



# Arts Gram

The Official Publication of the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival

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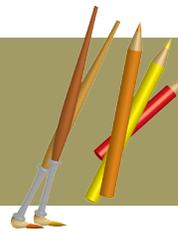
We've Arrived!



*Arts in the Ozarks* Fayetteville, Arkansas

Hosted by the Veterans Health Care System of the Ozarks

# Artistry in Motion



by Todd Greenman, public affairs officer, VA Medical Center, Battle Creek, Michigan

## Navy Veteran Enjoys Making Rugs

World War II Veteran Everett Booten enjoys making rugs when he has the time. His entry, "Midnight Wolves," which he said took him six months to finish, won first place at the 2011 National Veterans Creative Arts Festival in the Latch Hook category. At the medical center competition, Booten entered his work for two years in this category before winning at this level. He is excited to be here for the first time, displaying his work and having this moment to share with his son, who traveled with him.

Booten, 86, of Shipman, Ill., served almost four years in the Navy in the South Pacific. He receives care at the VA Medical Center in St. Louis, Mo. "I have three more rugs I am working on -- a United States seal, Clydesdale Budweiser horses, and a moose," Booten said.



Everett Booten showcases his "Midnight Wolves" rug in the Latch Hook category.

## Question for the Day? Every day this week, we'll go out and ask one question. Here are your responses.

If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would it be and why?



Dallas Lee  
Bern, Kansas  
Air Force

"I would like to go to Tokyo. I was stationed there in the Korean War and would like to go back and see how it has progressed."



Danny Roberts  
Gainesville, Florida  
Air Force

"I would like to go to Italy because I'm Italian and have never been there."



Michelle Galant  
Anchorage, Alaska  
Army

"I would like to go to Paris, France because I love that city and I have many happy memories of Paris."



Emil Saint-Pellicer  
Grover, Missouri  
Army

"I'm where I want to be. This is a very comfortable, beautiful country."



Johnathan Starks  
Anchorage, Alaska  
Army

"Fayetteville, Arkansas, to be with my fellow Veterans and family again."

# Center Stage



## Auditions

*Take Place Today!*



This year's show is bound to be more enjoyable the more you participate. Please take the opportunity to audition for one of these extra parts in Sunday's show. The following is a list of narrators, soloists, and actors needed for a variety of parts this year:

### **Narrators**

- Four narrators to read the narration "I Am Your Flag"
- Narrator(s) to read a narration about the therapeutic benefits of the arts
- Emcee Introduction

### **Non-Speaking Acting Parts**

- Actor portraying a present-day soldier
- Six flag bearers to carry in the five service flags and the American flag in the production number, "A Salute to American Service"

### **Vocal Solos**

- One vocal soloist for production number, "Tomorrow"
- Three vocal soloists to sing the verses in the production number, "Don't Stop"
- Three male soloists for production number, "I Pledge My Allegiance"
- Female soloists and harmony singers for the production number, "Beautiful"
- Back-up singer(s) for the song, "American Soldier"

### **Small Ensemble**

- One small group ensemble to sing on the production number, "Star Spangled Banner"

All Veterans interested in auditioning for solos, acting parts, or narrations must attend a meeting in Grand Ballrooms 1-5 today at 4 p.m. Audition forms must be turned in at this meeting.

Only the small ensemble for "Star Spangled Banner," the solos/harmony parts for "Beautiful," and back-up singer(s) for "American Soldier" will audition this afternoon. All other solos and narrations will audition tonight.

Auditions for "Star Spangled Banner," "Beautiful," and back-up singer(s) for "American Soldier" will be held this afternoon starting at 4:10 p.m. in Ambassador Ballrooms A/B.

