

2019/2020 SEASON

MILITARY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES IMPACT REPORT







A MESSAGE FROM OUR ARTISTIC PROGRAMS MANAGER

This past season, the Playhouse's Military Outreach Initiatives grew exponentially. Thank you to everyone who partnered with us. This increase is a direct result of your support!

As the daughter of a U.S. Army Veteran who served in the Vietnam War, I could not be prouder of the Playhouse for prioritizing San Diego's military personnel, families and veterans.

Like many in the military community, these programs have helped me in ways that I did not expect. My father hardly spoke about his time in the service while I was growing up. Although my family knew that he was a combat veteran and a Purple Heart recipient, we truly did not understand what that meant. Through my work with these various initiatives, I can now engage my father in thoughtful conversations about his time in the military. This is just one small way in which this program has impacted my life – and I know that there are many others who have benefited from it immensely.

Gregory, an active member of the Navy, shared with the Playhouse how one Military Night Out brought his family closer, "Attending the performance was incredibly special. The Luckiest is very powerful and initiated some deep discussions within my family. Thank you for enabling such an amazing experience. We also really enjoyed the presentation on theater props prior to the performance." These events bring loved ones together for a night of community, enjoyment and theatre – often sparking deeper conversations and building stronger relationships.

A.D. Brown, a member of the Veterans Playwrighting Workshop, shared how she grew over the weeks of the workshop, "The facilitators were extremely patient with me, they challenged me and helped me to overcome my anxiety over sharing my work. What I most love about the class is the environment, it's a safe space for the writers to fully express ourselves." What started as a writing class became a breakthrough moment of self-growth for A.D.

Programs like Military Night Out, Military Family Day and the Veterans Playwriting Workshop all have made a deep and lasting impact both externally in the community and internally at the Playhouse.

We are excited to continue these programs and expand the reach to more participants in the seasons ahead. We look forward to partnering with you again in the 2020/2021 Season and are thankful for your shared passion in establishing theatre as a creative and restorative place for so many in the military family.

With gratitude,

Jacole Kitchen Artistic Programs Manager



TABLE OF CONTENTS

SERVING THE MILITARY: AN OVERVIEW	4
YOUR IMPACT	5-7
SHARING THEIR THANKS	8
THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS	9-11



SERVING THE MILITARY: AN OVERVIEW

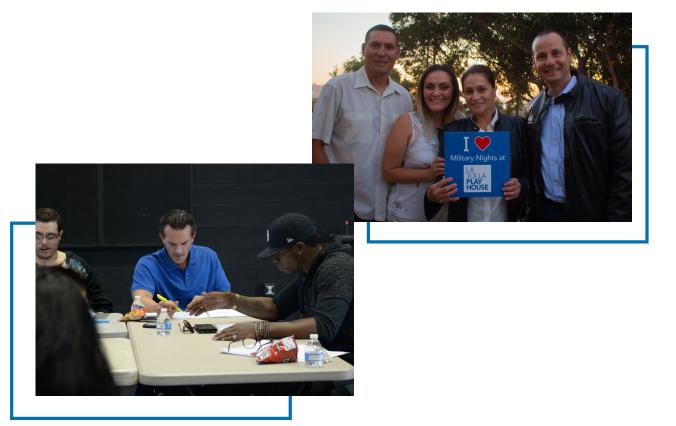
The military community plays an important role in the San Diego community, and the Playhouse is proud to acknowledge their service with dedicated programming. The Playhouse's Military Outreach Initiatives connect, inspire and entertain local active-duty service members, veterans and their families through programs like Military Night Out, Military Family Day, the Veterans Playwriting Workshop and education programs targeted for military children.

Military Night Out at the Playhouse

With a pre-show reception and tickets for a Playhouse performance, Military Night Out creates magical moments of reconnection for military members and their families. Each year, more than 500 military guests attend one of these special nights. Together, loved ones can create new memories, helping to make up for just some of the holidays and celebrations they have missed throughout the years.

Veterans Playwriting Workshop

La Jolla Playhouse strives to enhance the quality of life for the San Diego military community through meaningful experiences. In the Veterans Playwriting Workshop, veterans work with teaching artists for numerous weeks to craft and share their story. Throughout the process, many find community and healing in ways they did not expect. Every two years or so, a new cohort of veteran playwrights come together to work through Phases I, II and III of the program.





