

**California Arts Council
2018-2019 Veterans in the Arts
Project Descriptions**

Veterans in the Arts (VIA) addresses the needs and improves the lives of California’s veterans by increasing equity, access, and opportunities for veterans to participate in quality arts programming that is sensitive and responsive to their unique experiences. VIA provides project support for nonprofit arts organizations, local arts agencies, and veteran’s assistance agencies to reach veterans and their families. Learn more at <http://arts.ca.gov/programs/via.php>.

Number of Grants Awarded: 46 | Total Investment: \$602,205

| Application ID, Organization, County, Grant Award Amount | Project Description |
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| VIA-18-5117 ADVAITA SOCIETY <i>Alameda County</i> \$16,200 | With support from the California Arts Council, Kala Art Institute (Advaita Society) will provide new veteran art residency, exhibition and public program opportunities for four to six veteran artists to come to Kala for a four-month residency, with 24/7 access to Kala’s printmaking workshop and media center, technical support, opportunities for exhibition and artist talks at Kala, and resources to design and lead workshops for other veterans and for the general public. |
| VIA-18-5261 ALAMEDA COUNTY ARTS COMMISSION <i>Alameda County</i> \$16,200 | With California Arts Council support, the Alameda County Arts Commission will present “Creative Veterans” with partnering veterans service agencies to provide veterans with a series of art workshops developed collaboratively with veterans and veterans counselors. The goals are to provide veterans with opportunities to express themselves in a supportive environment, develop art skills, and engage in community building. The project will include events and exhibitions at veterans and civic venues. |
| VIA-18-4448 ARTS CONNECTION <i>San Bernardino County</i> \$8,955 | With support from the California Arts Council, Arts Connection will work in partnership with veterans’ organization Mil-Tree to offer a 3 day retreat titled, “The Art of Resilience.” It will bring together vets who are either in transition or recently separated from the military to share their stories through art and dialogue with each other and civilian community members. Funds will provide for retreat facilitators, promotional costs, supplies, documentation and administrative fees. |

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| <p>VIA-18-5168 ARTS COUNCIL OF KERN <i>Kern County</i> \$14,263</p> | <p>With the support from the California Arts Council, Arts Council of Kern in partnership with the Bakersfield Veterans Center, will provide guitar and keyboard music lessons to veterans and their families, free of charge, at three locations taught by qualified teaching artists. Classes will culminate with a recital free for family and friends.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-4311 ARTS ORANGE COUNTY <i>Orange County</i> \$14,400</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Arts Orange County’s “VOICES: Veterans Storytelling Project” will help veterans strengthen their skills in creative expression and contribute to their overall well-being through free writing workshops conducted by a seasoned teaching artist. VOICES will also educate the general public about the varied experiences of veterans at free readings by the project participants at the Heroes Hall Veterans Museum, site of the former Santa Ana Army Air Base.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5188 BLUE LINE ARTS <i>Placer County</i> \$15,390</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Blue Line Arts will host eight free art workshops designed for specific local veteran populations, in order to provide veterans and their families with a therapeutic outlet, and allow them to explore creative mediums for communication and expression. Programs include multi-generational programming for active duty veteran families, workshops for women veterans with an expressive art therapy component, and classes accessible to all veterans.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-4306 CALIFORNIA BALLET ASSOCIATION INC <i>San Diego County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With the support from the California Arts Council, California Ballet Association Inc. will provide theater tickets to veterans, retired & active military members for 2019’s The Nutcracker. CBC will partner with military service organizations to develop relevant programming by offering family movement classes in environments that veterans feel comfortable in, and the opportunity to experience the life of a dancer from audition to performance in our annual Nutcracker.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5413 CITY OF TEMECULA/TEMECULA VALLEY MUSEUM <i>Riverside County</i> \$4,360</p> | <p>With support of the California Arts Council, the City of Temecula/Temecula Valley Museum will record histories of Temecula veterans to preserve for present day audiences and future generations. The project, featuring veterans from the Korean War and Vietnam is a sequel to the 2015 award-winning documentary “World War II Remembrances – Temecula Valley Veterans,” featuring area WWII veterans. The video will be used for educational engagement and as an invaluable historical resource.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5496 COLLAGE DANCE THEATRE <i>Los Angeles County</i> \$14,400</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Heidi Duckler Dance (HDD) will develop and implement a creative residency for the veterans at Thomas Safran & Associates (TSA) Glendale Village Property in Glendale. HDD’s Teaching Artists will conduct workshops culminating in performances by the veterans for their families, fellow residents, and the local community, along with performances by HDD’s company dancers.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-4224 CONTRA COSTA COUNTY <i>Contra Costa County</i> \$4,500</p> | <p>With support from the CA Arts Council, the Arts & Culture Commission of Contra Costa County, Veterans Service Office and Returning Veterans of Diablo Valley will offer self-portrait painting workshops, engaging Veterans in artistic endeavors that enhance their creativity & confidence. For our fifth season of offering ABOUTFACE: Building Veterans’ Self-understanding through Self-portraits, we are extending the workshops to four sessions to provide in-depth, interactive, arts-learning activities.</p> |

