CREATIVE ARTS

APRIL 2025

The Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities use the Creative Arts program as one form of rehabilitation treatment to help veterans recover and cope with service-related trauma (PTSD) and physical disabilities. It enhances their quality of life and benefits their family relations. Veterans eligible to receive care through Department of Veteran Affairs are enrolled at a VA Medical Center, Outpatient Clinic, or reside in a state veterans home.

The veterans compete in local creative arts competitions where veterans exhibit their creativity which helps their sense of pride and self confidence.

The Phoenix Creative Arts Festival will be held on May 8, 2025, at the VA Medical Center, Topaz Clinic (in the basement) from 10 am to 1 pm.

The Tucson Creative Arts Festival will be held August 12-15, 2025.

The Prescott Creative Arts Festival will be held in September at the County Fairgrounds. The exact date will be provided later.

I urge you to attend these competitions and be impressed with the artistic achievements of our veterans. You will feel rewarded that your donations make this rehabilitation program possible.

The American Legion Auxiliary's purpose is to support veterans, military, and their families. Our Unit donations are very important since The American Legion Auxiliary and Department of Veterans Affairs are the only two sponsors for this program. When sending donations to Department, please specify it is for your local VA festival or it will be forwarded to the National Creative Arts Festival. Poppy funds can be also used for the Creative Arts Program.

Additional information can be found at <u>www.creativeartsfestival.va.gov</u>.

If you have any questions, please contact me or a team member in your area:

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For God and Country.

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