

California Arts Council
2016-2017 Veterans Initiative in the Arts
Project Descriptions



The Veterans Initiative in the Arts seeks to increase equity, access, and opportunities for veterans to participate in quality arts programming that is sensitive and responsive to their unique experiences. VIA provides project and partnership support for nonprofit arts organizations, local arts agencies, and veterans' assistance agencies to reach veterans, active military, and their families. Learn more at <http://arts.ca.gov/programs/via.php>.

Number of Grants Awarded: 49 | Total Investment: \$412,875

Application #, Organization, County, Grant Award Amount		Project Description
1	VIA-16-00023 The AjA Project <i>San Diego</i> \$8,550	With support from the California Arts Council, The AjA Project, in partnership with the San Diego Military Families Collaborative, will bring innovative photography based programming to kids 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, while also providing artist mentorship opportunities.
2	VIA-16-00026 Alameda County Arts Commission <i>Alameda</i> \$9,000	With support from the California Arts Council, the Alameda County Arts Commission will present "Creative Veterans" with partnering veterans service agencies to provide veterans with a series of art workshops. The goals are to provide Veterans with opportunities to express themselves in a supportive environment, strengthen partner and family bonds, develop art making skills, and engage in community building. The project will include exhibits at veteran service and civic venues.
3	VIA-16-00006 Arts Collaborative of Nevada County <i>Nevada</i> \$10,000	With support from the California Arts Council, NCArts will extend its successful Image Nation project further, through photography workshops for veterans of all skill levels and at least one public exhibition. We will produce from these workshops a webinar series for veterans who cannot attend all workshops in person, and will create an online gallery of their body of work in order to both exhibit and generate income.
4	VIA-16-00047 Arts Connection <i>San Bernardino</i> \$1,200	With support from the California Arts Council, Arts Connection in collaboration with Mil-Tree will offer a free, 2 day movement workshop for Veterans, active-duty military, their families and the community-at-large, led by DIAVOLO ARCHITECTURE IN MOTION®. Participants will have the opportunity to explore the relationship between the human body and its architectural environment. They will work with instructors to create and present a piece inspired by the themes of community and camaraderie.

5	VIA-16-00079 Arts Council for Monterey County <i>Monterey</i> \$8,000	With support from the California Arts Council, Arts Council for Monterey County professional teaching artists with arts as healing experience will work with local veterans to develop a tiled mural celebrating strength through friendship. We will start with developmental classes exploring the theme and work with the veterans to develop their skills in design, imager and illustration in tandem with developing their emotional and behavioral skills in partnership with staff at the Veterans Transition Center.
6	VIA-16-00025 Arts Orange County <i>Orange</i> \$9,000	With support from the California Arts Council, Arts Orange County will offer a third year of its Veterans Storytelling Project, two free workshops for veterans led by an internationally-known theatre artist, at the new Heroes Hall Veterans Museum on the site of the former Santa Ana Army Air Base. Participants share their experiences--of life before, during and after military service--and their stories are shaped into two one-hour theatre pieces they will perform free of charge at Heroes Hall.
7	VIA-16-00016 The Big Show Co. Dance Resource Center of Greater Los Angeles <i>Los Angeles</i> \$8,000	With support from the California Arts Council, Arianne MacBean & The Big Show Co. will provide 15 free Memory Movement Workshops for veterans and 4 low cost public performances. The Big Show Co. will mentor and collaborate with U.S. Military Veterans to create, produce, and present the world premeire of The Collective Memory Project - with origianl dance-theater inspired by survival memories of veterans, performers and audience members.
8	VIA-16-00050 Blue Ox Historic Village and School <i>Humboldt</i> \$8,000	With support from the California Arts Council, The Blue Ox Historic Village and School will present a touring theatrical play, The Veterans' Monologues (working title), in five cities along the West Coast.
9	VIA-16-00073 Brockus Project Dance Company <i>Los Angeles</i> \$8,000	With support from the California Arts Council, Brockus Project Dance Company will be able to offer the children of veterans, ages 14-18, a week-long high quality summer dance camp experience, working in Los Angeles with top professional artists and sight seeing field trips, for a nominal fee.
10	VIA-16-00007 Calaveras County Arts Council <i>Calaveras</i> \$2,430	With support from the California Arts Council, the Calaveras County Arts Council will present a year-long salute & support of local Veterans. A staircase at our gallery reminds us of Normal Rockwell's "Homecoming GI." Spring through summer we will create homecoming scenes from wars in the modern era to inspire artists, writers, and musicians. Art lessons and supplies will be offered at no charge to local Vets & their families. Artwork will be exhibited Sept-Nov with a reception on Veterans Day.

