October 14, 2011

Speaker Bios (In Order of Appearance)

National Summit: Arts in Healing for Warriors

COLONEL CHARLES CALLAHAN is a pediatric pulmonologist who has served in a range of clinical positions: as a general pediatrician, a pediatric pulmonologist, and an intensivist, and as Pediatric Residency Director and Department Chief. He holds a professorship in pediatrics at the Uniformed Services University. He more recently served in leadership as Deputy Commander for Clinical Services at Walter Reed Army Medical Center; Commander of DeWitt Army Community Hospital; and Chief of Staff at National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, and the new Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. Dr. Callahan has received numerous teaching awards and authored more than 100 articles, abstracts, books, and book chapters. He has been awarded more than $2 million in research grants. He and his wife of 30 years, Linda, live with the youngest of their seven children in Silver Spring, MD.

ANITA BOLES, MPA, has served as the executive director of the Society for the Arts in Healthcare since 2008. For over 25 years, she has had a career as an executive in health and human service-related nonprofit and government agencies, including those addressing crime victimization and victim assistance, maternal and child health, health literacy, and arts in healthcare. Ms. Boles has authored or co-authored publications on such issues as improving community responsiveness towards crime victims, cultural considerations in assisting victims of sexual assault and physical abuse, health concerns during pregnancy, and numerous topics related to arts and health. Also a visual artist, she is passionate about approaching health and healing creatively by bringing the arts to people at key moments of their lives for therapeutic, educational, and expressive purposes.

COMMANDER MOIRA G. MCGUIRE is a nurse officer with the US Public Health Service. She has spent her 19-year career working with underserved and vulnerable populations in behavioral health and oncology and speaks frequently on interfaith issues and cultural sensitivity. She is a founding member and leader of the US Public Health Service Choral Ensemble and the founder of the Breast Cancer Art Show at National Naval Medical Center, where she serves as co-chair of the Cancer Art Show Committee. CDR McGuire also serves on the hospital’s Healing Arts Committee and was instrumental in providing momentum for the establishment of an Artist in Residence program through the Red Cross at the command. Her work, both professionally and personally, is centered on the power of healing and the integral role it plays in caring for others and the self.

REAR ADMIRAL ALTON L. STOCKS (US Navy Medical Corps) graduated from the US Naval Academy with a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics in 1972 and completed the Navy’s Nuclear Power Training and Submarine School prior to serving on USS Andrew Jackson (SSBN 619) and USS Long Beach (CGN 9). He transferred his commission to the medical corps and received his medical degree from Georgetown University School of Medicine. In May 2010, he assumed command of Naval Medical Center Portsmouth and Navy Medicine East. He remains active as an assistant clinical professor of pediatrics at Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, Bethesda, MD, and is a fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and a member of Alpha Omega Alpha National Medical Honor Society.
**Musical Performance**

STEPHEN COCHRAN is an American country music singer and songwriter. He was born in Pikeville, KY, and raised in Nashville’s songwriting and recording community. Deeply affected by the events on September 11, 2001, he joined the United States Marine Corps and served his country as a Marine in Iraq and Afghanistan. As a sergeant for the 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, he earned two Purple Hearts. In 2010, he was asked to be a co-chairman for the US Department of Veterans Affairs’ Salute to Hospitalized Veterans. He collaborated with the VA to produce a music video for veterans who need help and, as part of the fall 2011 tour, will perform at Marine bases around the world.

**Creativity & the Arts in the Military**

ANITA BOLES (SEE ABOVE)

ROBERT LYNCH is the president and CEO of Americans for the Arts, the national organization dedicated to advancing the arts and arts education in people’s lives, schools, and communities. With more than 30 years of experience in the arts industry, Mr. Lynch is motivated by his personal mission to empower communities and leaders to advance arts and arts appreciation in society. Under his 25 years of leadership, the services and membership of Americans for the Arts has grown to more than 50 times its original size in 1985. He has personally reached audiences in 49 states and 12 countries, ranging from Native American tribal gatherings to the US Armed Forces in Europe and the President of the United States.