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| <p>VIA-18-5369 CORNERSTONE THEATER COMPANY INC <i>Los Angeles County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Cornerstone Theater Company and a cast of veterans and professional actors will re-stage “What Happens Next” at the San Diego County Veterans Administration to extend the reach of this project to a wider circle of veterans, their families, staff who provide assistance to veterans and the general public; and to develop and test a model of presenting the work in the context of a residency as a foundation for touring to VA sites across California.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5182 CRE OUTREACH FOUNDATION INC <i>Los Angeles County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, CRE Outreach will produce two original plays written and performed by military veterans through our yearlong program, Veterans Empowerment Theatre. Participants will be recruited through a partnership with the Beverly Hills branch of the NAACP. Participants are selected based on their interest in using creative expression as an outlet for telling their experiences in the military.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-4239 CREATIVE EDGE THE WAY OF THE ARTS <i>Sacramento County</i> \$6,143</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Creative Edge: The Way of the Arts, in collaboration with the local veterans hospital, will offer a series of free retreats for Veterans to artistically express their military experiences, share their often difficult stories in a supportive community, and then encourage others by creating art of hope and healing. The healing art will be printed on large outdoor banners to be hung around the hospital and meditation garden to inspire others.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-4302 DEL NORTE ASSOCIATION FOR CULTURAL AWARENESS <i>Del Norte County</i> \$14,400</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Del Norte Association for Cultural Awareness will continue offering free-of-charge arts workshops to our community’s veterans & their families including: guitar, drum circles, varied media in visual arts (new & old) & creative writing. We will also provide them complimentary tickets for our quality, multi-cultural performance series. We will partner with a gallery to curate an exhibit for Veterans’ Day 2019 with photos & stories from local veterans.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-4961 DELL-ARTE INC <i>Humboldt County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Dell’Arte Inc. will partner with Blue Ox Millworks to engage with the Humboldt County Veteran Community through the development and showcases of Radioman, a docu-play conceived by and for Humboldt County Veterans and their families. The project will offer opportunities to nearly 800 Veterans and Community Members for healing, sharing, and engaging with the greater community to strengthen relationships.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5198 EL DORADO ARTS COUNCIL <i>El Dorado County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With support from California Arts Council, El Dorado Arts Council will continue its Veterans Voices Writing Workshop, a free ongoing writing workshop that is open to all veterans, from any branch of service, that offers a supportive environment and the tools needed for the writing of stories, service related or not, (fiction and nonfiction) as well as memoir, poetry and drama. New for this funding cycle is the addition of a second workshop for the Placerville area.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-4693 FORD THEATRE FOUNDATION <i>Los Angeles County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Ford Theatre Foundation (FTF) will continue its programming initiative for veterans, started in 2018, through two programs: 1) a series of participatory workshops with artist Arianne MacBean focused on the experiences of female veterans; and 2) a new partnership with Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles that will employ veterans as technical crew, involving them in every stage of the production with the goal of increasing their career options.</p> |

