

Toll Free Numbers for Contacting VA

| Department Name(s) | Toll Free Number(s) |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Benefits (VA): | |
| Burial | |
| Death Pension | |
| Dependency Indemnity Compensation | |
| Direct Deposit | |
| Directions to VA Benefits Regional Offices | |
| Disability Compensation | |
| Disability Pension | |
| Education | |
| Home Loan Guaranty | |
| Medical Care | |
| Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment..... | 1-800-827-1000 |
| Beneficiaries in receipt of Pension Benefits..... | 1-877-294-6380 |
| CHAMPVA Meds by Mail | 1-888-385-0235 (or)1-866-229-7389 |
| Combat Call Center..... | 1-877-WAR-VETS (1-877-927-8387) |
| Debt Management Center (Collection of Non-Medical Debts)... | 1-800-827-0648 |
| Children of Women Vietnam Veterans (CWVV) | |
| Foreign Medical Program (FMP) | |
| Spina Bifida Health Care Program..... | 1-877-345-8179 (or)1-888-820-1756 |
| Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA) | |
| CHAMPVA In-House Treatment Initiative (CITI)..... | 1-800-733-8387 |
| eBenefits Technical Support..... | 1-800-983-0937 |
| Education (GI Bill)..... | 1-888-442-4551 |
| Health Care Benefits..... | 1-877-222-8387 |
| Life Insurance: | |
| Service members and/or Veterans Group Life Insurance Program..... | 1-800-419-1473 |
| All other VA Life Insurance Programs..... | 1-800-669-8477 |
| Mammography Helpline..... | 1-888-492-7844 |
| Smoking Cessation Counselors..... | 1-855-QUIT-VET (1-855-784-8838) |
| Special Issues - Gulf War/Agent Orange/Project Shad/Mustard Agents and Lewisite/Ionizing Radiation..... | 1-800-749-8387 |
| Status of Headstones and Markers..... | 1-800-697-6947 |
| Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD)..... | Dial 711 |
| Veterans Crisis Line..... | 1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255) |
| White House VA Hotline..... | 1-855-948-2311 |
| Women Veterans Hotline..... | 1-855-VA-WOMEN (1-855-829-6636) |



2018 Spotlight: Military Women Artists at the Ohio Governor's Residence Details

Open To: Ohio Military Women Visual Artists

Commission Amount: N/A

Entry Open Date: Friday, January 12, 2018

Entry Deadline: Friday, February 23, 2018

Entry Review: Friday, March 9, 2018

Project Summary:

The Ohio Arts Council (OAC) is seeking women artists who are serving or have served in the military and who currently live in Ohio. Artists who work in painting, drawing, mixed media, and sculpture are eligible to participate in this exhibition which will specifically feature the works by women artists who are serving or have served in the armed forces. This exhibition is part of a larger ongoing program, "Spotlight: Featured Artists at the Ohio Governor's Residence," which was developed by Ohio's First Lady Karen W. Kasich in collaboration with the OAC. This special exhibition, "Spotlight: Military Women Artists at the Ohio Governor's Residence," celebrates works created by women veterans and current service members while helping to support and recognize their artistic accomplishments and their service in the military. The "Spotlight" program was created by Mrs. Kasich to promote and support the arts in Ohio in a meaningful way, as well as to feature the Governor's Residence as a gallery for Ohio artists and a destination for tourists. The program also seeks to increase public awareness for the Ohio Governor's Residence and Heritage Garden.

Project Background and Building History:

First Lady Karen W. Kasich developed the "Spotlight: Featured Artists at the Ohio Governor's Residence" program as an opportunity to showcase the wonderful talents of Ohio's visual artists. The May through July 2018 Spotlight exhibition will feature works by active duty and veteran women visual artists. Their work will be exhibited in the foyer and the great room of the Governor's Residence, allowing visitors the opportunity to experience their work and to learn more about the artists.

Mission of School or Site:

The OAC has assisted the Governor's Residence and staff since 1985 to promote and exhibit the work of Ohio artists and the collections from Ohio's arts institutions, museums, and galleries.

