



7TH ANNUAL VETERANS ART EXHIBIT

SEP 23-OCT 19, 2019
MON-SAT 9-5

ATELIER GALLERY
ACADEMY OF ART UNIVERSITY

"Summer Gaze"
by Jeffrey Geronimo

ORIGINAL WORKS BY US MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS FROM
WORLD WAR II TO THE PRESENT, AND CURRENTLY SERVING



Presented by

SAN FRANCISCO FLEET WEEK ASSOCIATION



ACADEMY of ART UNIVERSITY®



7TH ANNUAL VETERANS ART EXHIBIT

WELCOME

from the San Francisco Fleet Week Association

THANK YOU FOR COMING.

The San Francisco Fleet Week Association (SFFWA) is proud to present our seventh annual Veterans Art Exhibit during Fleet Week 2019. San Francisco Fleet Week is a time when we pay tribute to our women and men in uniform, and also focus on ways to improve the way we provide humanitarian assistance and educate ourselves about disaster preparedness.

San Francisco Fleet Week has earned the reputation of producing the most important Fleet Week in the United States, and as Fleet Week has grown, so has its mission. Since 2010, with the establishment of its Center for Humanitarian Assistance, Fleet Week has helped bring together leaders of federal, state and local government disaster response agencies, first responders, foreign dignitaries, non-governmental organizations and private sector companies with Department of Defense services to improve the nation's ability to respond to catastrophic disasters. As a precursor to San Francisco Fleet Week, more than 150 officials from federal, state and local governments and the military take part in an interactive exercise focused on military support in response to a catastrophic event.

The Veterans Art Exhibit at the Academy of Art University in the Cannery Galleries features original works by US Military Service members from World War II to the present, and those currently serving. The San Francisco Fleet Week Association, with the support of Academy of Art University, presents this special exhibit for the month of October.

All of us with the SFFWA thank you for your support and participation in this year's exhibit.

For more information and to get involved in San Francisco Fleet Week:

FleetWeekSF.org | [FB:San Francisco Fleet Week](https://www.facebook.com/SanFranciscoFleetWeek) | [@FleetWeekSF](https://twitter.com/FleetWeekSF) | [#FleetWeekSF](https://www.instagram.com/FleetWeekSF)

VETERAN ARTISTS

EUGENE (ANDY) ANDERSON

US AIR FORCE VETERAN | Eugene was born in North Dakota in 1930, the oldest of 12 brothers and sisters. He enlisted in 1951, and served all over the world in his 24 years in the US Air Force. Eugene was stationed at Lindsey Air Station in Germany for five years, joined by his wife Jeanne and son Eric, as well as Korea, Canada, Vietnam, and many bases in the United States. He enjoys learning to paint in the Creative Arts Center at the Veterans Home of Yountville – his flamingo is his first painting.

RON ANDRINI

VETERANS HOME OF YOUNTVILLE | Ron was born in 1946, fourteen months after the end of WWII. The 1950s bore witness to Ron's first creative impetus. Early encounters with comic book materials kindled initial artistic inspiration. Never having undergone any formal art training, he feels no allegiance to any one art form. His inspiration is derived from illustrative greats such as Frazetta and Vargas.

RON BALDWIN

US NAVY VETERAN | Ron's art crosses several mediums such as lapidary, electronics, woodworking, sketching, writing, leather and ceramics. "I like working with my hands – making art," he explains. Ron is knowledgeable about many crafts, techniques and materials, and enjoys coaching others. Ron was born in Salt Lake City in 1942, and joined the Navy in 1961 as an optical instrument repairman. He was stationed on the USS Jason in San Diego, then the USS AJAX in Sasebo, Japan for two years. Ron was honorably discharged at Treasure Island, San Francisco, in 1964. He has certifications in Electronics and Welding, and was a journeyman painter, cabinet-maker and automotive technician.

RHU A. BIGAY

US ARMY VETERAN | Rhu is a decorated Army medic. He was a clinical nursing specialist at the World Famous Burn Unit, the Institute of Surgical Research, Ft. Sam Houston, Texas. Rhu has enjoyed displaying his artwork at air shows with his family. He is known for his detailed patriotic heritage art in oil on canvas. In 2015, Rhu was honored by the Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa County, CA with the "Arts Recognition Award" for his outstanding artistic achievement and contribution to his

community. His portrait of Pulitzer-prize author John Steinbeck was recently inducted into the National Portrait Gallery, The Smithsonian, Washington, D.C. Rhu promotes visual understanding of our past history as a nation which involves the sacrifices of ordinary Americans — our veterans.

BOB BISCHOFF

US ARMY VETERAN | Born in San Jose in 1926, Bob trained at Camp Roberts and shipped to the Philippines, serving in the I & R Platoon of the 108 Reg. Combat Team. When the war was over, Bob then shipped to Korea. Eventually, he returned to California and studied at San Jose State College, with a major in commercial art and a minor in math. Bob went on to study at UC Berkeley School of Architecture until his GI Bill ran out. For the past 60 years Bob has searched for his art medium, exploring pencil, pen and ink, paint, sculpture, stained glass and woodcarving. About 21 years ago he discovered gourds at a craft fair. Bob draws, carves and colors gourds, spending 50 – 80 hours on each piece. "Every minute of that is sheer pleasure," states Bob. He has one unbreakable rule: "I am through for the day when I start thinking!"

CHRISTOPHER BINGHAM

US AIR FORCE VETERAN | Christopher Bingham served 20 years in the military: 15 as a Naval Aviator flying the P-3C Orion, and 5 years flying the C5B Galaxy in the US Air Force. Following military retirement, he served as the Sonoma County Veterans Service officer, assisting local Veterans in obtaining benefits and services that they earned through their military service. Following retirement from the County of Sonoma, he began the Master of Fine Arts in Photography curriculum at the Academy of Art University. His thesis project, "From Earth to Glass," documents the yearlong cycle in the vineyards and wineries of the Alexander Valley, Sonoma County, California from the perspective of wine industry insiders: the vineyard and winery owners and the workers who tend the vines and create the wine.

Chris graduated from Willamette University, Salem, Oregon with a BS in Mathematics and minor in Computer Science; he also graduated from the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California with a MS in Operations Research. He resides on an 8 acre Cabernet Sauvignon vineyard in Alexander Valley that he owns with his wife of 33 years, Jenean.

