

Veteran portraits on display at Kennedy Center



Visitors to The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., can see a collection of Veteran portraits on display through Nov. 15.

The collection is *Portraits of Courage: A Commander in Chief's Tribute to America's Warriors*, painted by another Veteran, President George W. Bush.



President Bush painting. (Photo courtesy of the Bush Center)

The collection highlights 98 men and women out of the approximately five million post-9/11 Veterans. The exhibit showcases 66 full-color oil portraits and a four-panel mural painted by the former president, himself an Air Force Veteran.

Upon entering the display, visitors see a two-minute video by the 43rd president. Bush talks about the positive assets of Veterans, why he continues to serve Veterans, the courage involved in talking about post-traumatic stress and his painting history.

Alongside the video is a quote from the president on why he painted these Veterans.

“I painted these men and women as a way to honor their service to the country and to show my respect for their sacrifice and courage.”

Nearly all the warriors featured participated in one of the two wounded warrior sporting events hosted by the George W. Bush Presidential Center. The W100K is a 100-kilometer mountain bike ride on the president’s ranch near Crawford, Texas. The Warrior Open is a competitive golf tournament in Dallas.

The portraits are on loan from the Ambassador and Mrs. George L. Argyros Collection of Presidential Art at the George W. Bush Presidential Center, a non-profit organization whose Military Service Initiative is focused on helping post-9/11 veterans and their families.



Portraits of Courage at The Kennedy Center.

For more information

The paintings are on display until Nov. 15 at The Kennedy Center. More information is at <https://www.kennedy-center.org/calendar/event/ZURRA>. The exhibit then moves to the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Arkansas, Dec. 21 through Jan. 20, 2020.

A Portraits of Courage app is also available at the [Apple store](#) and [Google Play](#).

More information about the Military Service Initiative is available at <https://www.bushcenter.org/explore-our-work/issues/military-service-initiative.html>.