



Sendoff Blessing For

The Gift

Wednesday, May 22, 2019

at 4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Mussi Artworks Foundry
Sculpture Garden

★ 729 Heinz Ave., Berkeley, CA 94710 ★

Please join us at Mussi Artworks Foundry where the twice life-size statue, entitled, THE GIFT, centerpiece for the AMERICAN INDIAN VETERANS MEMORIAL has been produced and where it will begin its journey to its final destination, the Riverside National Cemetery in Riverside, CA.

THE GIFT is meant to represent the Nation's gratitude to the American Indians, Alaskan Natives, and U.S. Islanders for their over 200 years of military service. Rincon's Tribal Chairman Bo Mazzetti, himself a U.S. Navy Vietnam Veteran, explains it this way: "For Indian people, whatever the differences in geography, languages, spiritual or cultural practices, there is one common value and that is to protect one's home and people. ... Warriors are highly honored and respected. That's why we feel strongly that our veterans deserve recognition, a memorial, to stand with the other sacred monuments dedicated to the many heroes who have served our country ..."

It's been over ten years since the vision of a national memorial, on sacred ground, would be erected to honor our country's indigenous veterans. The American Indian Alaska Native Veterans Memorial Committee, working with The Riverside National Cemetery Support Committee, continues to accept donations for the walkways, central plaza, and two bronze eagle sculptures – these additions will join the centerpiece memorial, THE GIFT.

Please plan to attend the short ceremony to be a part of this historical Sendoff Blessing for THE GIFT as it departs to its final destination.

THE GIFT has been sculpted by A. Thomas Schomberg. To see his other works, please visit schombergstudios.com. For additional information, please contact RNCSC Chairman Paul Adkins, 82ndmedic@earthlink.net or AIANVMC Chairwoman Sharron Savage, ac.sl.savage@gmail.com.

Donations may be made via AIANveteransMemorial.com or RNCSC.org or by mail to P.O.Box 202, Banning, CA 92223. Please make checks to "RNCSC for the AIV Memorial"