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MONTI BLOODWORTH

US MARINE CORPS VETERAN | Monti Bloodworth was serving in the Marine Corps deployed overseas, that is when his passion for photography was born. While being deployed he purchased a point and shoot camera to capture the moments and memories from being in another country. Monti wanted to record the moments in time that would unfold before him. This created a burning sensation that changed his perception to the reality he lived in. He started to see the world with a different perspective as Monti had started viewing the world through his lens. The wanting to create what he saw into an image that could convey the emotion he felt as he witnessed events and untold stories. He wanted to share his ambitions, emotions, and vision with the viewers that would see his images created from the thoughts within his mind.

Monti Bloodworth is a Fine Art and Still Life Photographer based in San Francisco, California. Although he specializes in those fields, he is extremely flexible and able to create art in different genres of photography. His pursuit in being a photographer has driven him to create photographs that tell stories, igniting one's imagination and curiosity. The visual drama of his photographs is born of the many moods from a passion for fine art. This passion shows throughout his work. Monti has an unmistakable artistic style which can be seen in the images he creates. His success derives from often spending weeks preparing before immersing himself in the projects he photographs. Monti is a full-time photographer in his field since 2012.

RICH BOBRICK

US NAVY VETERAN | Born in Denver, CO in 1932, Richard Bobrick's Navy service began in 1952-1954 during the Korean conflict. Richard served on the USS Badoeng Strait CVE 116 Aircraft carrier. Richard enjoys working at the Creative Arts Center at the Veterans Home of California, where he enjoys drawing, painting, ceramics and volunteers to help with the Home's art show.

AMOS BOYKIN

US ARMY VETERAN | Born in Garland, NC in 1939, Amos volunteered for the Army in 1958. He schooled and trained to be a Medical Technician at Fort Ord, Monterey, CA. After serving, he studied English and Literature at San Francisco State University. Amos furthered his education at Heald College to

study electronics. In 2001 he retired from the US Postal Service. He enjoys taking art classes at the Veterans Home. He has enjoyed learning how to paint and do ceramics.

JEFF BROWN

No biography provided.

CASSANDRA BURGESS

Art is a part of Cassandra. If she's not creating, then she's not fully existing. Ideas are always flowing in her mind, and it only depends on how she decides to express those ideas, and when. Her art is constantly changing, just as she is. She gets inspired and wonders if she can do it. She accepts the challenge, then tries her best. Sometimes, she has an intentional meaning behind a work, while other times the meaning comes during or after the created piece. There is no formula to art. She just does it.

LILLIAN BUTTERWORTH

US COAST GUARD VETERAN | Lillian is a fashion designer based in the San Francisco Bay Area. After completing an exciting career in the Coast Guard, during which she sailed all over the world, Lillian found herself in the Bay Area, and decided to pursue her long-time dream of becoming a fashion designer. She graduated from the Academy of Art University in San Francisco in 2017 and is currently a freelance fashion designer. She continues to travel the world seeking new inspiration for her designs.

ANTONIO CHASE

Antonio is best known for his ability to draw out the pure Native Form from his subjects by capturing their true essence and by transforming who they are into their own unique visual story. As a photographic artist, he focuses on each photo shoot as an opportunity to redefine the standards of what's considered beautiful. His approach is unusual, yet successful. He develops a close relationship with his subjects, resulting in images of remarkable intimacy, passion and a pure unapologetic celebration of the human form. Antonio's combination of visual drama and artistry of his aesthetics, married to the subject's persona, has fueled his passion for creating fine arts. With each capture, he strives to create works of art that will sometimes pay homage to, and other times challenge, traditional ideals of fine art. Inspired by many of the great photographers of the past, this has become

Antonio's chosen perspective of beauty that feels neither saturated with eroticism nor obligated towards the modest.

ADRIAN CHILDRESS

Adrian got into photography while serving four years in the Marine Corps. He bought his first camera in Chicago 2010, and he hasn't put one down since. Photographers are the eyes of the world. They capture the beauty that goes unseen, stories that go untold, and help give a voice to the world.

NINA CHURCH

US NAVY ACTIVE | Nina Church is a Musician Second Class on active duty in the US Navy. She is originally from Ayer, Massachusetts. Nina started taking photographs during her travels in the US Navy and quickly fell in love with capturing memories. She hopes to transition from being a military musician to a civilian photographer next year. Nina is married to Adam Church, and has two children, Jedi and Audrey.

WILL CLARK

US ARMY AIR FORCE VETERAN, WWII | Will is a World War II veteran who served with the Army Air Force, 55th Weather Reconnaissance in West Palm Beach, FL. He was a line crew member that kept B-29s in flight. Clark was only fifteen when he and his fourteen-year-old buddy enlisted. But then, at the time, all servicemen were very young. He became a corporal, but when given a third stripe at seventeen there was suspicion of his young age... discharge, or his mother's signature. She said no! So he was discharged as a corporal and returned to school. As of today, Clark has published three books with two more on the way. He has also written and had four plays produced. He and his wife of over fifty years now live in the Yountville Veteran's Home in the Napa Valley.

JOSEPH CLARY

US AIR FORCE VETERAN | Joseph Clary, United States Air Force Veteran. Born in Boston in 1937, Joe joined the Air Force in 1954, where he was sent to Samson AFB for basic training and later would become a Boom operator on a refueling aircraft. After service from West Over AFB, Joe studied Mechanical Engineering at MIT. He worked for forty years at Hewlett Packard in California. Today, he enjoys working in the activities office at the Veterans Home of California, Yountville and in his spare time enjoys photography.

JAMES "JIM" CLEMENT

US AIR FORCE (RET.) VETERAN, VIETNAM | Jim Clement is a decorated Vietnam-era combat pilot who retired following a 30-year active duty and reserve career in the Air Force. He recently retired from an award-winning 35-year career at NASA as a Space Shuttle Mission Control flight controller, a mission operations senior manager, and a research directorate executive. Jim's photography has appeared in gallery shows at the Sanchez Art Center in Pacifica, California, and in San Francisco at the Fort Mason Center, Aquatic Park, and the War Memorial Building as well as on Sunset Magazine and California State Parks Association websites. Jim has also had a number of his San Francisco photographs displayed in the San Francisco City Hall and the San Francisco department on aging. Jim is a strong advocate of helping military service Veterans return to meaningful and productive work, secure housing, healthcare, and education support through his role as a member of the Board of Directors of OneVet OneVoice, a San Francisco based Veterans Service organization. Jim supports STEM (Science, technology, engineering, math) education and has given talks at Rotary events and the San Francisco library on his career as a NASA Space Shuttle flight controller.