SERVING THE MILITARY: AN OVERVIEW

Military Family Days at the Playhouse

Like Military Night Out, Military Family Days provide an opportunity for families to gather and enjoy a day of theatre. In the 2019/2020 Season, more than 120 family members attended the Military Family Day for Fly. The group included children of active-duty personnel, veterans and those whose parents died while in service. After seeing the new musical, Fly, families enjoyed a post-show reception featuring food, carnival games and numerous post show activities – all for free! These activities helped guests unleash their artistic side, as they designed masks, painted flowerpots, created a boat (like the one in Fly) from recycled materials, and even built a quilt.

Scholarships for Military Children

The Playhouse offers scholarships for Youth Summer Programming to students with family in the military. This is to ensure that children of some of our most dedicated community members can participate in summer classes.

POP Tour for Young Audiences and Military Families

Each year the Playhouse makes a dedicated effort to bring the Performance Outreach Program (POP) Tour to military families. Traveling across San Diego County since 1987, each play highlights a new theme for students to discuss. This year's play, *Emily Driver's Great Race Through Time and Space*, shared the story of 12-year-old Emily and her journey for a wheelchair. Along the way, Emily learns the power of speaking up, and how one voice can inspire others to create a more accessible world. This year, military families experienced the joy of the POP Tour at the Playhouse.





YOUR IMPACT

During the 2019/2020 Season, 570 Playhouse donors contributed a collective total of \$116,798 to the Military Outreach Programs. Their dollars helped to underwrite the cost of tickets, workshops and education and outreach programs for military families. A big thank you to all who supported these programs – it truly made a difference!

Highlights from Last Season

I. Three (3) Military Nights Out and One (1) Military Family Day.

These events were hosted for the following shows:

Put Your House In Order on June 7, 2019 The Coast Starlight on August 23, 2019 Kiss My Aztec! on September 13, 2019 Fly on February 22, 2020 (Military Family Day)



- II. More than 600 tickets collectively given to the military community through Military Night Out, Military Family Day, and for other events given throughout the season.
- III. The Playhouse hosted a reading of *Radioman* by James McManus, a play based on interviews with veterans. Inspired by a true story, *Radioman* details the journey of how veterans came together to build an exact replica of Abraham Lincoln's funeral hearse for a celebration commemorating the 150th anniversary of his death. Once completed, the veterans flew out to Springfield, Missouri, and finally received the hero's welcome they always deserved. This reading was open and free to the public.
- IV. Staged a reading of *Tampons, Dead Dogs and Other Disposable Things* by veteran playwright Shairi Engle. Shairi's play follows Jen as she takes a journey through the mountains of Alaska. While hiking, Jen finds herself battling with a personal traumatic event from her past. A member of the first cohort of Veteran Playwrights, Shairi's play *Tampons, Dead Dogs and Other Disposable Things* was the 2019 winner of the Arts in the Armed Forces (AITAF) Bridge Award. Shairi then went on to create a piece for our Without Walls (WOW) Festival; her piece was one of the 10-minute plays in *Written In Stone*.
- V. In Fall 2019, the Playhouse welcomed its second cohort for the Veterans Playwriting Workshop. Expanding on the program, this cohort includes both veterans and spouses of veterans. This group will work together until the final phase, which will conclude at the end of 2020.
- VI. The 2020 POP Tour, in partnership with National Disability Theatre (NDT), brought the joy of live theatre to military children. This year, 60 complimentary tickets were given to military families to enjoy the public performance of the POP Tour, *Emily Driver's Great Race Through Time and Space*.



Sharing Shairi's Story

When we announced La Jolla Playhouse would be offering a free playwriting workshop for veterans, U.S. Air Force Veteran Shairi Engle was among the first to join. At the time, she was beginning to develop her voice as a storyteller and loved theatre but had never written a play. Through the program, Shairi received amazing resources to support her goal of playwriting. Over a year, she worked closely with a cohort of Veterans, Playhouse staff, teaching artists and experts in new play development. The words came pouring out, and her story, *Tampons*, *Dead Dogs and Other Disposable Things*, was finally down on paper.



