



DUBUQUE
museum
OF **art**



Smithsonian Affiliate

Dubuque Museum of Art Opens Major Exhibition of Vietnam War Photography

Citywide program connects local veterans' stories and iconic Associated Press images



Image Credit: *U.S. Marines move through a landing zone, December 1969. (AP Photo)*

For Immediate Release

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October 15, 2021 (DUBUQUE, IA) – [The Dubuque Museum of Art \(DuMA\)](#) announces an expanded version of the Huntsville Museum of Art and the Associated Press traveling exhibition *Vietnam: The Real War* opening November 13. That collection features more than 50 iconic AP images that made and changed history—and won four Pulitzers. These photos transformed Americans' understanding of soldiers and civilians on both sides of the conflict.

DuMA expanded that experience to a citywide series of programs that ask, “How do we tell the truth in war?” Alongside the AP photographs, visitors will explore artifacts carried by U.S. soldiers into battle. That installation—of a local collection—is inspired by Tim O’Brien’s

acclaimed book, *The Things They Carried*. Newly recorded oral histories bring local veterans' memories to life for the first time publicly—a collaboration by the Veterans Freedom Center, University of Dubuque, DuMA and the Grout Museum. Concurrent DuMA exhibitions include reporting of the Vietnam War by local journalists Bob Woodward Jr. and Jim Geladas and photos by Ron Testa, an official Navy combat photographer. MercyONE has created special museum resources about brain health and the effects of Agent Orange.

Vietnam: The Real War is made possible in part by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities with support from the Dubuque Racing Association (DRA), Cottingham & Butler, the City of Dubuque's Arts and Culture Special Projects funds and Humanities Iowa. Veterans' health programs are made possible by MercyOne. The public radio partner is Wisconsin Public Radio. The views and opinions expressed by this program do not necessarily reflect those of Humanities Iowa or the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Community-wide programs amplify a diverse range of local voices and museum admission is free for veterans, active military personnel, and their families.

AMERICAN LEGION MURAL

The mural was painted in September by Corban Lundborg, a veteran and photojournalist who serves in the Combat Camera Squadron of the Air Force Reserves. Lundborg was inspired by an Associated Press photo of two marines moving through a landing zone. The mural is a collaboration among DuMA, Voices Productions, Inc., and the Dubuque American Legion Post 6. It was made possible by Humanities Iowa with support from Conlon Construction; Dubuque Stamping and Manufacturing, Inc.; U.S. Brigadier General (Ret.) Bob and Mrs. Nancy Felderman; and Home+FloorShow.

OPENING WEEKEND

PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING AUTHOR IN CONVERSATION

November 11, 7:00 – 9:00 pm CST, ZOOM, FREE

carnegioustout.org/warandpeace

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Tim O'Brien (*The Things They Carried*) appears live via ZOOM for a virtual conversation with filmmaker Aaron Matthews. Registration is free and includes a link to their new documentary, *The War and Peace of Tim O'Brien*. The pair will discuss the film and answer questions from the audience. *The War and Peace of Tim O'Brien* follows the author as he grapples with his experiences of the Vietnam War and struggles to finish his final book. Advance registration is required via carnegioustout.org/warandpeace.

FLAG RAISING, ARTIST TALK AND OPENING RECEPTION

November 13, 12:30 – 3:30 pm. FREE with Museum admission

The Marine Corps League Color Guard of Dubuque performs a flag raising ceremony, "Taps" and reads the names of local veterans who lost their lives. Veteran Navy combat photographer Ron Testa discusses his three tours of duty aboard the USS Ticonderoga and the selection of his images on view in the Museum's galleries. Refreshments will be served.