GENO CONNOR

US ARMY VETERAN | Geno was a Captain, Vietnam Veteran and a paratrooper. He graduated from the University of Notre Dame. He was born and raised in Syracuse, NY. He is retired after working for AT&T and US Government. Geno is a twenty-five plus year resident of North Beach, San Francisco. His current title is "Man of Leisure." He enjoys photography, writing, golf and a bit of drawing.

ELIZABETH COVAIRT

US AIR FORCE VETERAN | Liz Covairt spent 20 years as a weather forecaster in the Air Force. Her time in the military took her around the world and allowed her to explore and immerse herself in the culture, architecture, museums, and landscapes of places she had previously only seen in books. Liz had studied art from a young age and continued to take classes in drawing and painting throughout her time in the military. After retiring and doing some soul searching, she decided to pursue art full-time and enrolled in the painting program at the Academy of Art University, receiving a Masters of Art degree in Fine Art. Liz primarily works in oils and references scenic locations from

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her travels. She lives in the Sierra Foothills and spends her time exploring the mountains on her bike, traveling and camping, and always looking out for the next painting inspiration.

Liz has previously shown her work at the Santa Reparata International School of Art (SRISA) in Florence, Italy.

DESHARQUEL CRAVEN

US AIR FORCE VETERAN, AIR NATIONAL GUARD ACTIVE | DeSharquel Craven, formally an Air Force active duty member for the last 6 years, has always had a keen eye for the fine detail in fashion and art. After completing her contract, she transitioned to the Air National Guard to fully pursue her dreams in Fashion Design. Born in Charlotte, NC, she's always had an infatuation for every art form. She has her own clothing line titled Newly Tainted, and drew her inspiration for painting when she was deployed to Africa. In Africa, she worked within a plethora of mediums to include woodwork, spray paints, acrylics, and watercolor, and now venturing into the realm of oils to further broaden her scope of capabilities. Upon returning from her deployment, DeSharquel has made it her purpose to hone-in her skills and comprehension of art and fashion. DeSharquel understands the two can go hand in hand and intends to display this to the world with all of her future creations.

CREATIVE ARTS GROUP

YOUNTVILLE VETERANS HOME | Santa's Helpers were made at the Yountville Veterans Home in the Creative Art Center Wood Shop by Home member helpers: Greg Gilkey, Jerrilyn Hennis, Gordon Kirby and Norm Laniewicz. Each holiday season, more than 30 volunteers from the Home come to help build toys for tots. Home members help with the design, construction, assembling, sanding and even the delivery! The mission of this project is to give Home members the opportunity an experience to come together, learn a new skill and feel the joy of giving and doing something for others. In 2018, Home members distributed over 250 toys to the children at Travis Air Force Base.

JOHN F. DAVIES

US MARINE CORPS VETERAN | John is a fourth generation Californian, a Bay Area native, and a veteran of the longest war that America engaged in — The Cold War. His tour in the Marine Corps began in March 1977 and ended in June, 1985. A significant part of it involving sensitive classified intelligence-related work, including use of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons. After his Honorable Discharge, he attended art

school, beginning at the Academy of Art College, and later the California College of Arts and Crafts, as well as private instruction for a period of about twenty years. Much of his focus was on illustration and classical academic drawing/ painting. Nevertheless, he has not forgotten that period in his life when he was a participant in this five decade-long war between the East and West. Excepting the wars in Korea and Vietnam, this is a period not much described or covered in military or veteran-related artwork. He now hopes to rectify this by filling in this artistic gap. What he has depicted are events inspired by the legacy of the Cold War, and its subsequent fallout on our society. Because many events were secret in nature, he believes that the artist may be the best means of recreating this unknown history. The artistic methods used are conservative, but the subject matter is new and has yet to be told. When the total combat deaths from Korea and Vietnam (which were themselves Cold War events) are added to all other documented Cold War fatalities, the cost comes to 98,452 killed in action. America's fourth costliest war. And its most truly forgotten one.

KENA DILLON

US NAVY VETERAN | Kena Ramirez Dillon is a contemporary artist and US Navy veteran who currently resides and works in Indiana. Her current body of work consists of a series of surreal digital paintings, depicting a character of her own creation, Blobby Dude. In this series, she tackles a variety of topics; from the everyday, the random, and those hard to talk about topics, often disguised through the seemingly innocent Blobby. Besides this current series, she also does paintings in oil and acrylic, as well as abstract wood and steel sculptures, which she creates through woodworking and welding.

GENE DODGE

US ARMY VETERAN, KOREAN WAR | Gene's interest in art began while he was in grade school and attended art classes for sketching animals, and other figures, and painted using water colors. During high school and college, he continued taking art classes. He attended three semesters of classes. During the Korean War, he was drafted into the Army, 44th Infantry Division, AAA Artillery and trained at Fort Lewis, Washington. In 2016, while living in the Yountville Veterans Home, Gene entered four of his watercolors in an art exhibit and two pieces received a 1st and 2nd place ribbon and a third piece received a 2nd place ribbon as mixed media. This was the first time he had the chance to display his artwork to the public.

MICHAEL DUNSMORE

US NAVY VETERAN | Michael was born in San Francisco, CA in 1947. He joined the Navy in 1966 where he served aboard the USS Frontier as a destroyer tender in Long Beach, California, as well as in Pearl Harbor and on the USS McKean in Vietnam. After service, Michael attend to the College of San Mateo and San Jose State majoring in art. In 2015, he moved the Veterans Home of California, Yountville where enjoys his time in the Creative Arts Center drawing portraits.

CAROLINE EXNER

Caroline Exner believes people are at their best when taking care of themselves, each other, and the planet. This belief informs each of her decisions; she's candid and not afraid to challenge the status quo. Her natural gravitation towards nature, art, environment, and community have impassioned her desire to promote value and sustainability. As an artist, she's curious about the process of creating: Researching, experimenting, translating, developing, making and then making again. There is depth and meaning in each piece she produces. Caroline works to foster a community of like-minded individuals who are passionate about their personal work and connected to the greater good.