Artistic Goals of the Commissioned Piece:

The goal of the program is to increase exposure and audience for selected Ohio artists, the arts community of Ohio, and the Ohio Governor's Residence and Heritage Garden. The staff of the Office of Ohio's First Lady Karen W. Kasich and the Ohio Arts Council will review the applications and make final selections. In an effort to present exhibitions of merit and significance, work must be evaluated by objective criteria. Clearly, however, an artwork need not meet all of the criteria in order to be accepted for exhibition. When judging the quality of artwork submitted, several standards and combinations of standards may be used, including: - Suitability of subject, technique, and style for intended audience - Vitality and originality of artistic expression - Creative and inventive use of the medium - Technical proficiency in the use of the medium/media

Practical Considerations:

To be eligible for the program, an artist must be currently living in Ohio, be serving or have served in the U.S. military, and cannot be a student enrolled in a degree-granting program. Work should be professionally framed and ready to hang. Works must be available for the full exhibition period. Two-dimensional works displayed average in size from 20" x 30" to the maximum of 50" x 50". Three-dimensional works should not exceed 20" x 20" in width and up to 30" in height, due to space limitations.

Selection Review Process:

Interested artists should begin the online process by visiting: <http://apps.oac.ohio.gov/Programs/IndividualArtist/IndividualArtistLogon.asp> After completing the online portion of the application, please submit up to five (5) images of available work in .jpg format via email to kathy.signorino@oac.ohio.gov. The email subject line should read: "2018 Spotlight: Military Women Artists at the Ohio Governor's Residence." Images should be sized 520 pixels by 520 pixels and 72 dpi. If your images are not square, please have the longest side by 520 pixels. LnameFname_01_(0application#).jpg for example: SmithJohn_01_1234.jpg Note: The application number is provided to you when you begin the online application process. In addition to the online form and the submission of images via email, please also send a one-page artist statement and a one-page resume.

Contact Information:

Kathy Signorino Ohio Arts Council 30 E Broad St FL 33 Columbus, OH 43215-3414 614-728-6140
OAC.IndividualArtistOffice@oac.state.oh.us



February - This Month in Military History

The month of February, like every month of the year has it's notable events of interest. On February 4, 1941, the *United Services Organization* (USO) was founded. Planning began among leaders of religious and welfare agencies in 1940, when world events accurately forecast the United States eventual entry into the World War. The USO received no funds from the US Government, but received it's funding from voluntary contributions.

On February 1, 1942, the attack on the Marshall and Gilbert Islands began. The Navy launched a surprise surface and air attack against Japanese bases and shipping on the islands. The two carrier task forces under Vice Admiral William Halsey, attacked the Japanese in order to protect trans-Pacific supply routes to Australia.

On the 23rd of that same month, the first enemy attack on the U.S. mainland took place. A Japanese submarine shelled an oil refinery near Santa Barbara, California. It was the first and most serious of the few meager Japanese attacks on the U.S. mainland.

The Battle of the Java Sea took place at the end of February, 1942. It marked the collapse of organized Allied resistance in the area, paving the way for Japanese conquest of the Indies.

On February 18, 1943 many young men in the United States Army came of age at Kasserine Pass. Associated Press war correspondent Hal Boyle once wrote, "In war, as in love, it is your first campaign that stays bone deep in your memory." Of the 1,200 men with the 19th Combat Engineers on this day, only 125 remained. Kasserine pass was where the United States and the Germans had their first clashes with each other.

In 1944 Marines landed and secured Engebi Island, Eniwetok Atoll, and the Marshall Islands on February 18th. The 22nd Marines, under Colonel John T. Walker, had only two weeks to prepare for the landing. Backed up by Army amphibious tractors, the Marines took Engebi and its airfield with relative ease. On February 19, the assault on Eniwetok began and lasted three days, with Marines involved in the heaviest fighting. On the 22nd, the Marines landed on Parry Island and with Army support completed the capture

On the 20th of February 1944, Operation Big Week got underway. The initial mission began the six days of strikes by the Eighth and 15th Air Forces against German aircraft plants. The final missions were flown on February 25. The Americans bombed by day and the British by night, both encountering heavy Luftwaffe resistance. The United States lost 244 bombers and 33 fighter planes during the operation. Germany lost 692 planes in the air, not to mention the damage done on the ground from the relentless bombing.

In 1945, Manila began to be recaptured as the month of February got underway. After a well planned offensive, the 37th Division, First Cavalry, and 11th Airborne Division met at Manila. The Americans herded the Japanese garrison into the old walled city by the end of the month. There the 18,000 Japanese made a valiant suicidal defense, forcing the Americans to clean them out in house to house street warfare.