### **Ambassador Ballroom A/B – Audition Schedule:**

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| 4:10 – 4:30 p.m.         | "Star Spangled Banner" – Review and then audition for small ensemble (if you have sung in the small ensemble in prior years, you do not need to audition again) |
| 4:30 – 5:15 p.m.         | "Beautiful" – All female Veterans wanting to audition for these solos and/or harmony parts must be present during this time                                     |
| 5:15 p.m. until finished | "American Soldier" – Anyone interested in auditioning to be a back-up singer for this song must be present during this time                                     |

### **Ambassador C – Rehearsal Schedule:**

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 4:05 – 5:30 p.m. | "I Pledge My Allegiance" – Only those in the small ensemble may audition for these solos |
|------------------|--|

### **Ambassador D – Rehearsal Schedule:**

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 4:05 – 5:30 p.m. | "Tomorrow" solo and three solos for "Don't Stop" |
|------------------|--|

### **North Rotunda (near Grand Ballroom 1-5) – Rehearsal Schedule:**

- |                  |                           |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| 4:05 – 5:30 p.m. | All narrations and actors |
|------------------|---------------------------|

Beginning at 7:30 p.m., individuals who have turned in an audition form will be called out of the chorus rehearsals to audition for their desired solos, narrations/acting parts in Ambassador Ballrooms A/B.

Though the stage show may seem far away, Sunday will be here before you know it! There is a lot to prepare for and many exciting opportunities for those who love the spotlight.

The names of those selected for solos, narrations and other roles will be posted early tomorrow (Wednesday) morning.

**Break a leg!**

# Festival Photos





# The Therapeutic Arts Scholarship...and the Winners Are

The Therapeutic Arts Scholarship is a recently added opportunity for Veterans who enter the Creative Arts Competition. During the local competition phase (January 1 – April 1), VA staff persons had the opportunity to nominate one Veteran from their facility for consideration to attend the Festival based on a therapeutic objective. A narrative explaining the therapeutic benefits that he or she will receive from attending the Festival must accompany the Veteran's entry. The Veteran must be entered in at least one category in any of the five divisions. Nominations are open to first-time participants at the Festival, but not necessarily first time participants in the creative arts competition.

A panel made up of national committee members review each of the nominations and select the individual who will benefit most from participating in this year's Festival. The scholarship allows the recipients to participate in the Festival with all lodging and meal expenses paid.

Six scholarship recipients were selected this year - three visual artists and three performing artists. Visual arts scholarship recipients Steven Goodwine from Las Vegas, Nev., Melvin Peshlakai from Albuquerque, N.M., and Philip Trapane from Wilkes-Barre, Pa., are attending the visual arts workshops and alternate activities. Joseph Copeland from Amarillo, Texas; Robert Piggee from Des Moines, Iowa; and Steven Brozyna from Lyons, N.J., are the scholarship recipients from the performing arts division and will be singing as chorus members in the stage show later this week.

We would like to congratulate the recipients of this year's Therapeutic Arts Scholarship and encourage all staff members to consider nominating a Veteran from your facility for the 2012 scholarships. As we all know, the Festival provides great therapeutic benefit and rehabilitation for our nation's heroes, so be sure to take part in this great opportunity.

## Alternate Activities

### Fayetteville Underground

Tues., October 18 - 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Departing from Embassy Suites

Fayetteville Underground is a non-profit community arts organization whose mission is "to promote the arts in Northwest Arkansas and help establish Fayetteville as a destination city of the visual arts." The Underground is more than just a commercial art gallery. In addition to housing four distinct retail gallery spaces, it is also home to more than a dozen artist studios where visitors may view and interact with resident working artists as they create original works of art spanning numerous mediums—providing an environment where the public and artists can build relationships and share the creative process.