BRIANNA FARRARA

US ARMY (RET.) VETERAN | Brianna Farrara is a visual storyteller whose documentary, landscape, and portrait photographs capture moments that reflect her graphically strong and timeless style. Her unique ability to connect, and enhance real life moments, makes her visions come to life. She strives to create captivating photographs out of the mundane moments that we all pass by. By specializing in documentary fine art, she has the ability to connect and enhance the real-life moments. Brianna's work is greatly inspired by Dorothea Lange, Alfred Stieglitz, Ansel Adams, Henri Cartier-Bresson, and Steve McCurry. When Brianna is not behind the lens, she loves hiking across Northern California with her family and four legged friends.

JOHN FIRESTONE

US ARMY VETERAN | John Firestone is a landscape artist living and working in Southern Arizona. After an enlistment in the Army he studied Fine Art at Murray State University earning a BFA, and then at Academy of Art where he earned an MFA. Most often John paints the awesome landscapes of Arizona, basing the images on direct observation, on the spot sketches and notes, and countless photos taken from every device he can handle.

ALAN FISHLEDER

US NAVY VETERAN | Alan Fishleder began taking photographs at the age of 13, hauling a hefty 4x5 Speed Graphic press camera around his neighborhood in Phoenix, AZ, photographing breaking news events he could reach on his bicycle or on foot. Later, he studied journalism and government at the University of Arizona, Tucson. After college, Fishleder continued his journalistic and photographic interests, serving as a Naval Reservist for seven years, including two years on active duty as a Navy Journalist (JO3), 1968 to 1970, in commands at Great Lakes, Ill., and Pensacola, Fla. As a Navy Journalist, he wrote news and feature stories and took photographs to inform the public about Navy and Marine Corps activities. He applied the same skills, polished during active naval service, during a nearly 20-year career as a California newspaperman. In the course of his journalistic career, Fishleder worked as a photographer, reporter and editor for various Bay Area and Sacramento Valley dailies, including as managing editor of the Fairfield Daily Republic and as editor of the Woodland Daily Democrat. After his newspaper career, Fishleder worked for the University of California, which included a stint in UC's state governmental relations office in Sacramento. He returned to active photography nearly 12 years ago when he retired from the University after 20 years of service.

CARY FULLER

US ARMY VETERAN | Born and raised in California, US Army (Ret.) Veteran Lt. Col Cary Fuller proudly served for thirty years as a Nurse in the United States Army and Reserves. Cary feels art is relaxing, and she loves indulging in creating different things. She feels one of the most unexpected satisfactions in creating art is simply watching the colors change.

STEVE GEORGE

US ARMY VETERAN | Steve graduated from Foothill College in June 1967 with an A.A. degree in Liberal Arts. He was drafted into the US Army the following year in November of 1968, and was sent to basic and advanced Infantry training at Ft. Lewis, Washington. He trained for ground combat in the Republic of South Vietnam, and then shipped out to the Republic of South Korea where he served for thirteen months, on the Korean DMZ, from 1969 through 1970. Steve has shot many photographs of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Sacramento, CA, beginning in 2013. Located behind the state capital, the names of 5,222 California veterans are inscribed on black marble, and the flag

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of the United States of America and the black POW, MIA, flag fly from its center flagpole.

“The first time I visited the Vietnam Veterans Memorial I knew it was a special place. Visiting it helped me to overcome mental health problems,” explains Steve.

While at Foothill, Steve photographed a big peace march in San Francisco in 1967, including a black and white photo titled Two Musicians. The photograph subsequently went to the Oakland Museum, and then was included in an exhibit that traveled to US embassies. One day on the Korean DMZ Steve got a letter from the White House. President Nixon’s cultural affairs assistant wrote a letter that Steve’s mother, a WWII US Navy, Wave veteran, forwarded the letter to Headquarters, 3rd Brigade, 2nd, Infantry Division, DMZ Korea. In the last fifty years Steve has continued to send historical and military photographs to the White House. Steve’s photos have been included in the recently published book *Fallen*, which focuses on the different Vietnam veterans’ memorials across the country. “The Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Sacramento, California, remains the first and most important memorial of the Vietnam Era to me,” reflects Steve.

JEFFREY GERONIMO

US NAVY VETERAN | He served eight years in the Navy as active duty. He attained the rate of Damage Control Petty Officer First Class. He was stationed on two ships; a submarine-tender USS Emory S. Land out of Italy, and a nuclear aircraft carrier USS John C. Stennis out of Bremerton, WA. His last duty station was in the Transient Personnel Unit as a staff out of Silverdale, WA. He is currently a full-time student completing his bachelor’s degree in fine arts at the Academy of Arts University in San Francisco. He enjoys drawing, painting, print-making, sculpting, and any other type of creative crafts. The discipline and attention to detail that he has learned from his time in the service, has helped him develop his skills in creating his art. His goal is to become an art teacher once he attains his FA degree and completes his teaching credentials.

GREGORY GILKEY

US AIR FORCE VETERAN | Born in Sacramento, CA, Gregory served at Vandenberg AFB for six years. After service, he majored in Architecture Engineering and worked for 30 years in construction management in the area of design and build construction. Today, he enjoys being a Home Member helper for the Creative Arts Center at the Yountville Veterans Home.

JIM GREENWOOD

US MARINE CORPS VETERAN | Jim Greenwood paints as if there’s no tomorrow. When Jim was 24 years old he was diagnosed with RP (Retinitis Pigmentosa), a hereditary disease of the retina that gradually causes a loss of vision. The affected portion of the retina is responsible for central vision in the eye. It controls our ability to read, recognize faces and colors and to see objects in detail. It’s an incurable condition and it’s catching up with Jim as the years go by. He has lost 90% of his vision. Jim is tall, outwardly in good health, with a background in graphic design, athletics and as a Marine. For the last few years, he has been unable to drive. He needs assistance reading emails, grocery shopping and being seated in a restaurant. Yet, he paints. Furiously, because he has to. For decades Jim’s paintings took a back seat to his career as a graphic artist. He and his wife Gayle raised two children, sent them off to college, and looked forward to more leisurely times. Maybe there would be a trip to Italy to see the works of the grand masters. For certain, there would be much time set aside for grandkids. Then, adversity came calling. Jim’s condition worsened. He was forced to phase himself out of his day job. A gradual return to his passion ensued. At first, there were a few landscapes. Still lifes that reminded him of the art he did for his classes at Florida State. Most of it was, in his words, “uninspiring and nothing that stood out from the crowd.” He was depressed by the loss of his business and unenthused about his art. And he was losing his sight, rapidly. Along the way, as his vision deteriorated, something happened. His paintings became different. Reality gave way to expressionism. Sharp details gave way to vague, indistinct images. His work became conceptual. Landscapes looked as if they were seen from behind thick glass. Yet, colors were vibrant, exaggerated. Jim mixes his own colors, using two shades of red, blue, yellow and white, and that’s it. Primary colors, in part because that’s what Jim sees. What was happening? Jim realized that he was now painting as he saw the world. The way he was now seeing it, legally blind. His paintings are as ambiguous as they are hopeful. And stunning. While there is form and content, shapes are loosely defined, objects at times unrecognizable. The effect is emotional. One wants to stare at his paintings, to linger. They are, in a way, like life is for those of us who are not legally blind-indistinct and mysterious. There is a revelation in them that truth is not in the details. Rather, it is shrouded in vagueness. What’s next for Jim? Hopefully many paintings. Hopefully that trip to Italy

and precious time with his grandkids. While others his age may be coasting to the finish line, Jim is accelerating, open throttle. For us, it's truly a sight it is for us to watch.

