

*The Board of Supervisors of  
Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of:

**Resolution No. 2018/461**

In the matter of: **Honoring the 2018 Arts and Culture Commission Veterans Initiative in the Arts Program**

Whereas, The ABOUTFACE: Self-understanding through Self-portraits program is rooted in the desire to address the needs and improve the lives of the county's veterans through quality arts programming that is sensitive and responsive to veterans' unique experiences, and

Whereas, The ABOUTFACE program has reached out to groups such as U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Concord Vet Center, JFK University VALOR Center, Veterans Affairs Norther CA Health Care System, Student Veterans Resource Center at DVC, Returning Veterans of Diablo Valley, The Delta Veterans Group and Vietnam Veterans of Diablo Valley, and

Whereas, Dr. Felisa Gaffney, Psy D, aka "Dr. G" by the participating veterans, is a 20 year U.S. Air Force veteran having been deployed twice to Kuwait, has worked for over 12 years in the mental health field before coming to the Concord Veterans Center, and as the Veteran Facilitator, used an approach that encouraged expression in non-verbal, non-threatening ways which helped the painters understand their issues, and engaged the participating veterans, and their families, in meaningful self-reflection; and

Whereas, Teaching Artist Victoria Bianco, PhD, Lifestyles is a watercolor teaching artist for Veterans at the Martinez VA Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Department for the California Watercolor Association (CWA) Out-Reach program, she has a solid foundation of drawing concepts and visual composition and provided instruction in painting, for the participating veterans, and their families, to document life experiences for enjoyment, relaxation and inspiration; and

Whereas, ABOUTFACE Coordinator Ryan Berg, is a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran and was deployed twice to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, has a bachelors in Rhetorical Theory and a Masters in Leadership Studies, worked with the County Veterans Service Department, Office of Communications and Media and Contra Costa County Library to help identify locations and potential participants, distribute project information, communicate with the Veterans Community, and worked with all parties to ensure good community outreach.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that the Board of Supervisors hereby recognize and congratulate Dr. Felisa Gaffney, Dr. Victoria Bianco, Ryan Berg and the Contra Costa County Arts & Culture Commission for their outstanding achievements and contributions to the Contra Costa County ABOUTFACE program.

---

**KAREN MITCHOFF**

Chair, District IV Supervisor

---

**JOHN GIOIA**

District I Supervisor

---

**CANDACE ANDERSEN**

District II Supervisor

---

**DIANE BURGIS**  
District III Supervisor

**FEDERAL D. GLOVER**  
District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an  
action taken  
and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on  
the date  
shown.

ATTESTED: August 14, 2018

David J. Twa,

By: \_\_\_\_\_, Deputy