## Did You Know This About Arkansas?

- Elevations in the state range from 54 feet above sea level in the far southeast corner to 2,753 feet above at Mount Magazine, the state's highest point.
- Arkansas contains over 600,000 acres of lakes and 9,700 miles of streams and rivers.
- Famous singer Johnny Cash was born in Kingsland, Ark.
- The World's Championship Duck Calling Contest is held annually in Stuttgart, Ark.
- Former President Bill Clinton was born in Hope, Ark. He also spent time in Fayetteville, Hot Springs and Little Rock, Ark.
- Sam Walton founded his Wal-Mart stores in Bentonville, Ark.
- Arkansas became the 25th state on June 15, 1836.
- Alma, Ark., claims to be the Spinach Capital of the World.
- Hope, Ark., claims to be the Watermelon Capital of the World.
- Milk is the official state beverage. It was designated in 1985.
- Arkansas Entertainers Hall of Fame includes: Johnny Cash, Louis Jordan, Alan Ladd, Dick Powell, Mary Steenburgen, Sonny Boy Williamson, Billy Bob Thornton.
- Arkansas Sports Hall of Famers are: Mark Martin, John Daly, Bill Dickey, Brooks Robinson, Dizzy Dean, Jermain "Bad Intentions" Taylor, Scottie Pippen, Paul "Bear" Bryant, and Clyde Scott.
- The mockingbird is the official state bird. It was designated in 1929.
- The apple blossom is the official state flower. It was designated in 1901.

## Internet Cafe

The Hewlett Packard Internet Cafe is located in Embassy Boardroom (in the John Q. Hammons Convention Center – left hand side when you come down the stairs from the Embassy Suites Hotel).

The Internet Cafe is available:

Tuesday – Saturday • 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Closed Thursday and Saturday Evenings

## Hospitality

The Hospitality Room is sponsored by the Arkansas and Missouri Chapters of the American Legion Auxiliary and is located in the Rogers Room, 2nd Floor, of the Embassy Suites. Be sure to stop by on the following days!

Tues., October 18 – Thurs., October 20  
9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

Fri., October 21  
9 a.m. to Midnight

Sat., October 22  
9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Sun., October 23  
10 a.m. to Noon  
10 p.m. – Midnight

### *Ice Cream Social*

Wed., October 19  
9 p.m. to 11 p.m.



## Medical Information

- The Medical Room is located in the Ambassador Suite, Room 220.
- Daily hours are from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. Outside the hotel, please call (479) 254-8400 and ask for Suite 220.
- After 11 p.m., call (479) 422-3982 for medical emergencies.
- During the Festival, please let your team leader know of any medical concerns. They will help you.
- Medical personnel wearing bright blue jackets will be seen throughout the hotel and convention center.
- Medical personnel will also accompany each group on activities throughout the week.



# Today's Menu



Tues., October 18th

### Breakfast Buffet

Atrium – Embassy Suites  
6 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

### Lunch Buffet

Grand Ballroom 6  
Noon – 1:30 p.m.

Mixed Garden Greens with Assorted Toppings/Dressings  
Loaded Baked Potato Salad  
Marinated Mushroom and Artichoke Salad  
Assorted Relish Tray of Olives, Pickles,  
Pepperoncini, Cherry Peppers, and Pickled Vegetables  
Sliced Pastrami, Salami, Smoked Ham,  
Roasted Turkey Breast and Roast Beef  
Swiss, Cheddar, and Provolone Cheese  
Leaf Lettuce, Sliced Tomatoes, and Condiments  
Assortment of Kaiser, Hoagie and  
Ciabatta Rolls, and Specialty Breads  
Homemade Parmesan Cracked Pepper Chips  
Assorted Fresh Baked Cookies and Dessert Bars  
Coffee and Iced Tea

### Dinner Buffet

Grand Ballroom 6  
5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Mixed Field Greens with Choice of Two Dressings  
Loaded Baked Potato Salad  
Herb Grilled Chicken with Balsamic Orange Glaze  
Marinated Flank Steak with Porter Jus and  
Blue Cheese Crumbles  
Seasonal Vegetables and Potato  
Warm Dinner Rolls and Butter  
Layer Cakes, Cheesecake  
and Seasonal Desserts  
Seasonal Fruit  
Coffee and Iced Tea