NICK HASTE

US NAVY VETERAN | Nicholas Haste is a BFA Photography major at Academy of Art University. He recently separated from the US Navy after serving fourteen years as an Operation Specialist on board the USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN 71), USS Ross (DDG 71), and USS Higgins (DDG 76). Nick now resides in Monterey, CA pursuing his passion in photography.

NELSON HOLDERMAN

US NAVY VETERAN | Nelson Holderman, United States Navy Veteran. Nelson joined the Navy in 1956. He served in South China on the USS Okinawa LPH3. He enjoys working in the Creative Arts Center at the Veterans Home of California, Yountville, where he also enjoys painting in his spare time.

FRED HUTTON

US ARMY VETERAN | Fred's work has appeared in, and has been recognized by, design magazines, professional societies and art directors clubs including: American Institute of Graphic Arts, Art Direction Magazine, Art Directors of New York, Art Directors Club of Los Angeles, Industrial Design Magazine, Journal of Commercial Art/Communication Arts, Packing Design Magazine, Print Magazine, Type Directors Club of New York, and various national, trade and consumer magazines.

Fred was awarded an Honorary Master of Science degree from Brooks Institute. He studied at Art Center College of Design, majoring in Advertising and Graphic Design. Fred also attended UCLA, majoring in Education, and El Camino College, earning an Associate Arts degree in Education.

STEPHANIE N. INABINETT

US MARINE CORPS ACTIVE | Stephanie Inabinett is currently pursuing her MFA in Photography with Academy of Art University. She is a native of Ohio and has been serving in the United States Marines Corps for 16 years now. She is currently stationed aboard Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Her love for photography grew as she started to explore other art forms of expression and modeling for her fellow photographers. She particularly enjoys working with rich, vivid, bold, colors and black and white photography. She strives to capture real, authentic moments with

her subjects through a lens. She is excited to continue exploring and growing in her photography passion.

When Stephanie is not behind her camera, she enjoys spending time with her family, painting, cooking and playing sports. She looks forward to retiring from the military and pursuing her acting and photography careers full time.

KEN KEEGAN

US NAVY VETERAN | Ken is a local entrepreneur who has guided several companies to create high net value and profits, including Mr. Coffee, Inc., several auto dealerships, Nutri/System and Sentinel Capital Management, Inc. Ken is co-founder of the San Jose Earthquakes soccer team, as well as a founder of the San Jose Ballet, and the San Jose National Bank. He is a graduate of San Jose State University and Harvard Graduate School of Business. Ken won a bronze medal for Team America in the Singing and Acting World Championships of 2007 in Los Angeles.

GORDON KIRBY

US NAVY VETERAN | Gordon is from Missouri. He joined the Navy in 1965 and served three tours in Vietnam aboard the USS Mauna Kea AE-22 as a radio man. He was a black smith by trade as well as a shop owner. For the past twelve years, he has been a volunteer for the California Highway Patrol and continues his interest in Ham Radios. When he's not doing that, he fills the rest of his day wood working and reading.

STEPHEN KNIGHT

US AIR FORCE VETERAN | Stephen Knight served twenty years on active duty as an Air Battle manager in the US Air Force. He is a veteran on Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Southern Watch and Enduring Freedom. He is currently enrolled in the Master of Arts degree program for painting and drawing at the Academy of Art University.

NORMAN LANIEWICZ

US NAVY VETERAN | Norman served in the United States Navy from 1958 to 1964 as an electronics technician. As a civilian, Norman worked in public relations, sales, as a field engineer on RCA mainframe computers, a real estate broker and construction contractor. Norman's hobbies include photography, woodworking and cabinet-making, as well as outdoor activities such as offshore fishing and RV travel.

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CHUCK MAROTTA

US ARMY AIR FORCE VETERAN | Born in San Jose, California in 1924, Chuck joined the service in 1943. He went to basic training at Fort Ord in Monterey, CA and would further his training to become a B-17 Flight Engineer in Amarillo Texas. Chuck was sent to Guam to work on the B-29s, he was there when the Enola Gay took off from Tinian Island to Hiroshima. Chuck loves going to the Creative Arts Center daily at the Yountville Home of California, to create art in all various media.

WILLIAM MCCAGUE

US ARMY VETERAN, WWII

PAUL J. MEADE

US NAVY VETERAN | Paul Jay Meade has been involved with art since he attended architecture school at the University of Oklahoma. He graduated in 1962 and continued to draw as part of his profession. Paul returned to San Francisco after serving in the Navy for four years and obtained the rank of Lieutenant. He continued his education at UC Berkeley and received his master's degree in Architecture in 1968. While working at Hewlett Packard, Paul was responsible for selecting all the commissioned and purchased art in all mediums depending on the country. He worked with a well-known art consultant, Judy Kaye, on these projects. He renewed his interest in expressing his own art over the last 10 years after retiring from Hewlett Packard. He enjoys using the mediums of watercolors, acrylic and charcoal. Paul had his abstract acrylic painting accepted in a nationwide competition for the Sixth Annual Veteran's Art Exhibit for Fleet Week, October 2 – 21, 2018. In June and July 2018 Paul had an art show at the Sausalito Presbyterian Church. The show included paintings using watercolors, acrylic, charcoal and pencil. Paul had his abstract acrylic painting accepted in a nationwide competition for the Fifth Annual Veteran's Art Exhibit for Fleet Week, October 3 – 26, 2017. January 2016 at the Veterans Community Living Center, Paul had a special art show displaying his pencil drawing of an elephant, a coloring pencil drawing of a goose and a Ikebana flower arrangement inspired by a National Geographic photo of the World Trade Center after the attack on September 11, 2001. Pam Will, Marin artist, works weekly with Paul on his drawing and painting projects, giving him guidance and support.