NOLEN BIVENS, Brigadier General US Army (retired), served more than three decades in military uniform at home and abroad, in capacities of increasing responsibility. His last active duty assignment was Chief of Staff, US Southern Command in Miami, FL, where he guided joint military and interagency staff planning and execution of a $1 billion international security cooperation program within the Caribbean and Central and South America. He joined the Americans for the Arts Board of Directors in 2010; his message that the arts are essential to national security and cultural diplomacy has led to testifying before Congress to make the case for the arts. He holds a BS in chemistry from South Carolina State University; a MS in management, Naval Postgraduate School; and national security and strategic studies from the National Defense University, Washington, DC.

**Courage, Transformation & the Arts**

JAMES KELLY, MD, MA, FAAN, is a neurologist who is one of America’s top experts on treating concussions. Dr. Kelly serves as the director of the National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICOE), a newly constructed component center of DCoE, dedicated to the care of warriors with traumatic brain injury and psychological health issues. While serving as NICOE’s director, Dr. Kelly is on a leave of absence from his professorship at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. He co-authored the sports concussion guidelines of the American Academy of Neurology and the Standardized Assessment of Concussion that is widely used in athletic and military settings. In addition, Dr. Kelly is a consulting neurologist to the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center. He was the first chairman of the Defense Health Board’s Traumatic Brain Injury External Advisory Subcommittee for Military Clinical Care, Research and Education.

AMBASSADOR JEAN KENNEDY SMITH is the founder of VSA, an international organization that provides arts and educational opportunities for people living with disabilities, and increases access to the arts for all. In collaboration with George Plimpton, she wrote Chronicles of Courage: Very Special Artists in 1993. She served as the US Ambassador to Ireland from 1993 until 1998, and is currently Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Ambassador Smith has been recognized for her work with numerous awards. Most recently, she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Barack Obama.
DEBORAH LANDAU is the author of Orchidelirium, which won the Anhinga Prize for Poetry, and The Last Usable Hour, a Lannan Literary Selection published by Copper Canyon Press. Her poems, essays, and reviews appear in The Paris Review, Tin House, American Literature, The Kenyon Review, TriQuarterly, The Best American Erotic Poems, Poetry Daily, Women’s Studies Quarterly, and The Harvard Review, among other publications. She was educated at Stanford, Columbia, and Brown, where she was a Javits Fellow and received a PhD in English and American Literature. For many years, she co-directed the KGB Bar Monday Night Poetry Series. She co-hosts the video interview program Open Book on Slate.com and is the director of New York University’s Creative Writing Program.

BRIAN TURNER is a soldier-poet who is the author of two poetry collections, Phantom Noise (2010) and Here, Bullet (2005), which was a New York Times Editor’s Choice selection and won the 2005 Beatrice Hawley Award, the 2006 PEN Center USA “Best in the West” award, and the 2007 Poets Prize, among others. Mr. Turner served seven years in the US Army. His poetry has been published in Poetry Daily, The Georgia Review, and other journals, as well as in the Voices in Wartime Anthology published in conjunction with the feature-length documentary film of the same name. He was also featured in Operation Homecoming, a unique documentary that explores the firsthand accounts of American servicemen and women through their own words. He earned a MFA from the University of Oregon and has lived abroad in South Korea. In 2009, he was selected as one of 50 United States Artists Fellows.

PERRY O’BRIEN is an MFA candidate in fiction at New York University. A former US Army Medic and OEF veteran, he joined the NYU Veterans’ Writing Workshop as a participating writer in its inaugural year.

THEATER PERFORMANCE

JOAN SHIGEKAWA is the Senior Deputy Chairman for the National Endowment for the Arts. As a former officer of the Rockefeller Foundation, she led domestic and international programs in the arts, including the NYC Cultural Innovation Fund and Creativity in a Digital Age. Ms. Shigekawa is the former director of the international Production Laboratory at the Program for Art on Film, a partnership between the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the J. Paul Getty Trust. She has served as a mayoral appointee to the New York City Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission and as a trustee of the New York Council for the Humanities, the Independent Television Service (ITVS), Grantmakers in the Arts, and Grantmakers in Film and Television.