11	VIA-16-00045 California Ballet Association, Inc. <i>San Diego</i> \$7,980	With support from the California Arts Council, California Ballet Association, Inc. (CBC) will provide 2,000 - 4,000 tickets to veterans, retired, & active members of the military for 2017's The Nutcracker. CBC will partner with military service organizations to develop relevant & desirable extra programming. CBC will provide dance classes for participants to experience ballet first hand. Funds will underwrite engagement activities, a portion of donated tickets, & administrative expenses.
12	VIA-16-00004 Contra Costa County <i>Contra Costa</i> \$8,000	With support from the California Arts Council, the Arts & Culture Commission of Contra Costa County and the County Veterans Service Office will engage veterans in artistic endeavors to gain confidence and enhance their creativity by creating self-portrait paintings. Veterans play an active role in determining their pathways to wellness! Portraits will be displayed in Libraries throughout the County. Six painting workshops will be offered. Each workshop offers two three-hour painting sessions.
13	VIA-16-00053 Dell'Arte, Inc. <i>Humboldt</i> \$8,000	With support from the California Arts Council, Dell'Arte, Inc. will partner with the Blue Ox Veterans' Program to devise and conduct a series of storytelling workshops. The stories will inform The Dell'Arte Company's 2018 adaptation of "Ruzante Comes Home from the War." It will serve the rural population of the California Northcoast in its initial performance run and then be designed to tour nationally and internationally.
14	VIA-16-00020 Del Norte Association for Cultural Awareness <i>Del Norte</i> \$9,000	With support from the California Arts Council, DNACA will continue offering free-of-charge arts workshops to our community's veterans & their families including: guitar, drum circles, & varied media in visual arts. We would expand these offerings by splitting the beginner & intermediate guitar classes to better serve each student, adding a 4th residency, & hosting 6 drum circles rather than 3. We will also provide tickets to our quality, multi-cultural performance series.
15	VIA-16-00030 Diavolo Dance Theatre <i>Los Angeles</i> \$10,000	With support from the California Arts Council, Diavolo will develop and present The Veterans Project: 2017, with community-based dance activities to foster veterans' creative expression, increase veterans' active arts participation, and enhance public understanding of veterans' experiences. Community dance workshops will culminate in custom-choreographed shows on Diavolo's distinct set pieces, featuring Diavolo dancers performing side-by-side with veteran participants.
16	VIA-16-00061 El Dorado Arts Council <i>El Dorado</i> \$9,000	With support from the California Arts Council, El Dorado Arts Council will continue to offer VETERANS' VOICES, a free writing workshop series open to all veterans and based at the Veterans Memorial Building in Placerville, California. Support from the CAC, if granted, will be applied specifically to increasing the program from 6 to 8 workshops per series, as well as to a first-ever published anthology of writing developed in the workshop series.

