

CREATIVE ARTS

AUGUST 2023

Creative Arts is a program for Veterans eligible to receive care through Department of Veteran Affairs or are enrolled at a VA Medical Center, Outpatient Clinic, or residing in a state vet home. Veterans participate in many mediums, such as painting, sculpture, leatherwork, jewelry, as well as creative writing, dance, drama, and music. This program helps veterans recover from and cope with physical and emotional disabilities.

Creative Arts Festivals will be held throughout the country to display their creativity in various works. Arizona VA Hospitals are planning festivals and I hope many of you will attend one at your local VA Medical Center. You will be amazed at the talent displayed and feel rewarded knowing that your donations made this rehabilitation program possible. The dates for the festivals in Phoenix, Prescott, and Tucson, Arizona, will be provided as soon as the information becomes available.

The American Legion Auxiliary and Department of Veterans Affairs are the only two sponsors for this program. I know your Unit will have great ideas on raising funds to help our Veterans receive therapy so beneficial in rebuilding their emotional and physical health. When sending donations to Department, it is important that you 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 [creativeartsfestival.@va.gov](mailto:creativeartsfestival@va.gov).

The names and contact information for the Creative Arts team member in your area will be provided in the September Bulletin. In the meantime, if you or your Unit have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

For God and Country.

Anita Ritter, Chairman
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