The Argonaut Conference at Yalta occurred in February 1945. The conference began with Roosevelt, Churchill, Stalin, and their respective ministers in attendance. The Big Three issued the Declaration of Liberated Europe, a pledge to support the postwar governments of the liberated states.

On the 14th of February in 1945, following Royal Air Force attacks, the U.S. Eighth Air Force bombed Dresden, Chemnitz, and Magdeburg Germany. The bombings caused extensive fires devastating over 1,600 acres killing and estimated 100,000 people. The attack is considered the most destructive in history, even more so than Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

In the Pacific two days later, Troop carrier C-47s dropped 2,065 paratroopers on Corregidor, in the Philippines, after an amphibious landing from Bataan. Three days later, Marines landed on Iwo Jima. The Third, Fourth and Fifth Marine Divisions, under Major General Harry Schmidt landed on Iwo and cut the island in half. They stormed Mount Suribachi and raised the American Flag on February 23rd. Some 6,800 Americans died during the 36 day assault. Thousands more were injured, and more Marines earned the medal of Honor in Iwo Jima than any other battle in U.S. history.

In Korea in February of 1951, there was passage of a UN resolution condemning China for aggression in Korea on the 1st, and four days later, Operation Punch forces the Chinese to retreat north of Seoul. The operation consisted of a task force comprised of the U.S. 25th Division, which was augmented by heavy artillery and armored units and by tactical close-air support.

By the end of the month, Operation Killer begins and lasts through the first part of March, pushing Communist forces in central Korea north of the Han River.

February - This Month in Military History—continued

In 1952, on February 16, Communist negotiators at Panmunjon suggest that the Soviet Union should be a member of the neutral commission in charge of supervising the cease-fire. In February 1953, Lt. Gen. Maxwell Taylor becomes the new commander of 8th Army, and proposals are made to exchange sick and wounded POW's.

Jumping to Vietnam, on February 8, 1965 the first retaliatory air strike in North Vietnam occurred. U.S. Air Force Super Sabre F-100s suppressed ground fire in the target area while flying cover for attacking South Vietnamese fighter aircraft. President Johnson opened continuous limited air strikes against North Vietnam, in order to bring about a negotiated settlement.

In February 1971, "Operation Dewey Canyon II" began. Supported by heavy U.S. airpower and artillery fire, South Vietnamese troops crossed into Laos for a 44 day assault on the Ho Chi Minh Trail. Observers described the drive as the bloodiest fighting of the Indochina War.

Two years later, in February 1973, The first of 566 POWs returned home from Captivity in Vietnam. Led by Navy Captain Jeremiah Denton, the first group of 116 American prisoners of war was released in Hanoi by North Vietnam. Another 19 were released by the Vietcong. Capt. Denton's first words upon arrival at Clark Air Force Base in the Philippines were; "We are honored to have the opportunity to serve our country under difficult circumstances. We are profoundly grateful to our Commander in Chief and to our Nation for this day. God Bless America".

On February 1st, 1991, Iraqi forces, estimated at 60,000 mass for attack near Kuwait. Air strikes drive Iraqis forces into defensive positions. During 26 days of air sorties, more than 26,000 sorties were flown.

By the 24th, G-Day, Coalition ground forces embark on what turns out to be a 100 hour campaign. Tanks punch holes in Iraqi defenses and then air war enters it's final faze. 100,000 coalition (mostly U.S. Forces) into assault, and the Iraqi forces begin surrendering in large numbers.

And with the "Mother of all Retreats" by Iraqi forces trying to get out of Kuwait, the fighting ends on the 28th.



Military Trivia



1. In the 2002 film "The Quiet American", Michael Caine plays a world-weary British journalist who witnesses the early stages of America's involvement in what war?

- World War One
- Vietnam War
- World War Two
- First Gulf War
- Korean War

2. What is the name of the photojournalist—played by James Woods—who finds himself in the middle of a civil war in the 1986 Oliver Stone movie "Salvador"?

- Eddie Adams
- Lucian Perkins
- Richard Boyle
- Robert Capa
- James Robertson

3. The reporter Joe Galloway—depicted by actor Barry Pepper— bears witness to what early Vietnam War battle in the 2002 film "We Were Soldiers"?

- Battle of Ia Drang
- Battle of Long Tan
- Battle of Hue
- Battle of Dien Bein Phu
- Battle of Phuoc Long