17	VIA-16-00017 Fresno Arts Council Inc. <i>Fresno</i> \$5,310	With support from the California Arts Council, Fresno Arts Council and The Community Living Center at VA Central California Health Care System in Fresno will offer professionally led art classes in pottery to Veterans who are currently accessing their services. This will be a continuation of the program we started last year.
18	VIA-16-00070 Geffen Playhouse, Inc. <i>Los Angeles</i> \$10,000	With support from the California Arts Council, the Geffen Playhouse will encourage and support arts learning and the artistic expression of veterans through our Veterans Writing and Performance Project. The 4-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.
19	VIA-16-00048 Habitat for Humanity San Fernando/Santa Clarita Valleys <i>Los Angeles</i> \$10,000	With support from the California Arts Council, Habitat for Humanity SF/SCV will continue to develop and conduct trauma-informed art workshops to help veterans and their families face, overcome, and manage the struggles that come with the military experience. We will also engage and educate the greater community on the often stigmatized veteran-specific invisible wounds of war such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury, and Military Sexual Trauma.
20	VIA-16-00032 Heroes' Voices <i>San Francisco</i> \$10,000	With support from the California Arts Council, Heroes' Voices will sponsor its second annual National Veterans Poetry Contest. Heroes' Voices will advertise and solicit original poetry from veterans and offer cash prizes. Selected poems will also be printed in a limited publication. A panel of extraordinary judges and advisors will select the winning poems, and a public presentation of the winning poetry will be produced in San Francisco. This year's judges include Lawrence Ferlinghetti.
21	VIA-16-00052 Kala Institute <i>Alameda</i> \$9,000	With support from the California Arts Council, Kala Art Institute will introduce a new residency initiative for veteran artists. Kala's residency programs directly support artists in their efforts to advance their craft, take artistic risks and experiment with new forms of art making. We are offering a special residency opportunity for 6 veteran artists that includes a six-month residency culminating in an exhibition in the Kala gallery with public programming and workshops for the public.
22	VIA-16-00034 KD>>MovingGround CounterPulse <i>San Francisco</i> \$8,000	With support from the California Arts Council, Krista DeNio >> Moving Ground and their project EchoTheaterSuitcase (ETS) will provide open workshops for veterans and civilians at the Veterans building (Fall 2017) followed by a rehearsal process (Spring-Summer 2018) to create a new performance work. Directed by Krista DeNio and co-created with veteran and non-veteran artists the piece will celebrate the centennial anniversary of Armistice day.
23	VIA-16-00049 Los Angeles Opera Company <i>Los Angeles</i> \$10,000	With support from the California Arts Council, LA Opera will invite 340 veterans from Los Angeles to participate in a year-long opera program. Through the Veteran's Circle initiative, veteran's organizations, their constituents, and families will attend two mainstage performances free of charge, participate in pre-performance presentations at their organization, and engage in veteran led post-performance panel discussions that connect themes found in the opera to their experiences.

24	VIA-16-00046 Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego <i>San Diego</i> \$10,000	With support from the California Arts Council, the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego will implement ArtOASIS, a high-quality arts program supporting the recovery of active military personnel from the symptoms of combat-related stress. The partnership joins MCASD with Combat Arts San Diego and serves military personnel at the Overcoming Adversity and Stress Injury Support (OASIS) residential program of the Naval Medical Center San Diego.
25	VIA-16-00066 The New Children's Museum <i>San Diego</i> \$8,000	With support from the California Arts Council, The New Children's Museum will provide its pARTners in Creativity program free-of-charge to children of military families at USO San Diego and families of recent veterans at Support the Enlisted Project. Each group will receive greater access to high quality art exhibits and education, and at least 4 free, hands-on art-making workshops serving 80-100 per session. Teaching Artists help families create art and express their unique life experiences.
26	VIA-16-00028 Oceanside Museum of Art <i>San Diego</i> \$10,000	With support from the California Arts Council, Oceanside Museum of Art will be able to implement community programming for the exhibition Healing Journeys: Veterans & Artists Unite. OMA invites veterans and active duty military, artists, and advocates, as well as the entire San Diego County community, to explore veterans' issues and the journey of the healing process through the creative arts. These programs will engage veterans in the creative arts as a means of expression and healing.
27	VIA-16-00040 Old Globe Theatre <i>San Diego</i> \$10,000	With support from the California Arts Council, The Old Globe's Technical Center Apprenticeship Program will offer paid training opportunities for veterans, military personnel re-entering civilian life, and their families. During the grant period, apprenticeship positions will be provided for 2 to 4 participants, each training for a minimum of 8-10 weeks. The Globe will work with Veterans Village of San Diego and other local military partners to identify and recruit new apprentices.
28	VIA-16-00055 OneVet OneVoice <i>San Francisco</i> \$8,000	With support from the California Arts Council, OneVet OneVoice will be able to grow the Annual San Francisco Veterans Film Festival, which is now in its 6th year. We plan to conduct more robust marketing and administration, which will increase our reach and engagement with larger audiences and allow these poignant and important stories by and about veterans to have greater social impact.
29	VIA-16-00068 The PGK Project <i>San Diego</i> \$9,000	With support from the California Arts Council, The PGK Dance Project will collaborate with and present at The Lyceum Theater in San Diego a new show featuring improvisational painter Brian Meyer, storyteller and spoken word artist Tony LoBue and Barry Combs and his Westwind ensemble, all of whom are both working Artists and Military Veterans. Free tickets will be offered to military and their families. Funds will compensate Vet artists, support outreach and the public performances.
30	VIA-16-00062 Public Corporation for the Arts <i>Los Angeles</i> \$8,000	With support from the California Arts Council, Arts Council for Long Beach will partner with HomeFront Rising to create the HomeFront Community Arts Center, an artist residency program designed to increase equity, access, and opportunities for veterans to participate in quality arts programming that is sensitive and responsive to their unique experiences. The project will provide arts-based career and healing workshops for veterans in Long Beach, California.

