



Minnesota
Humanities
Center

Submissions Now Open for Minnesota Humanities Center's 2019 Veterans' Voices Award

For Immediate Release

May 13, 2019—ST. PAUL, Minn.—The Minnesota Humanities Center (MHC) is pleased to announce that submission are now open and being accepted for their 2019 Veterans' Voices Award. Submissions will be open through Sunday, July 21, 2019.

For the past six years, MHC has honored Veterans who contribute in significant ways to their communities, state, and country. The 2019 Veterans' Voices Award Ceremony will continue to honor the outstanding work of Minnesota's Veterans in an exciting new format that features their personal stories. Through poetry, prose, essays, memoirs, and more, Veterans find their voice, process their experiences, and connect with others. This year's Award Ceremony will present Veterans' stories at the Union Depot in St. Paul on Saturday, Oct. 5, 2019. MHC invites Veterans living in Minnesota to submit poetry, prose, essays, and memoirs for consideration.

Sharing personal experiences can spark dialogue, actualize healing, deepen understanding, and change perceptions. Story submissions for the awards will focus on one (or more) of the eight topics that frame the Veterans' Voices program: Combat & Non-Combat, Duty, Family, Motivation, Perceptions, Reintegration, Service, and Transformation.

"The focus this year is to showcase stories from communities around the state and allow for meaningful conversations to help bridge the Veteran-civilian divide," said Blake Rondeau, Veterans' Voices Program Officer. "We honor Veterans for their actions, but we need start acknowledging the courage in their stories as well. Minnesota has many talented Veteran writers and storytellers, and we need to hear their voices."

Prior to submitting written work, the Humanities Center encourages Veterans to attend one of five free [Warrior Writers Workshops](#) around greater Minnesota from May 16 to July 13, 2019. Attendance at a workshop is not mandatory, and it will not influence the selection process, but is encouraged. MHC will hold Warrior Writers Workshops in the following communities:

- Minneapolis, May 16
- St. Cloud, June 8
- Duluth, June 9
- Granite Falls, June 27
- Winona, July 13

An independent panel will review submitted writings and make award recommendations to the Humanities Center. We will honor up to ten Veteran writers (and their pieces) at the Veterans' Voices Award Ceremony in St. Paul on Saturday, Oct. 5, 2019.

For more information on the Veterans' Voices program, details about the Veterans' Voices Award guidelines and submission, and how to register for upcoming Warrior Writers Workshops, visit mnhum.org/veterans-voices.

About the Minnesota Humanities Center:

The Humanities Center offers a new way to think about our future—grounded in the humanities. We help people listen, connect, and understand each other better—because we know isolation and division are dangerous. As our state changes and grows even more diverse, communities are too often choosing not to listen to each other. As a result, we experience gaps and breakdowns. The Humanities Center's approach affirms we're all in this together—using philosophy, literature, civics, history, language, and more—we focus on what unites us not divides us—bringing the humanities out of scholarly institutions and into the lives of everyday Minnesotans.

The mission of the Minnesota Humanities Center is to build a thoughtful, literate, and engaged society. More information about MHC is available at mnhum.org or join us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

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