GRANT WOOD MEMORIAL WINDOW TALK
November 14, 1:30 pm. FREE with Museum admission

Teri Van Dorston, assistant director at the Veterans Memorial Commission in Cedar Rapids discusses Grant Wood's Veterans Memorial Window project for the Cedar Rapids Veterans Memorial Building.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS & PROGRAMS

All events are free unless otherwise noted

BOOK DISCUSSION: *THE THINGS THEY CARRIED*
November 30, 6:00 pm
Carnegie-Stout Public Library

DuMA will partner with the Carnegie-Stout Public Library for a book discussion of *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien, the Pulitzer Prize-winning collection of interconnected fictional stories about an American platoon fighting in the Vietnam War. Copies of *The Things They Carried* will be available to check out from the Carnegie-Stout Public Library beginning in early November, and the discussion will be led by former library director Susan Henricks.

LIVE PERFORMANCE: *FAMOUS DEAD ARTIST SERIES: ROBERT CAPA*
December 5, 1:30 pm, FREE with Museum admission

DuMA's Famous Dead Artist Series brings cultural figures to life in a scripted Q&A format. Actor Jared Baker will play Robert Capa, legendary war photographer and journalist who covered the Spanish Civil War, Israel's struggle for independence, and the French Indochina War; he was also present at Omaha Beach on D-Day. The program will also be recorded and available on dbqart.org. This event is sponsored by Ed and Susie Ritts.

FAMILY EVENT: *ART FOR ALL: THE GIFT OF GRATITUDE*
December 29, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm. FREE with Museum admission

This quarterly multigenerational program is offered in partnership with the Multicultural Family Center. Art for All will feature art activities that focus on the theme of gratitude.

UNIVERSITY OF DUBUQUE EXHIBITION: *VIETNAM: THE INTERVIEWS*
January 3 – 28
Bisignano Art Gallery University of Dubuque

University of Dubuque student veterans curate an exhibition inspired by newly recorded oral histories of Vietnam veterans.

LECTURE: *FROM THE BATTLEFRONT TO THE HOMEFRONT*
January 23, 2:30 pm. FREE with Museum admission

Author, historian, and broadcaster Jeff Stein will present “From the Battlefield to the Homefront: Iowa Broadcasters Go to War,” the story of Iowa journalists who covered conflicts from World War II to the Gulf War. This talk is made possible by the Humanities Iowa Speakers Bureau.

LIVE PERFORMANCE: *A PIECE OF MY HEART* BY SHIRLEY LAURO

Presented by Fly-By-Night Productions

January 28 and 29, 7:30 pm

January 30, 2:00 pm

February 4 and 5, 7:30 pm

Bijou Room, Five Flags Center

A Piece of My Heart is a staged production of the true stories of women who served in the Vietnam War. These haunting stories and vivid memories—from before, during, and after the War—artfully show how these women struggle to make sense of the war that irrevocably changed them.

Tickets: \$20 | www.flybynightdubuque.com

MEMORIAL: *WALL OF HONOR*

Community members can honor and recognize veterans, friends and families impacted by the War on the Museum’s wall of honor with a donation of \$100. The memorial will be on view in DuMA’s lobby and web site throughout the run of the exhibition. Donate at dbqart.org/wallofhonor. Tax deductible donations also support DuMA’s mission to create engaging art experiences that excite, inspire, and connect our community.

About the Dubuque Museum of Art

The Dubuque Museum of Art (DuMA), founded in 1874 and accredited by the American Alliance of Museums in 2004, is Iowa’s oldest cultural institution. Named a national affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution in 2016, DuMA’s mission is to create engaging art experiences that excite, inspire, and connect our community.

DuMA is located across from Washington Park in historic downtown Dubuque at 7th and Locust Streets. The museum is open Wednesdays through Saturdays from 10 am to 4 pm and Sundays 1 pm to 4 pm. DuMA is closed Monday and Tuesday. Daily admission rates Free for veterans, active military, their families and Museum members; \$7 Adults, \$6 Seniors, and \$4 College/University Students. Admission is free for all on Thursdays, and those 18 and younger receive free admission every day, thanks to Prudential Financial.

To protect our community, visitors to the museum are encouraged but not required to wear a mask. Masks and hand sanitizer are available for guests. The Glab Family Art Studio and Classroom will be closed until further notice.

For more information on all exhibitions and upcoming programs please visit dbqart.org or call 563.557.1851.

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