31	VIA-16-00021 Putnam Foundation <i>San Diego</i> \$9,000	With support from the California Arts Council, the Timken Museum of Art will engage active duty service members at San Diego Naval Medical Center in weekly Creative Engagement art classes. Through art, service members will create a coherent narrative of their experiences and place memories and intense emotions in a new light to be reinterpreted and integrated into their life. Using allegory and metaphor, they'll communicate thoughts and feelings often too difficult to convey in words.
32	VIA-16-00018 Resounding Joy Inc <i>San Diego</i> \$8,000	With support from the California Arts Council, Resounding Joy will provide evidence-based music therapy for wounded, ill, or injured military service members in San Diego County.
33	VIA-16-00076 Riverside Arts Council <i>Riverside</i> \$8,000	With support from the California Arts Council, the Riverside Arts Council will work with the County of Riverside Department of Veterans' Services and The Gestalt Theatre Project in mounting its third edition of the Riverside Veterans Storytelling Project. Using theatre as a therapeutic tool, it is designed to provide needed services to Riverside County veterans of all ages and eras. The program culminates in a series of public performances using both veterans and actors.
34	VIA-16-00056 San Benito County Arts Council <i>San Benito</i> \$9,000	With support from the California Arts Council, the San Benito County Arts Council will partner with the American Legion, San Benito High School and the Historical Society on the second year of the Veteran Voices of San Benito County project. Veterans, students and artists will explore the narratives of local Latino servicemen and women through digital storytelling, writing and the visual arts. Short films, essays and visual artworks will be celebrated in a final exhibition and then archived.
35	VIA-16-00063 San Francisco Arts Commission <i>San Francisco</i> \$8,000	With support from the California Arts Council, the San Francisco Arts Commission will build on its VIA partnerships and present Sanctuary City: Immigration and the US Armed Forces. Sanctuary City: Immigration and the US Armed Forces is a panel-style public program featuring veteran artists, immigrants and policymakers in dialogue about the intersectionality of these issues. It will be held in the Herbst Theater in the Veterans Building of the War Memorial Performing Art Center, home of the SFAC's Main Gallery and offices.
36	VIA-16-00014 Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles <i>Los Angeles</i> \$10,000	With support from the California Arts Council, for the 5th year Shakespeare Center of Los Angeles will partner with the Veterans Admin. to recruit, train, and provide paid internships for 30 chronically unemployed Vets to work on union-contracted theatre productions. Vets will enroll in Santa Monica College accredited technical theatre arts courses and get job hunting services. All military, their families and caregivers are admitted free to shows. Event program honors Vets' military service.
37	VIA-16-00057 Shasta County Arts Council <i>Shasta</i> \$9,000	With support from the California Arts Council, Shasta County Arts Council will work with the Redding Veterans Home to provide painting, photography, music, jewelry-making, ceramics, digital media arts and other yet-to-be-decided classes to its residents and document the process with a video for public access television and online distribution.

