers Room, 2nd floor, Embassy Suites
- 12 – 6 p.m. Festival Registration: Hammons Convention Center Foyer
- 5 p.m. Performing Artist team leader/support staff meeting: Commerce Ballrooms, Embassy Suites Hotel
- 5:30 p.m. All team leaders and team support meeting: Commerce Ballrooms, Embassy Suites Hotel
- 6:30 p.m. Pre-Dinner Music: Grand Ballroom 6
- 7 p.m. Opening Banquet and Ceremonies: Grand Ballroom 6
- 8:30 p.m. Team Meetings: Team leaders, team support and Veterans

## Check Out Fayetteville's Online Sites

### Northwest Arkansas Newspapers

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

### Local 540

<http://www.local540.com/marketplace/>

### Fayetteville Flyer

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

### Experience Fayetteville

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

### City of Fayetteville

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

### Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce

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

### Walton Arts Center

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

### Embassy Suites

<http://embassysuites1.hilton.com>



### Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks

<http://www.facebook.com/VAFayettevilleAR>

<http://www.fayettevillear.va.gov>

# Traveling to Fayetteville

Our goal is to make your travel to Northwest Arkansas as smooth as possible. With that said, we have a few tips for your trip preparation and arrival:

- √ The majority of planes flying into Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport are regional jets and therefore on the small side.
- √ Use the baggage tags provided in your welcome packet for your luggage and equipment as part of the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival. These color-coded tags are essential for identifying your luggage and to getting it to the right place.
- √ Let the airlines know if you are a special-service-requested customer so that the necessary personnel and arrangements can be made in advance.
- √ Pack a carry-on with essentials, including all medications, toiletries and a change of clothes. Checked luggage can get lost during layovers and can take awhile to arrive at the hotel.
- √ If you are driving, be sure to have up-to-date directions from your home to the hotel.
- √ Keep in mind that your travel time can be influenced by local traffic in your hometown and in Northwest Arkansas. Try to avoid leaving during peak rush hour times to shorten the trip. Interstate 540's rush hour is from approximately 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

## At the Airport

Once you arrive at the airport, proceed downstairs to the baggage claim area (to the right from the elevator and escalator). There will be greeters waiting for you to provide information. Volunteers will be available to assist with gathering luggage and loading it onto shuttle buses.



## Getting to the Embassy Suites

Shuttle service will be available from the airport to the Embassy Suites on Mon., October 17, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Volunteers will be on hand to assist with luggage and boarding. If you are arriving before or after this time frame, you will need to make your own arrangements.

## Hotel Details



This year participants in the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival will be staying at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Spa and Convention Center located in Rogers, Ark. The Embassy Suites is the largest hotel in the area and boasts 400 two-room suites and offers numerous amenities to all guests. Veterans and their guests are sure to be delighted by all of the services and features that the hotel has to offer. This includes complimentary cooked to order breakfast, evening manager's reception, Embassy Essentials Bedding, a day spa, fitness center, indoor pool, whirlpool and sauna, wireless internet and a shuttle to the Pinnacle Hills Promenade (outdoor shopping area which offers shopping, dining and a movie theatre). In addition, all guest rooms come equipped with a microwave, refrigerator, coffee maker, iron and ironing board and hairdryer.

Get ready for the experience of a lifetime at the 2011 Festival and to enjoy all of the excitement and beauty of Northwest Arkansas!

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Embassy Suites Hotel, Spa  
and Convention Center  
3303 Nw Pinnacle Hills Pkway  
Rogers, Arkansas, 72758  
1-866-599-6674



*The average temperature in Fayetteville in October ranges from lows around 46 to highs around 70 degrees.*