With the encouragement of her friends and colleagues at the Playhouse, Shairi submitted her play to a competition held by Arts in the Armed Forces (AITAF), a nonprofit co-founded by actor and U.S. Marine Corp. Vet. Adam Driver. Each year, AITAF selects one play to receive their prestigious Bridge Award, and in 2019 they chose Shairi's play as the winner! Since then, her piece has received two workshops (one at The Public Theater and one at the Playhouse) and she is now enjoying mentorship by Pulitzer Prize finalist Heidi Schreck (What the Constitution Means to Me).

In deep appreciation of the Playhouse, Shairi is now giving back to us, mentoring the newest group of Veteran Playwrights.

"Not to put too fine a point on it, but the Veteran Playwriting Workshop saved my life. While I went through a PTSD treatment program at the VA Hospital, I was also attending the writing workshop. It always struck me that the exit sign for the hospital off the I-5 also pointed to La Jolla Playhouse, which is where the real therapy took place."

- Shairi Engle, Veteran Playwriting Participant and AITAF 2019 Bridge Award Winner

What's Next for 2020/2021

- I. Continuing the series of Military Night Out for the 2020/2021 Season.
- II. Close to 700 tickets are estimated to be dedicated to members of the military community. These tickets will be spread throughout all six (6) shows.
- III. The Playhouse will host a special weekend in late 2020 of readings from the Veterans Playwriting Workshop. This will culminate a year's work, celebrating their dedication and growth.
- IV. The 2021 POP Tour will visit students on military bases in February/March of 2021.



SHARING THEIR THANKS

We had a wonderful evening. The performance was moving...from laughter to sadness. A real-life issue and how it effects so many people differently. Thank you. I guess I was THE LUCKIEST.

- Denis, Navy Veteran

It was really nice to take the family out and enjoy the afternoon. I'm happy the girls had this experience. Thank you.

- John, Marine Veteran

Thank you, La Jolla Playhouse, for the opportunity to have a great night out with my daughter. We loved the play!

- Michael, Air Force

Thank you so much for the tickets to this performance, we thoroughly enjoyed it. This was a great experience and it allowed us to invite and reconnect with some old friends.

- Ed, Navy Veteran



We love the plays that we attend. Just amazing. Thank you for hosting Military Night and providing military tickets as well. We introduced our oldest children to the Playhouse last night. They asked to see more plays!

We'll see you soon!

- Nancy, Veteran



THANK YOU TO OUR 2019/2020 SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

Thank you to the many people who generously contributed to our military programs between April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020.



David C. Copley Foundation







Anonymous (x12) Michelle & Tatiana Aarons Joanne Airhart Dr. Randolph & Leslie Alexander Lt Col (Ret) Eugene & Patricia Alfaro Laura Alioto John & Ofelia Alksne Marilyn Allotta

Amnon & Claire Altman Terry Joseph Amdur Judith Anderson

Scott Andreiko Cyla Andrus

Jenny Price & Tony Hunter

Rebecca Arce Dr. Roy Arnn Lyle & Helen Arnold Scott H Ash Ronit Austgen Katherine Austin Robert & Jill Ayling Kenneth X. Baca Annabelle & Gal Balaoing

Milt Bally

Dr. Joseph Phillip Baressi, Jr David & Lori Barnett David & Karen Barnette

Mary Barranger Jim & Jeanie Barta

Juli Bear Richard Beck Richard Beebe Marlene Bellamy Marian Benassi Dr. Jay Berenter & Ms. Caryn Stein George & Sally Berg Lauren & Eugene Berkenstadt

Arnold Berlin Lynn Bernard Martha Berner Jessica Berrett Stella Biggs Linda Bjork

Steve L. Black & Kristen

Richards-Black Christine Blantz The Blue Family Cindy & Steve Blumkin Charles & Marilyn Bohle Peter Boland Robert Bowen **Judith Bowes**

Janis Brams

Cherisse Brantz Gary & Leslie Braslawsky Jennifer Briggs Braswell, PhD

Cindy Brenner Guadalupe Brictson

Judith Bright Bonnie & Scott Broberg

Mr. & Mrs. George Brody Helen & Darrell Brookstein

Alice W. Brown Juliette Brown Patricia Buczaczer Tony & May Bull Ruth Bunn

Burger Construction Joel & Susan Buxbaum Mitch & Linda Buznitsky

Vickie Camper Vincent Campise Rachel Caparelli

Michael & Wendy Carey

Tonya Carlos

Daniel & Deborah Carnick

Merrillyn Carpenter Brenda Carter Daryl F Catherwood Allison & Christopher Cato

Mark Caton Kyle Chan

Charley & Barb Crew Neal P. Chazin Victoria Chen Alexandra Cherwin Joan & Lou Chesner Thomas & Wendy Chestnut