38	VIA-16-00024 Sixth Street Photography Workshop Tenants and Owners Development Corporation <i>San Francisco</i> \$10,000	With support from the California Arts Council, Sixth Street Photography Workshop will work with veterans on individual photography projects. Advancing skills and understanding of the photographic arts, participants will explore conceptual choices and gain broad appreciation for photography. Intended as authentic expression emanating from a unique social context, technique and aesthetic quality will be emphasized. Working creatively in a group will provide therapeutic benefit and emotional support.
39	VIA-16-00054 South Coast Dance Arts Alliance <i>Los Angeles</i> \$8,280	With support from the California Arts Council, Veterans Expressions will offer experiences in creative movement and dance forms, story telling skills, and digital photography workshops for children of veterans and active military. The goal of the program is to let the young people tell their stories in movement, songs, photos and spoken word. The project will culminate with performances developed in their workshops. Funds will be used to cover instructors, program manager and rental of space.
40	VIA-16-00033 SpectorDance <i>Monterey</i> \$8,000	With support from the California Arts Council, SpectorDance (SD) and the Veterans Transition Center (VTC) will continue and expand their partnership to offer our successful program Dance for Veterans. By providing weekly dance classes and choreography workshops, and creating a new multidisciplinary performance based on filmed interviews with veterans, Dance for Veterans will provide access to the arts for veterans and generate a deeper public understanding of veterans' military experiences.
41	VIA-16-00075 Upstate Community Enhancement Foundation <i>Butte</i> \$8,000	With support from the California Arts Council, Friends of the Arts will continue its Big Star Veterans Project by partnering with the Museum of Northern California Arts (monca) to bring a two-month long series of special activities to honor veterans as monca opens its doors at its new location - the historic Butte County Veterans Hall on Chico's beautiful tree-lined Esplanade.
42	VIA-16-00029 Veterans Art Project Social and Environmental Entrepreneurs <i>San Diego</i> \$10,000	With support from the California Arts Council VetArt would like to provide a ten-month bronze casting project with The Mendleton Foundation in San Diego. This project will employ three Veteran sculptors and support them in providing on-site bronze casting programming to active duty/retired Veteran participants and families. This project will provide an intro. to bronze casting to a broad spectrum of Veteran participants and connect their work and stories to a broad civilian population.
43	VIA-16-00072 Veterans in Film & Television <i>Los Angeles</i> \$9,000	With support from the California Arts Council, Veterans in Film & Television will create a short film incubator that will give veterans the resources, mentorship, and financial support to create artistic content, which will be showcased in front of an audience of veterans, civilians, and industry professionals.

44	VIA-16-00015 Veterans Memorial Center, Inc <i>San Diego</i> \$8,000	With support from the California Arts Council, The Veterans Museum at Balboa Park (VMBP), will use this grant to fund the production of "A Piece of My Heart" in partnership with The American History Theater.
45	VIA-16-00060 Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts <i>Los Angeles</i> \$6,774	With support from the California Arts Council, the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts will partner with CRE Outreach to offer "Full Scope," a program in which 8 to 12 diverse veterans will create and rehearse a new work of theater drawn from their individual stories, to be performed publicly at our 150-seat Lovelace Studio Theater.
46	VIA-16-00038 The Writers Guild Foundation <i>Los Angeles</i> \$10,000	With support from the California Arts Council, the Writers Guild Foundation (WGF) will build upon its successful Veterans Writing Project by utilizing its relationships with studios, television networks and other content providers to open pipelines for internship placements for participants in the program. To date, the project has focused on teaching the craft of screenwriting, but a grant would allow WGF to facilitate its long term goal of assisting job placement for participants and alumni.
47	VIA-16-00035 Yolo County Arts Council <i>Yolo</i> \$7,290	With support from the California Arts Council, YoloArts will partner with the Sacramento Blues Society on Blues in the VFW - an 8-week workshop series at Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) halls in Woodland & West Sacramento. Two musicians will conduct the weekly 1.5 hour workshops with veterans who want to explore and learn music together. Family members of all ages will be encouraged to attend the final 2 workshops. The program will culminate in a group performance at the W. Sacramento VFW hall.
48	VIA-16-00005 Young Audiences of San Diego <i>San Diego</i> \$7,061	With support from the California Arts Council, Arts for Learning San Diego will expand its existing efforts to the Coronado Unified School District military student population, to include Family Arts Nights and Assemblies. Through hands on arts based educational activities these families can engage in quality activities that help relieve stress that military families experience on a daily basis.
49	VIA-16-00011 Yuba-Sutter Regional Arts Council <i>Sutter and Yuba</i> \$10,000	With support from the California Arts Council, YSA will help Veterans create photographic portraits culminating in community displays of Veteran Photo Walls. Photographers will collaborate with Veterans and help them make high resolution black & white images. Funds will be used for equipment, 20"x30" photographic enlargements, supplies, memory cards and seamless backdrops. Veterans will experience positive reinforcement of their service, and enjoy creating an intimate, lasting work of art.