



# NATIONAL VETERANS CREATIVE **ARTS** FESTIVAL

art • music • drama • dance • creative writing

## FACT SHEET

**What** **The National Veterans Creative Arts Festival (NVCAF)** is the celebration and grand finale stage show, art and writing exhibition, 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 stage 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 29 – November 4, 2018

**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, November 4, 2018**

**Art Exhibit and Creative Writers Meet & Greet** – 12 Noon – 1:45 p.m.

**Stage Show** - 2:00 p.m.

**Venue location to be announced in June, 2018**

**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](mailto:Elizabeth.Mackey@va.gov) Phone: (320) 255-6351

### Host

VA Central Iowa Health Care System

3600 30<sup>th</sup> Street

Des Moines, Iowa

Contact: Host Site Coordinator: [Suzanne.Anderson4@va.gov](mailto:Suzanne.Anderson4@va.gov)

### Admission

Free, but tickets are required to the stage show.

Ticket information will become available after September 1, 2018.

### Media

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