Ellen Chodorow

Kristen L. Churchill Convee & Jonathan Lim

Jane Clark Laurence Clark Thomas Clark & Patricia Jasper-Clark Arthur & Alice Clawson Jeanette & Donald Cleveland

Dr. Emily Clore Susan Cocciolo Karen Coleman Fred Collins

Carol Clark

Rob & Eliza Contin, in honor of Arturo Contin

Daniel & Louise Conway Gordon & Julie Cooke Neil & Teresa Cooper Susan Cordonnier

Thomas & Karen Cosgrove Garrison Cottrell & Joan Rich Michael & Roberta Cowen Rosemary Cremo & Jim Smith

Angela Crivello Donna Cross Lee Curtis Bruce & Jackie Dain

Julie & Paul Datnow Diane D Davis

Gail Davis Dwain & Cathy Deets

Ted & Deanna DeFrank Pamela Dekema, in memory of

Jacob Dekema Don & Julie Dement Dr. Cedric & June Dempsey

Susan Denko Brahna & Tom Derr Mary Devlin

Heather Dietsch Charles & Sara Dispenzieri

Kim & A.T. Ditty Eric & Kristine Doan Virginia Dobias Pat Dobson Sheree Dohanyos

Dr. & Paul Alan Dores

Steffanie &

Alejandro Dotson Holcman John & Mary Ann Driscoll W. Byron & Pamela Dunn Ames & Beryl Early Larry & Pat Easter Gary & Linda Eaton Gary & Joanie Echo Diane Edgar Anne Eichman James Eisenberg

Susan & Stephen Ellis Conchita Encinas Helen E. Engel

Drs. Marianne & Robert Engle

Beth Epperson Jan & Lynne Erikson

Mica Estrada & Tom Hollenbeck

Joseph Faletti Diana K. Farr Julius Faulkner Esther & Robert Feier David Ferran John & Allyn Fili Ron Finch

Barbara M. Finn Neil & Judy Finn Dr. Linda Firestein Philip Fisch Cathleen Fitch Dale Fleming Rick & Carol Floyd

Kenneth & Charlotte Fortier

Ronald & Carol Fox Lorna Francis

Linda & Reginald Frank Richard & Pat Freeman Richard & Karen Freeman Nicholas & Frances Frost

Kristine Fulhorst Vernell Fultz Mary Gaines David Gallagher John & Lisa Galstian Florence Gandolfi

(continued on next page)



Melissa & Robert Gans Cory Gasaway Joan & Arnold Gass Dr. Michael Gerber Michael Gerstein Rose Marie Gizzo Ann Lantzy Glazener & Chris Glazener Marysue Glynn Louis Goldich Donald & Dale Goldman Michael & Patricia Gollong Custom Logos Rosada Gonzales Lori & Marty Thurston Judith M Goodwin The Lloyd Gorcey Charitable Foundation, Inc. in memory of Lloyd Gorcey Mark Grantham Steve & Shuri Gray Vicki Gray Betina Greenberg Jennifer Greenberg Robin & Linda Grensted **Judith Gross** Dr. & Richard C. Gross Jay Grossman Dr. Richard & Phyllis Gundry Paul & Marilynn Gushard The Guzas Robert & Merrill Haimsohn Charles Hall & Michele London Dr. Jeffrey Hall & Fern Platt Diane Halvorson Carl & Jo Anne Hammond Mary Hardwick James & Toni Harker Denise J Harris Jeannie Harris Nancy Hartley Bob & Lisa Hartman Dr. Daniel & Francine Harvey **Bridgett Hassett** Tim & Kathy Hauck Walter & Susan Heiser James & Reina Hemmick Sarah Henriksen Jane Hernandez Catherine Hestilow Roland Heuschele & Teresa Law Roger & Annette Hill Roberta Hilton

