

CURRIER MUSEUM *of* ART

Currier Museum Receives CARES Grant to Serve Veterans

October 5, 2020, Manchester, NH - The Currier Museum of Art is pleased to announce that it has received CARES Act Funding to support veterans, active service members, and their families negatively impacted during the COVID-19 pandemic. The money has been allocated by the state government through Swim With A Mission, a Bedford-based nonprofit organization that raises money for veteran service organizations.

A public announcement will be made in front of the Currier Museum on **Wednesday, October 7 at 9:30 am**.

The Currier will receive \$717,500 to expand one of the region's first art therapy programs for veterans and their families. The museum's remote art therapy programs, launched over the summer, will be significantly enhanced for veterans unable to physically attend programs. The museum will renovate a 2,000-square-foot space for dedicated art therapy programs that permit social distancing and digital engagement. A key partner is the AVA Art Center and Gallery in Lebanon, NH. The programs for veterans, active service members, and their families is free of charge. No previous art background is required to join.

"Art has proven therapeutic and social value," stated Alan Chong, director of the Currier Museum of Art. "Looking at art, engaging in meaningful discussions, and creating your own work opens new understandings and helps overcome crisis."

"This collaboration with Swim with a Mission allows us to serve veterans, active duty personnel, and their families. We thank Governor Chris Sununu and the GOFERR Committee for their tremendous support of nonprofit organizations. Because the governor recognizes the important role culture plays in the community and the economy, New Hampshire's cultural organizations have received more support from the CARES Act than any other state."

"This is really remarkable and a first for New Hampshire," said Phil Taub, co-founder of Swim With A Mission. "To be able to support our veterans with therapy programs is a tremendous honor and we look forward to partnering with the Currier to be able to help our state's veterans who have made so many sacrifices on behalf of our freedom. We hope that by making this public announcement it will raise awareness among our veteran population that this program exists and they can participate for free."

The program, piloted earlier this year, was developed by the Currier Museum in collaboration with the Manchester Veterans Administration Medical Center.

To learn more about the program, please visit www.currier.org. For questions about this event, please contact Tiffany Eddy at (603) 657-6471 or tiffany@tiffanyeddy.com.

About the Currier Museum of Art

The Currier Museum is an internationally renowned art museum located in Manchester, New Hampshire. The museum features paintings, sculpture, decorative arts, and photographs, including works by Monet, Picasso, O'Keeffe, Hopper, and Wyeth. It presents exhibitions, tours, art classes, and special programs year-round. Two houses designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, are part of its permanent collection.

About Swim With A Mission

Our Mission is to be a sustainable and successful not for profit that harnesses the creativity and networks of its principal supporters to raise money to support worthy organizations that service, support and honor our Veterans.