ReENTRY: JESSI BLUE GORMEZANO, BRANDON JONES, SAMEERAH LUQMAAN-HARRIS, LARRY ROGER MITCHELL, BEN ROSENBLATT

ReEntry is a documentary play based on interviews with Marines preparing for and returning from deployment. ReEntry’s past production history includes Two River Theater in Red Bank, NJ, off-Broadway in New York City, and Baltimore’s CENTERSTAGE. ReEntry will be performing at Round House Theater in Bethesda, MD, on October 18-30, 2011 (www.roundhousetheatre.org). ReEntry has been utilized by the US Army, Navy, and Marine Corps as Deployment Health, Resiliency, and Suicide Prevention and Awareness Training.
COLONEL GREGORY D. GADSON currently serves as the Director of the US Army Wounded Warrior Program (AW2). A highly decorated military officer, COL Gadson has served in the US Army for more than 20 years as a field artillery officer, and in every major conflict of the last two decades. His awards include three Bronze Star Medals, a Purple Heart, a Meritorious Service Medal (3 OLC), an Army Commendation Medal (3 OLC), an Army Achievement Medal (2 OLC), a National Defense Service Medal (2 OLC), a Southwest Asia Service Medal with two Bronze Stars, two Armed Forces Expeditionary Medals, a Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, a Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Saudi Arabian Liberation Medal, the Kuwaiti Liberation Medal, an Afghanistan Campaign Medal, and the Iraq Campaign Medal. He is also authorized to wear the Combat Action Badge and the Master Parachutist Badge. A 1989 graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, COL Gadson holds master's degrees in information systems and policy management from Webster University. In 2010, he was an Army War College Fellow at the Institute of World Politics in Washington, DC. He is also a graduate of the Command and General Staff College and the Field Artillery Officers Advanced Course.

MAEGAN MORROW graduated from Sam Houston State University and received her advanced fellowship training in Neurologic Music Therapy at the Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy, maintained at Colorado State University. She is a board-certified music therapist with the American Music Therapy Association and works at TIRR/Memorial Hermann. She is also a certified brain injury specialist and has spent most of her career with the brain injury and stroke populations. She serves as an internship supervisor on the National Roster of Internship sites under the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA), and has been practicing for eight years as a clinician. She is also a performing artist. Well-known for her work with a recent patient and congresswoman at TIRR/Memorial Hermann, she has been featured in the media including Dr. Sanjay Gupta’s medical interviews on CNN, Newsweek, and Grammys.com.

MAJOR ROBERT A. LINDBLOM is an instructor pilot and assistant director of operations assigned to the 66th Rescue Squadron, Nellis Air Force Base, NV. He has more than 2800 hours in both UH-1N and HH-60G helicopters and has completed seven combat deployments to various locations. His decorations include the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal with four clusters, and the Air Medal with three clusters. MAJ Lindblom holds a BS in law enforcement and an MS in international relations. He began writing part-time in 2004 and has published 15 stories and articles in various venues, including the anthology Operation Homecoming.

ARTHUR BLOOM is founder, president, and executive director of Renovation in Music Education (RIME). Mr. Bloom holds a literature degree from Yale College, and music degrees from Juilliard and the Yale School of Music. In 1997, he received a Meet the Composer “New Music for Schools” Grant, and created An Orchestra’s Guide to the Young Person, the first concert curriculum for the Albany Symphony Orchestra. He established RIME in order to bring the concert curriculum and other arts partnerships to the many people, organizations, and communities that would benefit from them. With support from NASA’s Initiative to Develop Education through Astronomy and Space Science (IDEAS) Grant Program, administered by the Space Telescope Science Institute, he created a science version of the concert curriculum, An Orchestra’s Guide to the Universe. After visiting with injured soldiers recovering at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in 2007, Mr. Bloom established Musicorps in order to help them in their recovery.
JACEY ECKHART is a military life consultant and nationally syndicated military columnist. Her critically acclaimed book, The Homefront Club: The Hardheaded Woman’s Guide to Raising a Military Family, has made her a sought-after speaker at military installations around the world. She is also the voice behind the award-winning CD, These Boots: A Spouse’s Guide to Stepping Up and Standing Tall During Deployment. Ms. Eckhart was selected as one of the most influential military spouses in the country by Military Spouse magazine. She is a member of the National Speaker’s Association and the American Society for Training and Development.

STEPHEN COCHRAN (SEE ABOVE)

KJ SANCHEZ is the CEO of American Records, a theater company devoted to making plays that chronicle our time, work that is a bridge between people. She is the co-author and director of ReEntry, a play based on interviews with OEF/OIF Veterans. ReEntry has been seen at Baltimore’s CenterStage, Two River Theater, and off-Broadway, as well as at military bases and hospitals such as USMC Parris Island, the National Naval Medical Center, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, and the Armed Forces Public Health Conference. ReEntry will be performing October 18-30 at Roundhouse Theater in Bethesda, MD; for a complete performance schedule, visit www.americanrecordstheater.org/reentry.