Robert L. Hinostro

Dr. Diane Hodges

Jennifer Hirsch

Jonnie Hoffman Doan Hohmeyer Dr. & Mrs. Michael Holland Ron Houston Nikki Hrountas Dan Huff Susan Hull Beth Hulsart & Stephen L'Heureux Kent & Candace Humber Stewart & Gail Hutcheson Annette Inouye Paul & Barbara Insel Frances Irving Dr. Craig M Jackson Cynthia A. Stuenkel & Brian E. Jaski Scott Jennings Peter & Janeen Jensen Sonya Jinich Charles Johnson Galen Johnson Glen Johnson Donald & Debra Jones Erik & Sara Jorissen Julia Joseph Jim & Sharon Justeson Lyle & Sue Kalish Kenneth Kalthoff Jerry & Linda Kane Michael & Linda Karin Patricia Karnes Sara Kasteleyn Koji & Sue Kasuyama Paul R. Keith Susan Keith David Auchterlonie & Barbara Keller Tellus Technology Patricia Kelly David & Rita Kenin Jennifer S Kessler Linda Kewin Joyce King Kathy Kinsella Oskar & Judy Kirsten Loretta Jean Knobbe Rolf & January Knoke Curt & Nancy Koch Dr. Jerry Kolins Jerrold & Marcia Krasny Gale M. Krause David Kroll & Sandra Berlin Mike Krupp

Friends of Encanto

Ruth Kuroda

Janice Kurth

Tim & Mary LaBrucherie Diana Lackey Barbara Laffoon Janet LaMarche Alan & Ruth Ann Larson Judy Lash Alexis Lasheras Laurel Latto Catherine & Stephen Lee Elizabeth Lemberg Pamela Hamilton Lester Rebecca LeVasseur Peter & Linda Levine Darby See Lewis Miles Lewitt Trent & Lisa Wagenseller Dr. Frances Lobman Kathy Lockridge Michelle Longtin Michelle Lord Richard Gray Lord Equilla Luke Kathleen & Ken Lundgren Cheryl Rhoads & Bill Lutrick Nan & Val Lendaro Pamela Malcom Jim & Gail Malkus Robert & Marcia Malkus Michael & Nancy Manchee The Mandell Family Carmen Mannarino Ann Manring Andrea & Michael Markopoulos Victor Marmolejo Sharon Marshall Nancy R Martin Iris Masotti Margaret Maund Susan Mazza Nancy McAvoy Nancy McCleary Andrew & Holland McCloskey Charlotte McConnell Patricia & Ken McCormack Dale McIntosh Don & Laurel McKahan Jennifer McKittrick Daniel McNamara Michelle Messmer Richard & Linda Meyerson Patricia Mical Bill Michalsky Bernard Michlin

Floyd & Susan Miller Pamela Miller Eli Mishuck Mr. & Mrs. Mario Modiano Ellen Montanari Helga S. Moore Sue Morrow Jason Moss, MD Craiq & Janet Munson Blaise & Karen Nauyokas Rhoda Nevins Geri Robert & Carol Nicolson Mr. & Mrs. Robert Nolan Noorany Geotechnical Consulting Michael & Mariana Nussbaum Lynda O'Carroll Irv & Olivia Okovita Deborah Olstad Max & Fredda Opalsky Dr. & Mrs. Steven Ornish Erin O'Rourke Kym Owens-Cree Kathryn Papaleo Carol Parker Sabiha Pasha Jennifer Paterson Gayle Patterson Nona Paul Mr. & Mrs. Michael Paurazas Susan Peck Robert & Suzanne Penner Richard & Patricia Perlman Penelope Perryman Colin & Andrea Phan Patrick & Evelyn Phillips Sam & Kathy Pickard Dr. Sheila Pickwell, Ph.D. Anonymous, in memory of Frank Young Glenn Pierce Michael & Gerry Polan Marc Poland Melanie Pollack Letitia Ponomareff David & Wendy Price Maggie Price & Joel Tobiason Eglantine Proto Richard & Rosalinda Puetter Susan Quesenberry Ed & Nancy Quinn Paul & Barbara Quinn Raul Quinones Alexis & Kathleen Quiroz Gopal & Shabnam Miglani Janet Raftery Christine & Charles Miller Monique Ramsey Pamela Ramsey Donald F. Miller

(continued on next page)