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| <p>VIA-18-4359 FRIENDS OF THE BRENTWOOD ART CENTER <i>Los Angeles County</i> \$5,846</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, the Brentwood Art Center will offer a free, yearlong art program for veterans at the Westwood and Long Beach VA. The goals of the program are to teach visual literacy skills, to empower veterans to express their creativity in a safe and nurturing environment, to support and respond to the unique needs and abilities of veterans, and to elevate the voices and experiences of veterans with opportunities to exhibit and promote their work publicly.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5244 GEFFEN PLAYHOUSE INC <i>Los Angeles County</i> \$14,400</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Geffen Playhouse will encourage and support arts learning and the artistic expression of veterans through our Veterans Writing and Performance Project. The four-month intensive is designed to help military veterans write and perform their own stories as personal monologues on our stage, not only to help them heal and connect with each other, but to also build bridges and new levels of understanding, appreciation and support from the general public.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-4433 KALEIDOSCOPE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA <i>Los Angeles County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra will partner with the United States Veterans' Artists Alliance to bring a series of interactive musical workshops to veterans and their families. Participants will create and perform original compositions developed collaboratively with Kaleidoscope musicians. The resulting performances and a short film documenting the project will be free and available to the public.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5367 KRISTA DENIO>>MOVING GROUND <i>San Francisco County</i> \$9,900</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Krista DeNio>>Moving Ground will offer weekly creative arts workshops for veterans and civilian allies, from September 2019 to May 2020, culminating in a performative showing of creative materials in collaboration with the SFAC Gallery. The workshops are free, open to all, and will be co-led and co-created by veterans and artists from the KDMG/ETS team, working together with the veteran (and civilian ally) participants.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5391 LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER <i>Los Angeles County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, award winning filmmaker Andrew Putschoegl will provide instruction on documentary filmmaking techniques to 12 senior LGBT veterans who will band together to create a film that captures their unique perspectives related to serving in the U.S. military. The film will be screened at the Los Angeles LGBT Center Stand Down (a veteran's resource fair) and at a larger community-wide event, as well as offered to film festivals and then posted to You Tube.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5468 LOS ANGELES OPERA COMPANY <i>Los Angeles County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Los Angeles Opera Company will immerse veterans in opera. Collaborating with Returning Soldiers Speak, veterans will create the lyrics for an operatic song cycle in response to the new opera Eurydice. The lyrics will be put to music by composers and then performed for the public as part of the Eurydice Found countywide festival. Additionally, over 500 veterans will attend LA Opera performances and share their response through public presentations.</p> |

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| <p>VIA-18-5148 MARIN SHAKESPEARE COMPANY <i>Marin County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Marin Shakespeare Company will develop relationships with local veterans organizations; present public screenings of videos, with discussions of plays written and performed by incarcerated veterans at San Quentin State Prison; and offer a veterans acting class for non-incarcerated veterans to write and perform autobiographical stories and explore Shakespeare texts relating to warfare.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5452 MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART SAN DIEGO <i>San Diego County</i> \$18,000</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego will bring high-quality arts programming to approximately 100 veterans enrolled in a residential treatment program at that Veteran’s Village of San Diego (VVSD) through weekly museum visits and hands-on art making workshops. Museum staff will also mentor a select group of VVSD residents through the curatorial process to present a culminating public exhibition to celebrate the artwork created in the program.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5131 OLD GLOBE THEATRE <i>San Diego County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, The Old Globe’s Technical Center Apprenticeship Program will offer paid training opportunities for veterans, active military re-entering civilian life and their spouses. During the grant period, apprenticeship positions will be provided for up four participants, each training for a minimum of eight to 10 weeks. The Globe will work with Veterans Village of San Diego and other local military partners to identify and recruit new apprentices.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5063 OPERA SAN JOSE INCORPORATED <i>Santa Clara County</i> \$3,000</p> | <p>With the support from the California Arts Council, Opera San Jose Incorporated will present a series of concerts performed by the OSJ Military Veterans Chorus during the 2019-20 season, including performances at VA Hospitals, Veterans Service organizations such as the Blue Star Moms, Veterans and Armistice day events, and its annual fundraising concert benefiting homeless veterans via the All the Way Home campaign sponsored by the organization, Destination Home.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5328 OUTSIDE THE LENS <i>San Diego County</i> \$14,400</p> | <p>Outside the Lens is launching our second season of hosting free, family-centered photography programs tailored to the veteran community of San Diego. With support from the California Arts Council, the program will allow military-connected families to explore digital storytelling, documentary photography, and filmmaking as means of communication. A culminating public showcase of their artwork will engage the broader community in witnessing the voices and stories of veterans, and their families.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-4393 PUTNAM FOUNDATION <i>San Diego County</i> \$18,000</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, the Putnam Foundation (dba Timken Museum of Art) will engage veterans at San Diego Naval Medical Center in weekly Creative Engagement art classes, tours, and events. The outcomes of our programming begin in the classroom and leave with the veteran as they navigate life after the military. Through art, using allegory and metaphor, veterans will gain an alternate voice for communicating what is often too difficult to convey in words.</p> |