ANDREW CARROLL has edited several New York Times bestsellers, including War Letters and Behind the Lines. He also edited the critically acclaimed anthology Operation Homecoming, which inspired the Oscar-nominated and Emmy-winning documentary of the same name. In 1998, Mr. Carroll founded the Legacy Project, an all-volunteer initiative that honors veterans and active-duty troops by preserving their wartime letters and e-mails. To date, the Legacy Project has collected an estimated 85,000 previously unpublished letters from every war in US history. He has also been a contributing editor and/or writer for numerous publications, including the New Yorker, the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post, Time, and National Geographic. His next book, Here Is Where: Discovering America’s Great Forgotten History, will be published in 2012.

STEPHEN LANG is an award-winning actor and playwright born in New York City. For his own play, Beyond Glory, he was nominated for the Helen Hayes Award. His 2007 stage adaptation of Beyond Glory presents the stories of eight veterans (from World War II, Korea, and Vietnam) rendering firsthand accounts of the actions that resulted in each of them receiving the nation’s highest military award, the Medal of Honor. The production premiered at the Goodman Theater in Chicago and enjoyed a critically acclaimed run at Roundabout Theatre Company’s Laura Pels Theatre in New York. As a tribute to fallen soldiers, Mr. Lang also performed the solo show on military bases, and gave a command performance on the floor of Congress with Medal of Honor recipient Senator Daniel Inouye (HI) in attendance.

Reconnecting the Soul

CHAPLAIN COLONEL ERIC W. OLSEN (State Chaplain NYARNG) is a graduate of Wagner College and the Lutheran Theological Seminary of Philadelphia. After five years in the church and reserves, Chaplain Olsen moved to active duty service in 1993. After September 11, 2001, he helped in the Ground Zero cleanup and recovery efforts, and spent time working for Homeland Security across New York State. In 2004, he deployed with the 2/108 to Iraq, returning to New York in 2005. After serving the 27th Brigade, Chaplain Olsen became the division chaplain for the 42nd ID and, in 2008, he was appointed Joint Forces HQ Chaplain for New York State. His work has been focused on helping soldiers and their families respond effectively to the stress of deployment through reintegration programs, individual and marriage counseling, and soldier advocacy at all levels of service.
JASON MOON is a Milwaukee-based folk/rock musician and songwriter, an Army veteran, and an advocate for veterans issues. He was a soldier for a decade, has been writing songs for two, and holds a graduate degree in religious studies. After returning from Iraq in 2004, he began his struggle with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), almost losing his life to the disease in 2008. His latest album, Trying to Find My Way Home, which portrays his struggle to reclaim himself after returning from war, often gets through to veterans who suffer from PTSD when other methods have failed. He travels the country to inform both civilians and veterans of PTSD and to raise money for veterans’ charities.

THERESA M. PHILLIPS is a US Army veteran from the Gulf War era. She served from 1989 to 1992 as a Russian Language Interrogator Airborne in a tactical exploitation jump unit at Ft. Bragg, NC. After the military, Theresa earned her BA in 1996 from SUNY at Albany, NY, in Russian and Spanish languages. She worked in the business sector in technical writing, illustration, and translation in the United States and abroad. Her health began deteriorating rapidly at a point in 2009, and she had to take time out to get well. The last few years have been painful yet productive journey—from revisiting MST issues suppressed for nearly two decades to relentlessly seeking medical care for her physical conditions. She is now on a new path in life—a path that is leading to wholeness and a new sense of purpose.

JEREMY NOBEL, MD, MPH, is a faculty member at the Harvard School of Public Health whose teaching, research, and community-based projects address the design of healthcare delivery systems that improve quality, cost-effectiveness, and access. He is also the founder and president of the Foundation for Art and Healing (www.artandhealing.org), an organization dedicated to exploring the important relationship between creative expression and the healing process and bringing the benefits of that engagement to individuals and communities. The foundation’s activities embrace the healing power of art, pushing the research agenda forward while also creating awareness of its relevance. A published poet, Dr. Nobel has received several awards for his poetry, including the Bain-Swiggett Prize from Princeton.

