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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **A Call for Veterans and Military Family Members: Tell Your Story on Stage in Telling: Virginia Beach**

***Virginia Beach*** - Jan 26, 2017 - Veterans and their families have an opportunity to tell their communities about their military related experiences.

The Telling Project has provided veterans and/or family members a forum to tell their communities their stories since 2008. It has staged 48 original performances by veterans and military family members all over the United States, in venues that range from town halls and small community theaters to some of the premier performance venues in the country. In 2017, it will be coming to Virginia Beach, and will stage an original performance of veterans stories as told by veterans and their immediate family members. The Telling Project comes to Virginia Beach at the invitation of local production partners, the Zeiders American Dream Theater and Virginia Arts Festival.

The project aims to ease veterans' transitions, to give communities an opportunity to benefit from the skills and experience that veterans bring home, and to deepen the understanding and connection between veterans and the communities in which they make their homes.

Veterans and military family members will be interviewed. Those interviews will be transcribed and shaped into a performance script. After refining the script to the specifications of the veterans / family members, performance training, and rehearsal with local theater artists, veterans and military family members will step onto stage and tell their stories directly to their communities.

Interviews will take place February 8-10 of 2017. Performances are scheduled to go to stage May 5-7 at the Zeiders American Dream Theater, 4573 Bank Street in Virginia Beach. To register for interviews, email [max@thetellingproject.org](mailto:max@thetellingproject.org), and write "Virginia Beach" in the subject line. There is space for 8 interviews, which will be designated on a first come, first served basis. Interviewing does not commit applicants to performance. **For more information, contact Max Rayneard, Senior Writer / Producer for The Telling Project at [max@thetellingproject.org](mailto:max@thetellingproject.org) or 541-556-4368, or the Zeiders American Dream Theater's Barton Kuebler at [bartkuebler@americandreamtheater.org](mailto:bartkuebler@americandreamtheater.org).**

### **ABOUT ZEIDERS AMERICAN DREAM THEATER**

Zeiders American Dream Theater develops the potential we have to foster local and emerging talent and provide them an opportunity a stage, a voice to do what they are passionate about doing and hopefully, in the process, inspire others to do the same. Currently Zeiders American Dream Theater is a nonprofit theater with an 80 seat theater in the Block 6 area of Town Center in Virginia Beach. In 2018, we will be moving to Block 9 of Town Center with new facilities which will include a 300 seat thrust stage, 100 seat cabaret space, recording studio and spacious new lobby facing the plaza. Learn more at [AmericanDreamTheater.org](http://AmericanDreamTheater.org)

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