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| <p>VIA-18-5372 RED LADDER THEATRE COMPANY <i>Santa Clara County</i> \$12,506</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Red Ladder Theatre Company will work with veterans, and the families of veterans, to develop their creative expression and amplify their voices through a series of interactive workshops in the creative process. By utilizing the tools of theatre, as well as visual and digital storytelling techniques, participants will develop performance and visual art pieces that speak to their unique experiences, and present these works for a public audience.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5171 REGENTS UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES <i>Los Angeles County</i> \$14,359</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Regents University of California Los Angeles will support a team of mental health and arts leaders, veterans and their families, to develop/produce a mixed-media opera/oratorio with based on veteran interviews and video-narratives concerning the path for veterans with mental illness or homelessness toward resilience and recovery, with veteran involvement at all stages and as audience members, including national streaming by Mental Health America.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-4417 RESOUNDING JOY INC <i>San Diego County</i> \$14,400</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Resounding Joy will provide professional music therapy services to service members and veterans seeking to improve their emotional and mental health, particularly those with post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, or other diagnoses that decrease the quality of their lives.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5484 SACRAMENTO GUITAR SOCIETY <i>Sacramento County</i> \$4,592</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Sacramento Guitar Society (SGS) will offer private professional guitar lessons for up to 24 veterans for 10 weeks by engaging with Guitars4Vets, a national nonprofit that currently provides veterans basic lessons led by community volunteers (not necessarily professional guitar instructor). SGS will provide each graduate of Guitars4Vets a one-year membership and 10 lesson vouchers redeemable thru SGS local professional guitar teachers.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5505 SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL <i>San Luis Obispo County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, San Luis Obispo County Arts Council will develop Veterans' Voices III, an immersive program with three ways for veterans to participate and turn story and vision into art. In the third year, Veterans' Voices will expand countywide connections, deepen a relationship with AmpSurf, and culminate in a month-long, multidisciplinary, public exhibition of new works by veterans at Studios on the Park.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5140 SELF-HELP GRAPHICS AND ARTS INC <i>Los Angeles County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Self-Help Graphics and Arts Inc. will support Self Help Graphics & Art production of a print portfolio with six to eight veterans from within our 45-year-long creative community. In addition to each artist creating a serigraph edition in SHG's renowned printmaking studio, they will each lead public workshops which will target the veteran community and their families. Workshops will range from family-friendly to workshops for artists within the community.</p> |