ARAUNA MORGAN

US AIR FORCE VETERAN | Arauna is a ten year Active Duty and Reserve Vet from the US Air Force. In her own words: "It took a long time, but I finally realized that true wisdom is intelligence in not only career, but kindness, compassion, and family. Without friends and family, a career is rather empty. The pair of owls in my work signify wisdom, family and compassion."

KARL MULLER

No biography provided.

ED NIVENS

US NAVY VETERAN | Born and raised in California, Ed joined the Navy in 1955 to get out of Napa, California, where he served as a mechanic until 1959. After service, he attended college. He loved school so much he stayed for ten years and studied horticulture. Ed went on to be landscaper and contractor and has returned to the one place he once escaped from. Ed enjoys creating art in the Creative Art Center at the Yountville Veterans Home. He believes art truly helped him to get back to knowing himself and helps his memory.

DANI LE PETERSON

US AIR FORCE VETERAN | Dani Le Peterson is an avid travel enthusiast and photographer from Erie, Pennsylvania. He is currently pursuing a BFA in Photography at the Academy of Art University located in the heart of San Francisco. Dani Le is a US Air Force Veteran, having served both Active Duty and currently in the USAF Reserve. Now that he is pursuing a career in travel photography, Dani Le hopes to capture amazing travel experiences and stunning images from around the globe to inspire and motivate more people to experience the World for themselves.

ANGELO RICCI

US MARINE CORPS VETERAN | Angelo grew up in Redwood City, CA. He joined the Marine Corps at age 18. He went to the Persian Gulf three times, two of which were combat tours in Iraq. His entire life, Angelo wanted to be an actor. Now he's on his way.

DAVID RIEL

David seeks to notice that which goes unnoticed, and to bring an appreciation of that which goes underappreciated. Beauty and meaning are all around us, if only we take the time to be mindful.

Over a lifetime of discovering both the urban and rural environs of all but one of our 50 states, David has learned that each location and subculture evokes its own history, splendor and value. As David has quietly explored these locales, he has been able to better appreciate their individual uniqueness, while celebrating their collective harmonies. Being mindful, inquisitive and attentive permits David to challenge his audience to see the ordinary as extraordinary. While based in the Midwest, David is constantly on the move, seeking new adventures, sights, and sounds with a deep thirst for learning. However, David's wanderlust never overshadows his love of home, where he finds rest, comfort, a beautiful family and his dogs. He is blessed and ever grateful. Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance (Jude 1:2).

LARENZO RILEY

US ARMY VETERAN | Lorenzo has been a professional photographer for weddings as well as still life for the last ten years. He worked for 40 years in Computer Services. He is currently teaching and supporting computers for Veterans.

ELISE ROWLAND

US NAVY VETERAN | At 29 years old, Elise found that photography is her true passion. It has been the one love that has followed her throughout her life. From growing up in Tennessee, then traveling the world with the Navy, to now exploring her new surroundings with the Bay Area as her backyard, she has always loved to capture life's moments in a photograph.

She has completed one semester at the Academy of Art University and plans to graduate in 2021. The 7th Annual Veterans Art Exhibition is her first exhibition. She is proud to display her skills and photographs. She enjoys experiencing the beauty of nature that surrounds us all. She likes for her work to show something huge in nature, like mountains or the moon, that is there for all to see. She then shows a personal connection to it. She believes nature itself is already art, so she wants to do her part by displaying its beauty for viewers.

MINNIE SALINAS

No biography provided.

MICHELLE SHOCKEY

US ARMY VETERAN | Michelle Shockey is a photographer in Washington. While serving in the Army she found her love for photography. After being medically discharged, Michelle began

pursuing her Masters Degree in Photography in 2018. Since then she has been published in 'Best of Photography 2018' and was a featured photographer in Blank Wall Gallery Exhibition 'Portraits' as well as starting her own business. Michelle specializes in Pet and Landscape Photography. She is a volunteer photographer at Sunny Sky's Animal Rescue. Her business also focuses on capturing families and their pets. Capturing nature in all its forms is one of Michelle's passions as a photographer.

HARRY SPRATT

US NAVY VETERAN | Harry A. Spratt was born in Los Angeles, California in 1925. He left for the Naval training station in Farragut, Idaho in 1943. Yes, a Naval base in Idaho! A lady named Eleanor noticed a lake there on a flight to Seattle. She then told her husband he should build a Naval base there, and he did. Franklin D. Roosevelt did just that for her. Over 293,000 sailors during WWII received their basic training at Farragut. Harry would go on to be stationed in Guam until the end of WWII. Today, Harry spends most of his time in the Creative Arts Center at the Veterans Home of California, Yountville, doing one his favorite activities—building model airplanes.

RACHELLE STEELE

US NAVY VETERAN | Rachelle Steele is a Northern California fine art photographer and US Navy veteran. She finds great joy in expressing herself and pursuing her passion for creating images. Her specialty is black and white environmental portraiture, however, she loves to dabble in all things photo and finds tremendous happiness in other genres. In the details of her images is where she loves having private conversations with viewers. Rachelle is an alumni of the Academy of Art University where she earned her BFA in photography.

ROBERT THOMPSON

US NAVY VETERAN | Robert, US Navy veteran, was born in 1935 in San Jose, CA, and grew up in Alameda, CA. During the counterculture era of the 1960s, Bob painted psychedelic art. Later he enrolled in a drawing class at Laney College in Oakland, followed by studies at Oakland's prestigious College of Arts and Crafts. He studied under David Hardy, a classic realist painter who taught techniques of the old masters. In 1986 Robert was accepted to show his work at the State Fair in Sacramento, where he was frequently invited back over the next 15 years. During this same period, Robert was accepted four times to show his work at the annual Allied Artists of America Exhibition in New York

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City. Robert came to the Yountville Veterans Home in 2011 and continues to be active in the art scene. Many of his larger works are on permanent display throughout the Yountville campus.

RICHARD TIFF

US NAVY VETERAN | Born August 22, 1938 in Upstate New York and raised in Upstate New York, I enlisted in the Navy a year after high school. I was in during peace time; however just at the beginning of Vietnam. I spent a good portion of my time aboard ship with the 6th Fleet in Europe.

