



COLLEGE  
*of the* DESERT

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Pam Hunter 760.773.2589  
Executive Director,  
Institutional Advancement

***War Comes Home: The Legacy Comes*  
to the Marks Art Center at College of the Desert  
Exhibition Features Correspondence Revealing  
How War Changes Lives, Families, Communities**

PALM DESERT, CA—Highlighting private correspondence from almost every major conflict in U.S. history, the exhibition *War Comes Home: The Legacy* will be on display September 25 - November 20, 2016 at College of the Desert's (COD) Marks Art Center (MAC). The traveling exhibition, rich with historic and contemporary letters, offers an intimate perspective into the thoughts and emotions of veterans and their families upon a soldier's homecoming. Information about a reception and associated programming is forthcoming.

*War Comes Home: The Legacy* is part of Cal Humanities' on-going *War Comes Home* initiative, a thematic program designed to promote greater understanding of veterans and explore how war shapes a community. The exhibition is based on the work of the Center for American War Letters (CAWL) and is presented by Exhibit Envoy. Andrew Carroll, the Director of CAWL and an award-winning and *New York Times* bestselling author, and John Benitz, Associate Professor in the Department of Theatre at Chapman University, co-curated the exhibition.

The exhibition explores the joys and hardships that returning soldiers and their families face during homecoming, as expressed through private letters and email correspondence. Spanning conflicts from the Civil War through the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and displayed on thirteen interpretive panels, *War Comes Home: The Legacy* explores the shared themes of wartime separation, the adjustment to life back at home, and the costs of war. As Staff Sergeant Parker Gyokeres writes, "Those of us coming back...are not looking for sympathy. We might be reluctant at first to talk about what we've been through...[but] your support has made this journey an incredible one...Thanks, above all, for listening."

The Marks Art Center is a non-profit cultural and educational facility; committed to excellence, MAC provides a venue for creative exploration and community engagement. Open Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; and by appointment; always free & open to the public. For more information, call the Marks Art Center at (760) 776-7278, or go to [www.facebook.com/MarksArtCenterCOD](http://www.facebook.com/MarksArtCenterCOD), or contact Annee Booker Knight, Exhibit Envoy / 415.525.1553 / [annee@exhibitenvoy.org](mailto:annee@exhibitenvoy.org).

**Exhibition Support**

*War Comes Home: The Legacy* is a partnership between Cal Humanities, the California State Library and Exhibit Envoy. It is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Bay Tree Fund, The Whitman Fund, and the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian. Learn more about Exhibit Envoy at [www.exhibitenvoy.org](http://www.exhibitenvoy.org) and about Cal Humanities at [www.calhum.org](http://www.calhum.org).

**About College of the Desert:**

Established in 1958, College of the Desert (COD), located in Palm Desert, is an accredited community college serving eastern Riverside County, California. The College leads the region in providing quality, higher education, technical training and lifelong learning opportunities, in response to the dynamic needs of our diverse community. The College serves more than 14,000 credit students and 1,000 non-credit students each year and is the number one source of transfer students to California State University, San Bernardino Palm Desert Campus. For more information, visit [www.collegeofthedesert.edu](http://www.collegeofthedesert.edu).

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