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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

SIXTH ANNUAL VETERANS ART EXHIBITION WILL FEATURE A BRAVE AND BEAUTIFUL  
COLLECTION OF QUILTS, PAINTINGS AND MULTI-MEDIA WORKS

**HENDERSONVILLE, Tenn. (Sept. 25, 2024)** – For its Sixth Annual Veterans Art Exhibition, Monthaven Arts and Cultural Center will present a selection of works from the Quilts of Valor Foundation. The MACC’s annual exhibit, titled ***Brave Beauty***, will also feature the paintings of Tennessee artist and military veteran Gerald Morgan along with art created by participants in the MACC’s “Between The Lines” healing arts program. The exhibit runs **Oct. 19 to Nov. 17, 2024** and is free.

“The beautifully crafted quilts in this exhibition were designed to bring comfort to our military veterans,” says Cheryl Strichik, the MACC’s executive director. “That makes them a perfect fit for Monthaven, since our Between the Lines healing arts program for military veterans is one of the MACC’s top priorities. We are also deeply committed to showcasing art created by our military veterans, so we are honored to introduce the paintings of Vietnam War veteran Gerald Morgan to our community.”

The Quilts of Valor Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing comfort and healing to service members and veterans through the gift of handmade quilts. Founded on the inspiration of a dream, the organization operates through a network of volunteers who create and distribute quilts to recipients. The large quilts are awarded to any

service member or veteran who has been touched by war. An assortment of these quilts, each decorated with stars, stripes and other patriotic symbols, will be on display in the MACC's galleries.

The Sixth Annual Exhibition will also showcase the paintings of Tennessee artist Gerald Morgan. A Vietnam War veteran, Morgan is best known for his impressionist paintings of figures and landscapes. His charcoal drawings, especially of dancers, are held in high esteem. During his career, Morgan has mounted over 20 one-man shows, including at The Parthenon Museum in Nashville. This will be his first exhibit at Monthaven. Selected art from some of the veterans participating in the Between the Lines program will be on display as part of the Sixth Annual Veterans Art Exhibit.

Each Veterans Art Exhibition includes a Boots and BBQ fundraiser, which supports the MACC's "Between the Lines" healing arts programs for military veterans. This year's fundraiser is Oct. 19 from 5 to 8 p.m. The event's keynote speaker will be J.T. Cooper, who was one of the American soldiers who fought in the 1993 Battle of Mogadishu in Africa. Cooper's experience was portrayed in the movie *Black Hawk Down*. Warrior Rounds, a collaboration between military veterans and Nashville songwriters, will perform. For tickets and more information, visit [monthavenarts.org](http://monthavenarts.org) or call (615) 822-0789.

Monthaven Arts and Cultural Center (MACC) is a jewel-box art museum and education facility housed in one of Tennessee's most spectacular antebellum mansions. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the MACC has staged exhibitions featuring everything from the ceramic art of Pablo Picasso to the evening gowns of Princess Diana. The artwork of local artists and military veterans are also on frequent display. As an art school, the MACC offers classes to more than 1,000 children and adults each year. The MACC also provides free arts outreach and healing arts to underserved children, families and military veterans. For more information, visit [www.monthavenarts.org](http://www.monthavenarts.org) or call (615) 822-0789.

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