



NATIONAL VETERANS CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL

art • music • drama • dance • creative writing

Shirley Jeffries – Therapeutic Arts Scholarship Recipient Music Division

**Alfredo Hurtado
Durham, N.C.**

Alfredo Hurtado, a 33-year-old military Veteran from Durham, N.C., is the 2010 Shirley Jeffries – Therapeutic Arts Scholarship recipient in the Music Division.

Hurtado served four tours in Iraq and Afghanistan from 2001-2005. It was 14 days into his fourth tour in Iraq that his humvee was hit by an improvised explosive device and he sustained serious injuries that affected the abilities he enjoyed prior to the devastating combat injury.

Today, he copes with these losses through his music. Hurtado uses his songwriting as a way to express his feelings about his war experiences. His musical abilities peaked with a musical performance he presented for children at his daughter's school. This experience reinforced Hurtado's desire to pursue such activating experiences. In addition, he often discusses the link between generating new music and his own continuing accomplishments.

Attending the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival benefits Hurtado in many ways and provides him with an opportunity to continue his therapeutic use of music for both healing and joy.