



National Exhibit “Americans Who Tell the Truth” Comes to The Center at Belvedere

For Immediate Release

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA (August 13, 2024) – This September, The Center at Belvedere will host the powerful and thought-provoking national exhibit “Americans Who Tell the Truth,” featuring the work of artist Robert Shetterly. From September 3 through September 21, 20 portraits from Shetterly’s larger series will be on display in The Center’s first-floor gallery.

“Americans Who Tell the Truth,” supported by a nonprofit organization of the same name, presents a diverse array of portraits depicting Americans who have courageously stood up for social justice, environmental stewardship, and the preservation of democratic ideals. The exhibit invites viewers to engage with the stories of community builders, whistleblowers, peace makers, educators, and champions of various causes, ranging from civil rights to public health.

Each portrait, painted on a 36" x 30" wooden panel, includes a quote from the subject etched into the background, encouraging the viewer to reflect on the significance of dissent and its role in a healthy democracy.

“Bringing this exhibit to The Center is a part of our ongoing commitment to civic engagement, one of many ways we support healthy aging,” says Executive Director Melanie Benjamin. “Research supports that remaining active and engaged citizens for life helps keep us in good health, maintaining our sense of purpose and meaning. We hope these portraits and supporting events inspire our community to stay involved regardless of age.”

To complement the exhibit, The Center will offer a series of educational and community events, including:

- **Documentary Screening of *Truth Tellers***
 - **Tuesday, September 3 at 1:00 pm**
 - **Wednesday, September 18 at 4:30 pm**
 - **Saturday, September 21 at 12:00 pm**, followed by a discussion with Americans Who Tell the Truth’s Executive Director, Aran Shetterly
- **Making a Movement with Robert Shetterly**, a special presentation by the artist, where he will share the evolution of his work from an artistic project in the wake of 9/11 to a long-running, nationally touring exhibition and nonprofit.
 - **Wednesday, September 18 at 6:00 pm**
 - **Thursday, September 19 at 1:30 pm**

- **Workshop: Show Us Who You Are**, an opportunity for participants to create their own self-portrait and narrative, inspired by the themes of the exhibit.
 - **Thursday, September 19 at 5:30 pm**
- **Gallery Walk with Robert Shetterly**
 - **Friday, September 20 at 10:00 am**

All events are free and open to the public. For more information and to register, visit thecentercville.org.

About The Center at Belvedere

The Center at Belvedere is a nationally accredited, award-winning nonprofit organization that creates opportunities for healthy aging through social engagement, physical well-being, civic involvement, creativity, and lifelong learning.