After receiving my undergraduate degree in Speech Therapy from Bowling Green State University in Ohio, my wife and I traveled to California in 1967 where I pursued my graduate degree in Speech/Language Pathology. For the next 30+ years I experienced a great career in Speech/Language Pathology, serving all age levels from Germany to Florida, New York and back to California, until finally retiring in 1998. Beginning in early childhood I had a love for music and the arts. I played in high school band, sang in various choral groups thru the years and eventually developed a music ministry, playing the guitar and leading retreats and sing-a-longs in senior facilities. I have also had a calling to serve others both from a secular and spiritual level, thus my 30+ years in the field of Speech Pathology. I have served in many capacities in my church thru the years, from being on various church boards and involvement in music ministries, to training as a Spiritual Director, Stephen Minister and Lay Eucharist Minister. Since retirement I have been drawn to continue caring for special needs individuals and have continued, since moving to the Veterans' Home for the last 4-6 years, working with our State Speech Pathologist and assisting the chaplain at the Memory Care Unit. For the last 2 years, as Delegate at Large, I have attended Higher Care Food Council, House meetings, and Allied Council meetings weekly. I will continue in the same capacity if I am re-elected for another two-year term.

RONALD W. TRAMMELL

US MARINE VETERAN | Born in San Francisco, 1939. U.S. Marine 1958 – 1964. MA, Studio Arts, Sonoma State. Helped to establish the California Museum of Art at Luther Burbank Center (1984-1994). Both he and his wife, artist Pat Trammell, have owned and operated their own studios in Santa Rosa and Lake County.

Ron is currently displaying his art at the Star of the Valley Catholic Church, Oakmont, CA. Ron continues to work and continues to submit his art at the Veteran's Home of Yountville, CA.

ALBERT VIENOP

US ARMY VETERAN | Albert was born and raised in Napa Valley, CA. After his Vietnam service, Albert and his wife traveled across country to study Montessori schools. Teaching science is where he found his passion. Today, Albert enjoys the art of digital photography and playing softball at the Veterans Home of California, Yountville.

STUART L. WAGNER

US MARINE CORPS VETERAN | Stuart Wagner, a native of Connecticut, has lived in the Bay Area for all but six years since 1964. He served in the Marine Corps after high school and completed his undergraduate work at The University of Connecticut and his graduate studies at Stanford. His Ph.D. dissertation research took him to Bogota, Colombia, where he lived for a year. Stuart taught Latin American history and Chicano Studies at the University of Minnesota for five years. He returned to the Bay Area in 1974 to begin an electronics business, which he administered until 1989, when he retired. Stuart became an art student in 1992. and volunteers as an advisor to the San Quentin News and sanquentinnews.com. He considers himself primarily a 3-dimensional artist who works with a wide variety of materials from steel to digital images.

JEREMY WARNER

No biography provided.

BILL WHITE

US AIR FORCE VETERAN | Bill was born in Colorado, raised in Missouri, and has been a resident of California since 1976. He served in the United States Air Force from 1966 to 1970. He was a Medic at bases in Okinawa and Japan before being sent back to Missouri at Whitman AFB, a SAC base. He became very familiar with the area and attended classes at Central Missouri State where he graduated in 1974 with a BS Degree in Mass Media/Public Relations. He spent most of his life working at jobs he enjoyed, including working at Denali National Park in the summers and Alaska Ski Resort in the winters. He was also able to spend time in Telluride Colorado, working part time on the Lift Crew and part time at the local movie theater. He was also lucky enough to work for Bill Graham Presents, where he spent 11 years as a Blue Coat security helper at most of the Concerts during that time.

He was working at Embassy Suites in San Rafael when he made the decision to take early retirement at 62. He has been residing at the Veterans Home of Yountville for the last 11 years. He loves it there because of the location, because he is able to write stories for the base paper and because he is able to escort residents on trips away from the Home.

GABRIEL WHITE

US MARINE CORPS VETERAN | Gabriel served with the 3rd battalion 5th Marines as a Scout Sniper from 2003-2007. He served in the battle of Fallujah, in 2004, and other areas in the Al Ambar Province in 2005 and 2006. He worked in law enforcement from 2007-2011 on an Emergency Response Team, Field Force Team and as a Firearms Instructor. In 2011, he chose to transition out of his career and into the industrial arts. He has 20 years of experience working with wood and metal, and almost a decade working with molten glass. He is entirely self-taught, which makes his style of art so unique. He gathers broken glass from the gold rush era dump sites in the California Gold Country, then mixes it with borosilicate glass to create the unique color combinations in his artwork. Then, he melts, snips, manipulates, and forms the glass into beautiful masterpieces. Finally, he sources beautiful driftwood or reclaimed wood from Gold Rush era Victorian homes in order to create the base for his artwork. He is inspired by nature and dedicated to creating a natural setting through his art. He is inspired by nature and dedicated to creating a natural setting through his art that anyone, anywhere can escape into.

CHAD WIEPKING

US NAVY VETERAN | Chad Wiepking grew up in Santa Clara, CA where he developed a love for cameras and photography from an Uncle. While on active duty in the Navy (1966-1968) Chad bought his first Nikon F camera in Japan. That camera became his favorite over the years. Whenever his ship pulled into port in Yokosuka, Japan, Chad would use his off-duty time to travel where ever he could photograph the sights that caught his eye. He also used his cameras on board his ship, chronicling daily activities and on shore in Vietnam. Unfortunately, Chad never fully organized his Vietnam-era slides before his Parkinson's Disease claimed first his body, then his mind, and finally his life.

VIVIAN WINSTON

No biography provided.

XUAN WANG

US NAVY VETERAN | Xuan Wang was born and raised in HeBei-SHiJiaZhuang, China. Growing up learning music and dance had taught her to express different emotions and moods in different body gestures. She traveled to San Francisco with her parents in 2005, and moved to Berkeley, CA to finish high school. In October 2008, after graduating from Berkeley High, Xuan had joined the U.S. Navy and became a Logistic Specialist. During her service, Xuan traveled the world and sailed through the Pacific Ocean with the USS Ronald Reagan and the USS Carl Vinson, which she called "The floating home". In September 2012, Xuan left full time duty and became a Navy Active Reservist, so she could pursue her education in film. Back in San Francisco, Xuan started her BFA in Motion Picture and Television (MPT) at the Academy of Art University. After two years in the program, Xuan realized that filmmaking was not the optimal medium for expressing her feelings. After trying out fashion classes in summer 2015, Xuan is now pursuing her dream in the Fashion Design department of the Academy of Art University. Currently living in San Francisco, Xuan Wang is completing her Bachelor degree in women's wear Fashion Design, with an additional focus on pattern making and knitwear design. Xuan has a unique way of processing and creating original textures with raw materials and fabric manipulations, as its one of her key interests during her design development.

