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BIGGS MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART IS A 2024 BLUE STAR MUSEUM

The Biggs to offer free admission to military personnel and their families this summer and beyond

[Dover, DE – May 14, 2024] – The Biggs Museum of America Art announced it will join museums nationwide in the Blue Star Museums initiative, a program that provides free admission to currently serving U.S. military personnel and their families this summer. The 2024 program will begin on Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 18, 2024, and end on Labor Day, Monday, September 2, 2024. Learn more and find the list of participating museums at arts.gov/BlueStarMuseums.

Blue Star Museums is a partnership between the National Endowment for the Arts and Blue Star Families, in collaboration with the Department of Defense and participating museums across America.

"At The Biggs, we firmly believe that the Blue Star Museum Program not only honors our brave servicemen and women but also fosters a sense of unity and community through creative and cultural experiences. By opening our doors to military families, we not only express our gratitude but also create meaningful connections that enrich our collective spirit and strengthen the bonds within our community." said Kerri Lacey, Director of Marketing and Public Relations

Situated in close proximity to Dover Air Force Base, The Biggs understands the importance of supporting those who serve our country. Beyond the Blue Star Museum program, The Biggs is committed to honoring our military community all year long by offering complimentary Military Individual and Family Memberships. As members, active-duty Service men and women are warmly welcomed to enjoy free admission, as well as exclusive access to special events, discounted programs, and savings in the Museum Giftshop. "It's our humble gesture of appreciation for their selfless service to our nation." Added Lacey.

"We are grateful to Biggs Museum of American Art for participating in this summer's Blue Star Museums program and we hope military families will take this opportunity to create meaningful, lifelong memories," said Maria Rosario Jackson, PhD, chair of the National Endowment for the Arts. "Whether you are traveling this summer, getting to know a new duty location, or exploring what your community has to offer, Blue Star Museums is a wonderful opportunity to create connection and find inspiration."

"Military families love Blue Star Museums, and we couldn't run this program without the National Endowment for the Arts and the museums across the nation who show they care by participating," said Blue Star Families CEO Kathy Roth-Douquet. "Access to museums enriches military families, creates



wonderful family memories, and helps us feel connected to our communities so that we can thrive and do the hard job we have to do for the country. I am delighted for us to launch the 14th year of this very special program."

The free admission program is available for those currently serving in the United States Military—Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Navy, and Space Force, members of the Reserves, National Guard, U.S. Public Health Commissioned Corps, NOAA Commissioned Corps, and up to five family members. Qualified members must show a <u>Geneva Convention common access card</u> (CAC), <u>DD Form 1173 ID card</u> (dependent ID), <u>DD Form 1173-1 ID card</u> or the <u>Next Generation Uniformed Services</u> (Real) <u>ID card</u> for entrance into a participating Blue Star Museum.

Follow #bluestarmuseums on Twitter @NEAarts @BlueStarFamily and @BiggsMuseum

About Biggs Museum of American Art

The Biggs Museum of American Art is a dynamic, accredited, art museum in Dover, Delaware, founded in 1993 by collector Sewell C. Biggs. The Biggs Museum is nationally recognized for its exceptional collections of American decorative arts of Delaware and the Mid-Atlantic region, and for its collections of American art from 1700 to today. The Museum engages audiences through a compelling program of collection based and temporary exhibitions plus encourages the development of creativity and an appreciation for art by offering a comprehensive slate of educational programming for all ages. The Biggs Museum of American Art is a private, non-profit 501(c) (3) organization.

www.thebiggsmuseum.org

About the National Endowment for the Arts

Established by Congress in 1965, the National Endowment for the Arts is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the Arts Endowment supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America. To learn more, visit arts.gov or follow us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

About Blue Star Families

<u>Blue Star Families (BSF)</u> is the nation's largest Chapter-based military and Veteran family support organization. Its research-driven approach fosters strong communities with a focus on human-centered design and innovative solutions. Since its founding in 2009, BSF has delivered more than \$200 million in benefits and impacts more than 1.5 million people each year. For more information, <u>click here</u>.