FACT SHEET

What: The National Veterans Creative Arts Festival (NVCAF) is the celebration and grand finale stage show, art exhibit and presentation of original writings, which are the culmination of talent competitions in art, creative writing, dance, drama and music for Veterans treated in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) national health care system.

Who: Approximately 120 Veterans will exhibit their artwork, share their original written work, or perform musical, dance or dramatic selections in a gala variety show. A professional orchestra will accompany the performance. All Veterans invited to participate are selected gold medal winners of year-long, national fine arts talent competitions in which thousands of Veterans enter, from VA medical facilities across the nation.

When: Festival: October 23–29, 2017

Why: VA medical facilities incorporate creative arts into their recreation therapy programs to further the rehabilitation milieu for both inpatients and outpatients. This annual competition recognizes the progress and recovery made through that therapy, and raises the visibility of the creative achievements of our Nation’s Veterans after disease, disability or life crisis.

Events Open to the Public - Sunday, October 29, 2017
Art Exhibit and Creative Writers Meet & Greet – 12 Noon – 1:45 p.m.
Stage Show - 2:00 p.m.
Center for the Arts
University at Buffalo
103 Center for The Arts
Buffalo, NY 14260-6000

Presented by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the American Legion Auxiliary.

Director
Elizabeth Mackey, MT-BC
Director National Veterans Creative Arts Festival: Elizabeth.Mackey@va.gov Phone: (320) 255-6351

Host
VA Western New York Healthcare System
3495 Bailey Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14215
Contact: Host Site Coordinator: Pamela.Kaznowski@va.gov
Free, but tickets are required to the stage show.
For complimentary tickets to the Sunday, October 29 stage show, call (716) 862-6814.

Media
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