



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hampton Roads veterans take to the stage to tell the stories of their lives in *The Telling Project*.

Virginia Beach - Zeiders American Dream Theater (ZADT) in Town Center under the leadership of Artistic Director Bart Kuebler and Executive Director Terry Flint and co-produced with Virginia Arts Festival, is pleased to present this innovative and inspiring production of *The Telling Project*.

The Telling Project enlists veterans and military family members to step forward as performers and after an interview, performance training, and rehearsal, the "performers" tell their stories to their communities. For military and military families, greater insight into their experiences facilitates reconnection with civilian society. For civilians, the dismantling of stereotypes surrounding veterans dispels anxieties arising from sensational depictions of veterans and allows communities to benefit from the skills and experience that veterans offer to a community.

The Telling Project will feature five local veterans and spouses who live in Hampton Roads. Three veterans and two spouses who represent the Army, Navy and Air Force have a great variety of stories to share with the public. Audiences will be able to hear their stories from abroad and at home.

Presenting more than 30 original performances since 2008, The Telling Project has played in 16 states across the nation and featured over 180 veterans and family members. PBS, The Associated Press, The New York Times, The Washington Post, MSNBC, NPR, Inside Higher Ed and others have featured the project. The Bob Woodruff Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Library of Congress, The Smithsonian Institution and others support it.

The Telling Project runs May 5-6 at 8pm and May 7 at 2pm. Tickets are \$23 at the door or online at AmericanDreamTheater.org

Zeiders American Dream Theater is located at 4573 Bank Street, Virginia Beach, VA 23462

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 professional, 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