Linda & Marshall Ravden Thomas & Victoria Reed Miyo Reff John Rehfeld Claire Reiss Ken Relethford, Sr. Mark Remas David & Melissa Rewolinski Kathy Rhodes Richard Leib & Sharon Rosen Edward Richard & Warren Kendrick Russ & Marty Ries Debra Roberts Gail Roberts Mark & Lia Robinson Joy & Lawrence Rogers Stephen & Susan Root Carol Rose Steven Rosenstein Alan & Cynthia Rosenthal Mark & Nancy Ross Adele Rossi-Marsh Richard Roy & Celsa Spina Allan Rudick & Dolores Forsythe Danette Ruggiero Lamar Rutherford Mark & Theresa Sadoff Rosalia Salinas, Trustee Trabus Technologies Howard William Salmon Stephen & Sherry Saltzman Kay Salz Scott Sandel & James Marich Drs. John & Mary Sanfelippo Lilley Dora Sanger Don & Renee Sanshu Elaine Sapiro James Schaefer Paul B. Schaeffer, in memory of my parents Herb & Carolyn Schaer Michelle Scherrer &

Ann Hulquist

Patricia Schmidt

Sid & Emy Schneider

Matt Schiller

Judy Schreiber, La Jolla Playhouse Partner Kathy Schultz Merilyn Scott Elizabeth Segil Teresa Shaffer Donald Blaikie & Sandra Shapiro Helene Shaughnessy Barbara & Guy Shaw Jim & Joy Shaw, CPAs Jayne Sher Steven Sherber Jim & Jeanette Short Alexandra & Ari Hirschhorn Debbie & Darren Sigal Scott & Karen Silk Jacqueline & Steve Silverman Daniel & Sheryl Silverstein Roy & Rosalie Skaff Susan Slaght Richard & Kay Slater Clark & Kathryn Smith Joanie Smith Mark & Elaine Smith Peter Smith & Ralph Schneider Edward & Karen Soens Rosa Solis & Virginia Correia Richard & Jacqueline Songer David & Katherine Spencer Joanne & Joel Spevack Dr. John Spicer & Joyce L. Spicer Ray & Lauren Stainback Sandy Stapel Syliva Steding & Roger Thieme Charles Stephens Chris & Robin Stevens Mr. & Mrs. Spence Stevens Anthony & Ione Stiegler Tim Stirens James & Kathleen Stiven Nancy Stoke Bill & Gayle Stone Lisa Noelle Stone & Matthew A. Lab Lilly & Syd Strausberg Karen Strouse

Tom & Patricia Stuart

Carol Studebaker Dr. Andrea Stylli Paul Svenson John & Amy Swazey John Sweeten Mary & Tim Swift Denis Tarakjian MD Noah & Joanne Taussig Howard & Rachel Tenenbaum James & Martha Thompson Marjorie Jean Thompson Timms Family Debra Totoritis Sue Tran Eddie Truman Joseph Tsai Tony Turner-Mercado Norman Vadnais John Venekamp & Clifford Schireson Dr. Inder Verma Johanna Vertullo Ruth Voorhies & Joseph Ellis Jocelyn Vosburgh Jennifer Wahl Keith & Ruth Wahl Jordan & Anita Waldman Mark & Debbie Waldschmidt Karin Walin Drs. Katharine Sheehan & Frederick Walker Richard & Geraldine Wank Michael & Beth Wapner Carolyn Crane & staff, in memory of Ewart "Chip" Goodwin Suzanne Ward Catherine Watkins Z.J. Waxenberg Professor Miles Weinberger Michael & Barbara Wengler Mary Anne Wesson Sherri Wexler Jane Wheeler

Melinda & Sterling Wilson Nancy Wilson-Ramon Ronald & Alice Wittenberg Dr. Alan Wittgrove Mr. & Mrs. Keene Wolcott Curry Wolfe Dr. Donald & Marcia Wolochow Nancy Woods Barbara Woodward Peter & Donna Worcester Svlvia & Ed Wrench Bennett Wright Susan & Jock Wright Kleanthis & Gaylene Xanthopoulos Janice Zamudio Howard & Judy Ziment Karen & Sidney Zisook Joseph Zsoldos Pamela Zuckerman Jay & Kathleen Zybelman

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about how you can support our Military and Outreach Initiatives, please contact Cristina Hernandez, Individual Giving Manager, at chernandez@ljp.org or (858) 228-3089.

Martha White

Judy Willis

Karen Wilshe

Roland & Loreen Wilhelmy

Bill Peters & Bev Willey

Mark & Lori Williamson