CAPTAIN JAMES DUNNE, MD, is currently assigned to the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, MD. Following his tour as the Chief Medical Officer aboard the USS Saratoga, he completed a five-year general surgery residency at Bethesda. Subsequent tours led to a two-year trauma fellowship, as well as a postdoctoral research fellowship. He has been instrumental in developing and chairing the National Military Medical Center’s multidisciplinary trauma team and has served as the chief trauma consultant aboard the USNS Comfort during the assault phase of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He serves as the chief of trauma and surgical critical care and as the co-director of the surgical intensive care unit, charged with directing all care for wounded warriors returning from Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

MELISSA WALKER, MA, ATR, is a nationally registered art therapist with experience in the use of the creative arts with military service members and their dependents. After earning her MA from New York University, Ms. Walker transferred to Walter Reed Army Medical Center to serve as the sole art therapist on the inpatient psychiatry service. Since joining the NICoE in December 2011, Ms. Walker has developed the NICoE Healing Arts Program to focus on the integration and research of the creative arts therapies for Service Members with TBI and PH issues.

Vision for the Future of Arts in the Military
KENNETH H. MIZRACH was appointed director of the VA New Jersey Health Care System in 1996. Prior to this assignment, he served as director of the VA Medical Center in East Orange, NJ. Mr. Mizrach received the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Achievement in 2007, 2002, and 1995; in 1997, he received the Presidential Rank Award for Distinguished Achievement. Currently an adjunct professor at Seton Hall University, Mr. Mizrach received a BA in Political Science at St. John’s University, Queens, New York, and a master’s in public health administration from the Michigan School of Public Health in Ann Arbor, MI.

MICAH J. SICKEL, MD, PhD, started in 2009 as a contractor adult psychiatrist at NNMC in the adult behavioral health clinic. In 2010, he transitioned to be a civil service child psychiatrist at both National Naval Medical Center and Walter Reed Army Medical Center, while continuing to serve both adult and child populations at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. He co-founded the Behavioral Health Grand Rounds Series in 2010, and in January 2011 created the performing arts series Stages of Healing, which hosts artists in music, dance, theater, spoken word, visual art, and other media. These free-of-charge performances benefit patients, families, and staff, and are intended to promote dialogue and foster the healing process. Dr. Sickel also collaborates with Musicians on Call, based in New York City, to bring local musicians to the hospital on a volunteer, regular basis.

TRACY W. GAUDET, MD, joined the VA at the beginning of 2011 as the director of VHA’s newly founded Office of Patient-Centered Care and Cultural Transformation, which is based in Washington, DC. Prior to joining the VA, Dr. Gaudet was the executive director of Duke Integrative Medicine, where she led the opening of a state-of-the-art healthcare facility dedicated to transforming medicine through the exploration of new models of whole-person healthcare. Dr. Gaudet is internationally known as an expert in transforming healthcare from a traditional disease-based model to a new model of care for the 21st century based on patient-centered health care. In July 2011, she was recognized as one of the “Top 25 Women in Healthcare 2011” by Modern Healthcare.

NAJ WIKOFF is president and founder of Creative Healing Connections, which uses the arts to support the healing of women veterans, women living with cancer and other chronic conditions, military spouses, and returned servicemen and women and their caregivers. He is also a member of the community advisory board of Homeward Bound Adirondacks, a Saranac Lake, NY, initiative to create a center for Wounded Warriors, veterans, and active- duty military. A past president of the Society for the Arts in Healthcare, he is the former director of the Art & Healing project of the C. Everett Koop Institute at the Dartmouth Medical School and director of Arts and Productions for the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine. Mr. Wikoff is a Fulbright Senior Specialist and leads arts programs for youth at risk.

ANASTASIA PIKE, EdDCT, has performed on national and international television and in venues, including New York’s Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, and Baltimore’s Lyric Opera House. Praised for her “outstanding musical talent,” Dr. Pike is a concert harpist and an award-winning pianist, and maintains a private studio for students of both instruments. As a musicologist, she has conducted national and international research, and she has written articles for the American Harp Journal as well as entries for various encyclopedic works for Salem Press. She is on the preparatory harp faculty at the Peabody Institute of The Johns Hopkins University, and she performs on a Mahogany Lyon and Healy Concert Grand Harp.