National Summit: Arts in Healing for Warriors

Host
Rear Admiral Alton L. Stocks, MC, USN, Commander, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Partners
Americans for the Arts is the nation’s leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts in America. With more than 50 years of service, it is dedicated to representing and serving local communities and creating opportunities for every American to participate in and appreciate all forms of the arts.

Creative Healing Connections (CHC) presents healing retreats for veterans, active duty servicemen and women, their families and caregivers. Retreats focus on reintegration issues arising out of military service and provide a safe place to share experiences, learn from others, and gain skills to enhance quality of life. In addition, retreats can be held to address pre-deployment, unit cohesion, and other special needs. CHC is a member of Homeward Bound Adirondacks.

Cigna is a global health service company dedicated to helping the people we serve improve their health, well-being, and sense of security. Cigna is particularly proud to serve those who serve our country—our troops and veterans. Through our disability business, we work to meet the unique health needs of these individuals. Cigna also supports veterans and our troops through our volunteer programs and charitable giving. We are especially excited to be a part of the National Summit: Arts in Healing for Warriors because we strongly believe in the connection between mental and physical well-being as a key contributor to overall health.

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) was established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government. To date, the NEA has awarded more than $4 billion to support artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities. The NEA extends its work through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector.

Oakleaf Club of Greater Washington, DC was founded in 1947 at the National Naval Medical Center to support patient and staff benevolent activities. For over 60 years, the Club has planned events and social functions, installed artwork in patient-care areas, and provided support to activities for Wounded Warriors.

Oakleaf Club’s Mary Jane Sanford Fund is a memorial fund in honor of Mary Jane Sanford, wife of RADM Frederic G. Sanford, who was known for her exceptional support of Oakleaf Clubs at worldwide Navy Medical Facilities, which supplements the benevolent activities of the Oakleaf Club.

Planetree, founded in 1978 by a patient who endured a traumatic hospitalization, has been at the forefront of the effort to personalize, humanize, and demystify the healthcare system for more than three decades. Today, the Planetree membership network is a global community of acute care hospitals, continuing care facilities, and outpatient clinics, each at various phases of the journey to transform their healthcare by considering every aspect of the healthcare experience from the perspective of their patients and residents, and reconnecting staff to their passion for caring for others. In 2010, Planetree was selected to collaborate with the new VA Office of Patient Centered Care and Cultural Transformation in the development of the VA’s own patient-centered care model for Veterans.

Smith Center for Healing and the Arts is a nonprofit health, education, and arts organization in Washington, DC with a mission to develop and promote healing practices that explore physical, emotional, and mental resources that lead to life-affirming changes for people living with illness and for the community at large. Smith Center’s Artist-in-Residence program offers services to Wounded Warriors at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.
Society for the Arts in Healthcare, an international nonprofit organization founded in 1991, approaches health creatively by advancing the field of arts and health—a diverse, multidisciplinary movement dedicated to transforming health and healing by connecting people with the arts at key moments in their lives. This field integrates the arts (literary, performing, and visual arts and design) into a variety of healthcare and community settings for therapeutic, educational, and expressive purposes.

The Epidaurus Project, a Uniformed Services University (USUHS)-affiliated initiative to introduce holistic care elements into the Military Health System.

The Institute for Integrative Health (TIIH) in Baltimore, Maryland, was established to catalyze new ideas in healthcare. TIIH’s core activities focus on understanding and promoting health, linking experts across disciplines to generate new ideas, mentoring the leaders of today and tomorrow, and exploring new models of health and well-being.

United Service Organization (USO) is chartered by Congress to support the United States Armed Forces personnel and their families. The USO’s mission is to lift the spirits of America’s troops and their families.

VSA, founded more than 35 years ago by Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith, consists of more than 40 national and 52 international VSA affiliates, who provide access to arts and education opportunities for all people with disabilities. Each year, 7 million people of all ages and abilities participate in VSA programs, in every aspect of the arts—from visual arts, performing arts, to the literary arts.

Planning Group

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