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| <p>VIA-18-4271 SIXTH STREET PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOP <i>San Francisco County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With support from California Arts Council, Sixth Street Photography Workshop will work with veterans in photography. Advancing skills and understanding of photographic arts, participants will gain broad appreciation for photography. Intended as authentic expression from a unique social context, technique and aesthetics will be emphasized. Working in a group provides therapeutic benefits and emotional support. Photographs will be exhibited in our 6th On 7th Gallery throughout the grant period.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5292 SO SAY WE ALL <i>San Diego County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, So Say We All will provide literary arts programming with these deliverables: 1) Mentor 25 veteran writers in creating stories; 2) Produce eight episodes of an "Incoming" radio broadcast/podcast series in partnership with NPR local affiliate KPBS to be aired regionally and nationally; 3) Produce four storytelling performances (including one focusing on LGBTQ veteran writers), free to the general public, showcasing eight to 10 veterans and their literary works.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-4506 SPECTORDANCE <i>Monterey County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With support from the CAC, Spectordance (SD) will offer dance classes, a choreography workshop and a performance at the Porter Youth Center for military families. Also, we will create When You Were Gone, as a performance piece inspired by filmed interviews with Porter Center youth about deployment from the perspective of youth from families whose parents have been deployed. We will also present a public performance of When You Were Gone along with works created in the choreography workshop.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5058 SUAREZ DANCE THEATER <i>Los Angeles County</i> \$2,700</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Suarez Dance Theater will support: 1. Offer Express Yourself Workshops of a series of 12 dance workshops and public event for female veterans participating in the Women's Program at the VA Los Angeles Ambulatory Care Center (LAACC). 2. Provide ongoing continuing education for VA clinicians leading Dance for Veterans classes.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-4989 THE AJA PROJECT <i>San Diego County</i> \$15,130</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, The AjA Project, in partnership with the San Diego Military Families Collaborative, will provide an additional year of innovative photography based programming to youth in military families at Farb Middle School and Serra High School in San Diego. The "Through My Lens" project will support students to process experiences, reclaim narrative and advocate for community change through the arts.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5108 THE SHAKESPEARE CENTER OF LOS ANGELES INC <i>Los Angeles County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, The Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles will continue "Voices of the Warrior," an ongoing program designed to engage veterans in creative exploration of Shakespeare's work as a tool for wellness and mental health, and to uplift and amplify veterans' voices in a public dialogue. The project draws on U.S. Military Veterans as a resource in exploring the role of the warrior in Shakespeare's texts and in our society.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-4472 THEATRE & ARTS FOUNDATION OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY <i>San Diego County</i> \$10,125</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, La Jolla Playhouse will offer a free, multi-phase Veterans Playwriting Workshop (VPW) series and expand existing workshop offerings to further support veteran storytellers. Through guided instruction from leading industry professionals, up to 10 veterans will be introduced to the fundamental elements of playwriting and write their own plays. Expanded VPW programming will allow four veterans the opportunity to further develop and stage their plays.</p> |

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| <p>VIA-18-5069 TULEBURG PRESS <i>San Joaquin County</i> \$6,000</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Tuleburg Press will conduct "Pieces to Peace: Veterans Writing Project" with San Joaquin County veterans. Modeled after the Peace Paper Project and the work of author — and Stockton native — Maxine Hong Kingston, the project involves paper making from military clothing and journal making, followed by workshops with professional writers to transform their war experiences into stories or poems. The project culminates in a voluntary public reading.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-4226 VETERAN ARTS PROJECT <i>San Diego County</i> \$14,400</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Veterans Art Project will bring a unique art making experience to veterans, spouses, and dependents. At our location in Fallbrook, veterans will be able to create one-of-a-kind bronze portraits. Current monthly rent is \$2,100 a month, plus utilities. Our rental partners at Fallbrook Arts Inc., VetArt will also be renting an additional space for a wood shop. Cost of this additional rent will be \$700 a month.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5247 VETERAN WOMEN'S VOICES <i>Sacramento County</i> \$3,636</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Veteran Women's Voices (VWV) will build on its initial three years of work to support creation of a community of women veteran writers in Northern California, offering two three-day writing residencies and two one-day writing retreats, based on a model of writing and mindfulness developed for veteran communities by Maxine Hong Kingston. All activities are offered at no cost to women veterans, and are led by experienced and knowledgeable writer/facilitators.</p> |
| <p>VIA-18-5015 WRITERS GUILD FOUNDATION <i>Los Angeles County</i> \$16,200</p> | <p>With support from the California Arts Council, Writers Guild Foundation will build upon its successful Veterans Writing Project, which instructs and inspires emerging writers with U.S. military backgrounds. We help veterans cultivate their writing skills and position them to gain access to the film and TV industry.</p> |