

# **AVAFEST 2022 NEEDS ARTISTS**

## **“USING THE ARTS & COMMUNITY TO PREVENT VETERAN SUICIDES”**

### **4th ANNUAL AVAFEST 2022 STARTS**

**OCTOBER 12 - NOVEMBER 12, 2022**

The Veterans Suicide Prevention Channel (VSPChannel) is producing the 4th Annual Austin Veteran Arts Festival (AVAFEST) in the city of Austin, Texas. There will be eight art exhibits that veterans can participate in, and all of them will be shown online.

AVAFEST 2022 for veterans is scheduled to open October 12, 2022 and will close on November 12, 2022. "We are in search of veterans who are visual artists and performers who act, sing, dance, perform in bands, write poetry/spoken word (to perform publicly), comedians, filmmakers, theater directors and more," says Glenn Towery, founder of the VSPChannel and AVAFEST.

We are also in search of new plays by veterans that are short one, or two acts. AVAFEST gives veterans a platform to show and practice their art and encourage them to enjoy the healing elements inherent in practicing the arts. AVAFEST invites veterans, military personnel and their immediate family members to participate in the festival, no matter how old or young they may be.

ALL are invited to apply who use the arts as a form of mental, emotional and spiritual healing. All selected performances will be showcased either in a select venue in the city of Austin, Texas and/or appear on the VSPChannel ROKU television channel, which can also be accessed online at: <https://veteransartsandwellnessnetwork.org/watch-live/>. AVAFEST is produced, in part, with the support of the city of Austin, Texas and has been endorsed by the VFW, DAV, Texas Veteran Commission, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Austin Mayor Steve Adler, the Austin City Council, The Austin Department of Parks and Recreations, Congressman Lloyd Doggett and and several others.

This year's AVAFEST will continue to showcase veteran and military talent and display the healing elements that can be found in practicing the arts, but AVAFEST 2022 will also emphasize other forms of non-medicinal therapies such as a Health and Wellness Seminar, EMDR, Yoga, Tai Chi, Mindfulness, meditation and more. There will also be a Veteran's Book Fair to help gifted veterans and their family members, who are talented writers, to promote and sell their books.

### **The “TOM LEA AMERICAN COMBAT VETERAN EXHIBIT”**

This year's AVAFEST will feature a very special exhibit, The “TOM LEA AMERICAN COMBAT VETERAN EXHIBIT” at the Old Bakery and Emporium Gallery, located in

beautiful downtown Austin, Texas. Ten combat veterans will have their art selected to be exhibited along with the famous Tom Lea's works. The call for art submission is already open and will end on **August 15, 2022** . This exhibit will open on October 22, 2022 and run until December 3, 2022. Only veterans who have experienced combat are eligible to submit for this exhibit at: [herlinda.zamora@austintexas.gov](mailto:herlinda.zamora@austintexas.gov)

To learn more about how you can sign up to be a part of AVAFEST 2022, contact AVAFEST at [avafestgtowery@gmail.com](mailto:avafestgtowery@gmail.com), or visit [www.vspchannel.com](http://www.vspchannel.com), or [www.avafest.org](http://www.avafest.org)