



DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION
MARCH 2025 BULLETIN



About the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival (NVCAF)

In the spring of each year veterans enrolled at VA health care facilities have an opportunity to showcase their talents in local creative arts competitions. It is an chance for veterans to step outside their comfort zones and express themselves through visual and performing arts, music, dance, and creative writing. For many veterans, the NVCAF provides a form of rehabilitative treatment and a second chance at life. Through a national judging process, first, second, and third place entries in each category are determined at local competitions, and first place winners are invited to participate in the annual National Veterans Creative Arts Festival. This year the NVCAF will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, May 11-18, 2025.

Learn more about the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival at
<https://department.va.gov/veteran-sports/national-veterans-creative-arts-festival/>

Auxiliary Involvement

Since 2000, the Auxiliary has co-presented NVCAF, alongside the Department of Veterans Affairs. Carrying out the Auxiliary's mission of Service Not Self, members, units, and departments make generous monetary donations to help support this event. Best of all, Auxiliary members have had the opportunity to meet and develop relationships with these heroes who participate, leading to a life-changing experience for many. To donate online visit www.donate.legion-aux.org.

Funding for Local Veterans Creative Arts Festivals

The American Legion Auxiliary Foundation also supports the Veterans Creative Arts Festival (VCAF) through grants which aid in the well-being of veterans by introducing them to art therapy through a local Veterans Creative Arts Festival or offers art therapy courses that feed into the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival events.

If you are interested in learning more about applying for an ALA Foundation Grant for the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival please visit www.ALAFoundation.org.

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