## Schedules for Tuesday, October 18th



# Artists

- 6 – 8:30 a.m. Breakfast: Atrium, Embassy Suites
- 7 – 8:30 a.m. Late Registration: Salon Rooms F/G/H, Hammons Convention Center
- 8:30 a.m. Teams I and II report to Pinnacle Ballrooms for photos
- 9 a.m. Teams III and IV report to Pinnacle Ballrooms for photos
- 9 a.m. – 11 p.m. Hospitality Room Open: Rogers Room, 2nd floor, Embassy Suites
- 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Artist Interaction Session: Commerce Ballrooms, Embassy Suites
- 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Lunch: Grand Ballroom 6
- 1:30 p.m. Depart for Fayetteville Underground. Tour art galleries and artist studios. (Scratch Board & Fabric Dyeing Workshops)
- 5 p.m. Return to hotel
- 6 – 7 p.m. Dinner: Grand Ballroom 6
- 7 – 9 p.m. RCTV videotape interviews: Pinnacle Ballrooms 1-5
- 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. Caricaturist: Pinnacle Ballroom Foyer, Embassy Suites
- 9 – 11 p.m. Karaoke & Social Time: Pinnacle Ballrooms 6-8



# Performers

- 8:30 p.m. Team Meetings: Team leaders, team support and Veterans
- 6 – 8:30 a.m. Breakfast: Atrium, Embassy Suites
- 7 – 8:30 a.m. Late Registration: Salon Rooms F/G/H, Hammons Convention Center
- 8 a.m. Team Leaders meet with Amy Kimbler: Ambassador Ballrooms A/B
- 8:20 a.m. Check in with team leaders: Grand Ballrooms 1-5
- 8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Act 1 rehearsal. All Veterans and stage/sound crews needed: Grand Ballrooms 1-5
- 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Chorus vests/costume fittings: Ambassador Ballroom E
- 9 a.m. – 11 p.m. Hospitality Room Open: Rogers Room, 2nd floor, Embassy Suites
- 12 – 1 p.m. Lunch: Grand Ballroom 6
- 1 – 4 p.m. Introductions and Act 2 rehearsal: Grand Ballrooms 1-5
- 1 – 5 p.m. Chorus vests/costume fittings: Ambassador Ballroom E
- 1:30 – 4 p.m. Chorus music rehearsal with chorus leader and sectional assistants: Ambassador Ballrooms A/B
- 4 – 5:30 p.m. Rehearsal and sign-up for audition solos and narrations: Grand Ballrooms 1-5, Ambassador Ballrooms A/B, C, D
- 4 – 5:30 p.m. RCTV videotape interviews: Grand Ballrooms 1-5
- 4:10 – 4:30 p.m. Audition for Star Spangled Banner small ensemble: Ambassador Ballroom A/B
- 4:30 – 5:15 p.m. Auditions for female Veterans for Beautiful: Ambassador Ballroom A/B
- 5:15 pm until finished Auditions for back-up singer(s) for American Soldier (with Dan): Ambassador Ballrooms A/B
- 5:30 – 7 p.m. Dinner: Grand Ballroom 6
- 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. All solo & group acts have pictures taken IN COSTUMES: Grand Ballrooms 1-5
- 7 – 9 p.m. Chorus number rehearsal with music director (All show participants): Grand Ballrooms 1-5
- 7 – 9 p.m. Chorus vests/costume fittings: Ambassador Ballroom E
- 7:30 p.m. Auditions for solos & narrations: Ambassador Ballrooms A/B
- 9–11 p.m. Karaoke & Social Time: Pinnacle Ballrooms 6-8



### Artists and Performers

Please check with your team leader and/or the posted schedule in the Embassy Suites breakfast area or outside of Grand Ballrooms 1-5 in the Convention Center for any changes or updates to your daily schedule.

## Today's Weather

**Mostly Sunny**  
*High/Low (°F) 60 / 37*



## Lost and Found

Embassy Suites  
Salon G - Headquarters