

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
presents

PORTRAITS OF COURAGE

A COMMANDER IN CHIEF'S TRIBUTE
TO AMERICA'S WARRIORS

Portraits painted by **President George W. Bush**

Presenting Sponsor



**Visiting Washington, D.C., for the first time
in the [REACH](#) at the Kennedy Center from October 7–November 15**

(WASHINGTON)—The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts today announced its upcoming exhibit of *Portraits of Courage*, a collection of 66 paintings by former President George W. Bush created as a tribute to those who have served in the armed forces since September 11, 2001. The portraits will be on display in [Studio K](#) at the REACH, the Kennedy Center's unprecedented new expansion, October 7–November 15. Free timed-entry tickets will be available to the public for reservation beginning September 3, 2019.

“*Portraits of Courage* is a poignant and fitting first exhibition to be hosted in the REACH,” remarks Kennedy Center President Deborah F. Rutter. “The Kennedy Center is proud to share these works—painted by a living president—that honor the men and women who defend our freedom to explore, celebrate, and create art. This collection, arriving at the REACH on the heels of its public opening in September, showcases the versatility of the space, inviting patrons and tourists to experience the new expansion for the first time.”

(more)

First presented at the George W. Bush Presidential Center in 2017, the paintings are also the subject of a hardcover book, *Portraits of Courage: A Commander in Chief's Tribute to America's Warriors*. Each portrait is accompanied by the veteran's story of resilience, determination, and recovery, a narrative which inspired President Bush to honor their sacrifice through art. Exploring the injuries—visible and invisible—suffered by these veterans, the exhibition offers the unique perspective of a Commander in Chief paying tribute to the service of those who were under his command. The Kennedy Center will be the first Washington, D.C. venue to share this collection.

“The Bush Center is proud that the *Portraits of Courage* exhibit will be on display at the Kennedy Center’s new campus, the REACH,” says Kenneth A. Hersh, President and CEO of the George W. Bush Presidential Center. “We are extremely grateful to The Boeing Company for their investment and commitment to supporting our nation’s veterans through the work of the Bush Institute. We are excited for the D.C. community to tour the exhibit and learn more about the issues our nation’s veterans face in their transition from military to civilian life.”

“*Portraits of Courage* provides a special way for all of us to honor those who have served,” adds Tim Keating, Executive Vice President of Boeing Government Operations. “Boeing is proud to be able to support our nation’s veterans and help tell their stories through our partnership with the George W. Bush Presidential Center.”

ABOUT THE GEORGE W. BUSH INSTITUTE

Housed within the George W. Bush Presidential Center, the George W. Bush Institute is an action-oriented, nonpartisan policy organization with the mission of developing leaders, advancing policy, and taking action to solve today’s most pressing challenges. Through three Impact Centers—Domestic Excellence, Global Leadership, and an Engagement Agenda—the Bush Institute delivers measurable results that save and improve lives.

The Military Service Initiative within the Bush Institute honors the service and sacrifice of all post-9/11 veterans by ensuring that they and their families make successful transitions to civilian life, specifically in addressing the challenges of employment and overcoming the invisible wounds of war.

To learn more, visit www.BushCenter.org.

Boeing is the Presenting Sponsor of *Portraits of Courage: A Commander in Chief's Tribute to America's Warriors*

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