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The nationally-renowned, traveling art exhibit, "Portraits of Courage: A Commander in Chief's Tribute to America's Warriors" exhibit has made its official debut in the Valley of the Sun.

The Arizona Historical Society, in partnership with the George W. Bush Institute and the Sandra Day O'Connor Institute, is hosting "Portraits of Courage" at the Arizona Heritage Center. Tempe is only the fourth U.S. city that has been given the opportunity to host the paintings this year.

While President Bush may not be well-known for his artistic endeavors, "Portraits of Courage" offers a unique glimpse into the talents of the former Commander in Chief. The exhibit itself was inspired by President Bush's ongoing efforts to support the service and sacrifices of our nation's veterans through the Bush Institute's Military Service Initiative.

The "Portraits of Courage" honors veterans, many who have served our nation honorably since 9/11, through 66 full-color portraits, as well as through a four-panel mural of 98 service members and veterans.

And while attendees will enjoy admiring the stunning portraits, which feature impeccable detailing and are blossoming with vibrant colors, those at the Arizona Historical Society are hoping that they walk away with much more.

"I hope that people can get a better understanding of the plight of our service men and women. We all understand that war is difficult, but with these men and women, it's on their faces what they've been through," said Tawn Downs, Vice President of Communications and Revenue Marketing at the Arizona Historical Society. "So, I hope people come away with a better understanding of what these men and women go through. But also, to understand that there's hope that they can recover and that there are resources available to them."

Portraits of Courage: A Commander in Chief's Tribute to America's Warriors' Exhibit will be on display at the Arizona Heritage Center from now through Dec. 29. For more information on the exhibit, visit the Portraits of Courage [website](#).