WYONNA WIRE

US MARINE CORPS VETERAN | Wyonna Wire is a Cherokee, Chicawaa and Black Foot Native American. Born in Smithville, MO in 1948, Wyonna did her basic training at Parris Island, SC and did schooling at Camp LeJeune, NC in computer science. She would later serve in Quantico, VA training Allied officers and serving on Honor Guard duty, escorting our Nation's fallen soldiers home back from Vietnam. Today she serves as a Deputy for one of the Domiciliary at the Veterans Home of California, Yountville. On her time off, she enjoys ceramics, painting, reading, needle point and making flower arrangements.

SANDRA WOODFORD

US ARMY VETERAN | Sandra served in the US Army for 7 years and then US Army National Guard for an additional 7 years. Due to the physical toll of these years of service, now at age 69, Sandra dealing with a myriad of physical and mental issues. Sandra was exposed to toxic chemicals in the drinking water and soil

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from Basic Training at Fort McClellan, Alabama, which caused a never-ending list of maladies. She also contracted Hepatitis C while serving in ICU, Fort Jackson, South Carolina forcing her to endure two years of chemotherapy. Sandra explains, "My art provides me with an opportunity to focus on another realm that is pain free, stress free. It's an elixir, a panacea, an escape, a refuge. My art is a reflection of not only what I see in the world around me but also listening and following the thread of fantasy my brain is conjuring. I see art in every object, thinking that it can be converted to an art piece, alone or collectively. I'll use discarded pieces of jewelry, combine bones, feathers, beads, dried flowers, and/or hardware to create a three dimensional art piece." Sandra is drawn to furniture, converting the piece into functional art. Loving texture, she creates pieces that have a tactile element and virtually always have a high gloss gleam finish using pour on resin, often mixing in glitter to make it pop. The finished product is startling and unusual, reflecting the amazing and awe-inspiring universe.

RICHARD WORTHEN

US NAVY VETERAN | Richard Worthen was born in Hunter, Utah in 1926. Richard volunteered for the Navy on his 18th Birthday in 1944. He served on the heavy cruiser the USS Chicago throughout New Guinea, China and Japan. After service, he received a degree in secondary education from Arizona State and went to graduate school at UCLA. He later pursued a career in the design of furniture and the industry. Today, Richard is retired and enjoys taking painting classes at the Veterans Home of California, Yountville. He particularly likes working mostly in acrylic doing landscapes.

JEFF YARBROUGH

US AIR FORCE (RET.) VETERAN | Jeff Yarbrough is from Murphys, CA, and transplanted to San Diego. Besides his 33 years in the USAF, he was a Special Education teacher for 10 years, and is about to retire from a 10-year run as a Disneyland photographer. Currently, he is in the middle of his pursuit of a MFA in Photography. He enjoys photographing landscapes, people, Disney characters, and aircraft. Large pieces of photographic art, that make a statement, is what he likes to create the most.

PAUL YOUNG

US NAVY VETERAN | Paul was born in Ontario, California. He joined the Navy in 1953, where he served as a boiler man on the USS Bennington and the USS Intrepid. After service, he earned a BA at Fresno State. Paul worked for the Agricultural Dept at UC Davis and later became a commercial farm advisor specializing in water. He and his wife Ruth have been Married 50 years. In recent years, Paul is learning photography and loves to socialize with friends.

KEVIN ZUNIGA

US MARINE CORPS VETERAN | Kevin grew up on the coast of Central America for five years, experiencing the abundant wildlife. By age eleven he moved back to the United States where eventually after high school, he joined the US Marines and surprisingly found his interest in photography during a deployment. Shortly after being discharged from the Marines he went on to study photography at Brooks Institute and eventually transferred to Academy of Art University in San Francisco. As a new professional photographer he seeks to develop a style that can be recognized as his own. Based out of San Francisco, California, he pursues his passion for the natural world, specializing in location photography, photomicrography, environmental portraiture, and wildlife.

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**Creative Arts Center
Veterans Home
of California, Yountville**

www.calvet.ca.gov

Creative Arts Center is seated in a small complex that was built in 1938 with stucco walls, red tile roofing and arched windows. The building is a historic landmark, part of the second oldest Veterans Home in the nation. In the Lapidary room, one can cut and polish stones. Others may choose leather work, art classes or sculpting. There is a fully equipped Wood Shop. Members of all levels of knowledge are welcomed and shown how to complete their project. The Main building has the Ceramic room, Art Studio, and a large, bright room with multiple work stations for crafts, model assembly, painting, photography, sewing, and drone maintenance. We average 600 Members per month coming in to work on projects. 1800 hours is the average amount of time per month spent in Creative Arts. All supplies are free of charge to all Members of the Home.



**TUG MCGRAW
FOUNDATION**

www.tugmcgraw.org

The Tug McGraw Foundation (TMF) was established by Major League Baseball pitcher and U.S. Marine Tug McGraw in 2003. The mission is to raise funds to enhance the quality of life of children and adults with brain tumors and their families. Recognizing that other areas of brain research — such as traumatic brain injury and Post-Traumatic Stress — inform the science surrounding brain cancer, TMF has widened its scope to support advances in medical care and quality of life for our nation's battle-wounded, ill and injured service members. TMF's headquarters are located at the Veterans Home of California, Yountville, where they provide programs that stimulate cognitive function through exercise, nutrition and creative arts programs.



The American Art Therapy Association (AATA) definition of art therapy is: "Art Therapy is an integrative mental health and human services profession that enriches the lives of individuals, families, and communities through active art-making, creative process, applied psychological theory, and human experience within a psychotherapeutic relationship." Art therapy allows one to communicate verbally as well as non-verbally through creating art. In this process, feelings, emotions, fears and coping skills can be explored which can lead to healing benefits. There is no judgement. Art therapy is not about the final art piece produced. It is about the process one experiences through creating art. As an art therapist, I choose art directives based on clients' needs, interests, and abilities and let them experience the art process. This often leads to learning more about themselves, and finding better coping skills that enhance their lives.

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