





#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contacts: Trisha Anthony, Gordon C. James Public Relations, tanthony@gcjpr.com, 602-274-1988

James Burns, Arizona Historical Society, jburns@azhs.gov, 480-387-5366

Sarah Suggs, Sandra Day O'Connor Institute, sarah@oconnorinstitute.org, 602-730-3300

# Arizona Historical Society, in partnership with Sandra Day O'Connor Institute, to Host Portraits of Courage, Traveling Exhibit of Works by President George W. Bush

Special exhibit includes nearly 100 of the former President's portraits and stories of America's post-9/11 warriors

PHOENIX, AZ (August 8, 2018) — The Arizona Historical Society, in partnership with Sandra Day O'Connor Institute today announced that they will host Portraits of Courage: A Commander in Chief's Tribute to America's Warriors, a special exhibit from the George W. Bush Institute, this fall. Growing out of President George W. Bush's personal commitment and the ongoing work of the Bush Institute's Military Service Initiative, Portraits of Courage brings together sixty-six full-color portraits and a four-panel mural painted by President Bush of 98 service members and veterans who have served our nation with honor since 9/11, and whom the President has come to know personally since leaving office. The Arizona Historical Society's Arizona Heritage Center at Papago Park in Tempe is one of just four venues nationwide selected to host the paintings this year. Portraits of Courage will be on display from October 19 through December 29, 2018.

Admission to Portraits of Courage is included with tickets to the Arizona Heritage Center at Papago Park (1300 N College Ave Tempe, AZ 85281). Adults are \$12; Seniors 65+ are \$10; Ages 7 – 17 are \$8; Children 6 and under, Arizona Historical Society members, military and veterans are free. Two-for-one admission is offered on the first Tuesday of the month. To learn more, visit www.PortraitsofCourageAZ.org

Each featured painting is accompanied by the inspiring story of the warrior depicted, written by President Bush. As the stories unfold, readers and visitors will encounter the faces and the hearts of those who answered the nation's call and learn of their bravery on the battlefield, their journey to recovery, and the continued leadership and contribution they make as civilians.

In addition to the collection of portraits, the exhibit includes information and resources created by the Bush Institute's Military Service Initiative that visitors can use to learn how to better support post-9/11 warriors in their communities. These resources are intended to help bridge the military-civilian divide.

The paintings featured in *Portraits of Courage* are also the subject of a hardcover book by the same name, available now in stores and online. President Bush is donating 100 percent of his profits from the book to the George W. Bush Presidential Center, whose Military Service Initiative works to ensure that post-9/11 veterans and their families make successful transitions to civilian life with a focus on gaining meaningful employment and overcoming the invisible wounds of war.

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#### **About Sandra Day O'Connor Institute**

Founded in 2009 by retired Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, the mission of the Sandra Day O'Connor Institute is to continue her distinguished legacy and lifetime work to advance civics education, civic engagement and civil discourse. The O'Connor Institute works to build consensus, form collaborations and help craft solutions to vital public issues, in an environment of mutual respect and shared purpose for a better nation. For more information, visit www.OConnorInstitute.org

### **About Arizona Historical Society**

Founded in 1864, the Arizona Historical Society is the state's oldest and most prestigious historical organization, dedicated to collecting, preserving and sharing Arizona's rich history. The stories of the people, places and events that have shaped Arizona – are told through museum exhibits, programs, events and outreach. The Arizona Heritage Center at Papago Park in Tempe is one of the largest of eight museums operated by the Arizona Historical Society. The museum celebrates more than 100 years of Central Arizona, and Phoenix, history. Through stories of the early settlers, the construction of Roosevelt Dam; the bravery and struggles of the men and women of World War I and World War II; and the exciting post-war birth of the city of Phoenix – visitors will gain insight into the challenges of the past and greater understanding of contemporary issues such as water availability, immigration, free trade, mining, ranching and agribusiness, cultural diversity, and urban development and revitalization. For additional information, visitwww.arizonahistoricalsociety.org

## About the George W. Bush Institute

Housed within the George W. Bush Presidential Center, the George W. Bush Institute is an action-oriented, nonpartisan policy organization with the mission of developing leaders, advancing policy, and taking action to solve today's most pressing challenges. Through three Impact Centers – Domestic Excellence, Global Leadership, and an Engagement Agenda –the Bush Institute delivers measurable results that save and improve lives. To learn more, visit www.BushCenter.org