

Gettysburg National Military Park U.S. Veteran, Chip Beck, as the NEW National Park Service Artist-in-Residence

Commander Beck is Famous Navy Combat Artist witnessed firsthand 20 wars on four continents.

WASHINGTON DC, MARYLAND, UNITED STATES, November 7, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- GETTYSBURG, PA — U.S. veteran and award-winning combat artist Chip Beck is Gettysburg



"I grew up near Antietam battlefield and visited Gettysburg ... my ancestors who lived and settled in the Gettysburg... including during the battle of Gettysburg"."

Commander Chip Beck

Commander Chip Beck -Gettysburg Artist in Residence National Military Park's new artist-in-residence, beginning in mid-November. Beck is a retired U.S. Navy Commander, combat artist and cartoonist who has personally witnessed 20 wars on four continents, traveling to 130 countries and islands to record historical and political events with his camera, pencils, pens, and paints. Beck is one of several military veterans selected for the 2017 Gettysburg National Military Park Artist-in-Residence program.

On Friday, December 1, Beck will reflect on his residency at Gettysburg and on his art and career at an Artist Showcase Presentation at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event is free,

and open to the public. The talk promises to be both fascinating and memorable as Beck addresses his long and distinguished career. He considers himself an artistic heir to Remington, Russell, and Leigh, recording life and culture from the rough and rowdy places of the world.

He has served as the Director of the State Department's African peacekeeper training program, and as the U.S. Navy's official combat artist in Operation Desert Storm. He has been an unofficial artistic chronicler of history in war zones ranging from Vietnam (1969) to Iraq (2003-2005). In 2013, Beck was asked by the Zimbabwean opposition to draw 100 editorial cartoons on site during Morgan Tsvangirai's unsuccessful bid to oust Dictator Robert Mugabe from power. Soldier of Fortune magazine once referred to him as the only painter who could honestly claim to be the Cold War's official combat artist.

Beck has early ties to Gettysburg National Military Park and the surrounding area. "As a kid in the 1950s, I grew up near Antietam battlefield and visited Gettysburg on several occasions," said Beck. "More recently, I have tracked a sizable portion of my ancestors who lived and settled in the Gettysburg, Fairfield, Carroll Valley, and Liberty Mountain areas, including during the battle of Gettysburg."

The Gettysburg battlefield has a long artistic tradition that includes sketches by Alfred Waud during the fighting in 1863, the iconic photography of Alexander Gardner in the immediate aftermath of battle, and commemorative works by Gutzon Borglum and many others.

"Gettysburg National Military Park has offered inspiration to artists for more than 150 years," said

Chuck Hunt, acting superintendent at Gettysburg National Military Park. "The Artist-in-Residence program engages new audiences and tells Gettysburg's stories in new and compelling ways."

Programs like Gettysburg National Military Park's artist-in-residence series, in which acclaimed artists find inspiration from the beauty and history of our national parks, and share their ideas with park visitors, represent some of the highest aspirations of the National Park Service.

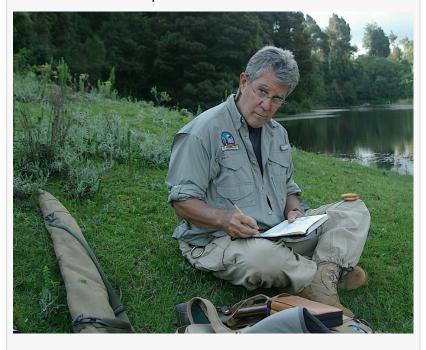
The program is offered thanks to the input and support of the National Park Service and the Gettysburg Foundation and the partnership with the Poetry Foundation, whose joint efforts make the park the foremost visitor destination for those interested in the epic history of the American Civil War.

Gettysburg National Military Park preserves, protects and interprets for this and future generations the resources associated with the 1863 Battle of Gettysburg, during the American Civil War, the Soldiers' National Cemetery, and their commemorations. Learn more at www.nps.gov/gett.

The National Parks Arts Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit dedicated to the promotion of the National Parks of the U.S. by creating dynamic opportunities for artworks that are based in our natural and historic heritage. This project is supported by the Gettysburg Foundation and other generous benefactors. All NPAF programs are made possible through the philanthropic support of donors ranging from corporate sponsors



Invitation Poster to Gettysburg U.S. Military Veterans Artist in Residence presentation



and small businesses, to art patrons and citizens- lovers of the parks. For more information go to www.nationalparksartsfoundation.org.

All NPAF programs are made possible through the philanthropic support of donors ranging from corporate sponsors and small businesses, to art patrons and citizens- lovers of the parks. NPAF is always seeking new partners and donors for its wide-ranging philanthropic programs.

For more information on how <u>you can support</u> the Gettysburg National Military Park Artist in Residence and other NPAF arts programs nationwide contact:

Website: $\underline{www.nationalparksartsfoundation.org}$ Email: admin@nationalparksartsfoundation.org

Phone number: 505-715-6492

For more information about Gettysburg National Military Park "Artists Presentation" call 717-338-

4469.

Cecilia Wainright National Parks Arts Foundation 505 715-6492 email us here

This press release can be viewed online at: http://www.einpresswire.com

Disclaimer: If you have any questions regarding information in this press release please contact the company listed in the press release. Please do not contact EIN Presswire. We will be unable to assist you with your inquiry. EIN Presswire disclaims any content contained in these releases. © 1995-2017 IPD Group, Inc. All Right Reserved.