



# 2022 VETERANS CONFERENCE

*Saturday, August 6, 2022*

**The Ohio Union at  
The Ohio State University**



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## Message from the Director

Thank you all for attending the 2022 Ohio Women Veterans Conference and for your service to our great nation. Your presence and input are so valuable – and our 67,000 women veterans are a big part of why I am so proud to serve this department and the veteran community that spans the state.

We hope that you enjoy this all-day program, take advantage of the networking opportunities, and feel our gratitude for your accomplishments already achieved and yet to come.

My sincere thanks go out to our featured speakers, presenters, exhibitors, special guests, and the wonderful women who comprise the Ohio Women Veterans Advisory Committee.

I'm also grateful for the dedicated work of our ODVS staff, especially Constituent Affairs Administrator Ali Yogmour, who put so much time into making this a premier event.

This day is for YOU and all that you embody as a former service member who continues to strive to make a difference.

67,000 strong!

*Deborah Ashbaugh*

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## Committee

*Welcome*

**to the 2022 Ohio Women Veterans Conference!**

As Chair and Vice-Chair of the Ohio Women Veterans Advisory Committee, we have the privilege of leading a dynamic and driven group that works hard to elevate the voices of all women veterans by sharing our stories and advocating for our unique needs. We are strong, but we are stronger together. Let's continue to lift one another up to ensure that all women veterans are seen and heard. We hope you enjoy the comradery of your fellow women veterans today, that you gather resources to take home that will improve your lives, and that you leave feeling uplifted and inspired by each other. Thank you for serving, we appreciate and honor you.

*Angela Beltz* ~ Chair

*Claudia Foss* ~ Vice Chair

## 2022 Ohio Women Veterans Advisory Committee



Angela Beltz, Chair



Claudia Foss, Vice Chair

### Board

Angela Beltz  
Trina Cutter  
Claudia Foss  
Lisa Forster  
Susan Green  
Carolyn Nagy  
Beth Salisbury  
Kimberly Tapia

### Emeritus

Jenn Baun  
Jane Lengel  
Elva Ponders  
Jo Wildman

### Committee

Nicole Armitage  
Stephanie Blades  
Christie DeCapite  
Stefanie Hauck  
Danielle Krakora  
Teresa McCarty-Theohares  
Arlinda Mitchell  
Bonnie Owen  
Kari Pfeifer  
Jane Popoola  
Ellen Rogers  
Theresa Schroeder-Hageman  
Maritha Trass

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## Agenda

- 9:15am - 10:15am Check in / Information  
*First Floor*
- 9:15am - 10:15am Coffee & Networking  
*Archie M. Griffin Grand Ballroom, Second Floor*
- 10:15am Opening Ceremony & Messages from  
Secretary of State Frank LaRose &  
Lt. Governor Jon Husted  
*Archie M. Griffin Grand Ballroom, Second Floor*
- 11:00am - 12:00pm Breakout Session 1: Women Veterans  
Health & Wellbeing (see options on page 10)
- 12:15pm - 1:15pm Lunch & Keynote Address from  
Female Engagement Team Members  
MAJ Kimberly Snow & MSG Desiree Layne
- 1:15pm Branch Photos  
*Archie M. Griffin Grand Ballroom, Second Floor*
- 2:00pm - 3:00pm Breakout Session 2: Education & Employment  
(see options on page 10)
- 3:15pm - 4:15pm Breakout Session 3: Transitioning from Military  
to Civilian Life (see options on page 11)
- 4:30pm Closing Ceremony, Director Deborah Ashenhurst  
*Archie M. Griffin Grand Ballroom, Second Floor*

## Keynotes

### Opening Ceremony @ 10:30am

#### Welcome: Secretary of State Frank LaRose

Ohio's 51st Secretary of State, Frank LaRose is an Army veteran who served with the 101st Airborne and the U.S. Special Forces as a Green Beret. Since becoming Secretary of State in January 2019, LaRose has served as Ohio's chief elections officer, working to ensure Ohio's elections are secure, accurate, and accessible.

#### Keynote: Lt. Governor Jon Husted

Lt. Governor Jon Husted is the 66th and current Lt. Governor of Ohio. He also oversees the Ohio Common Sense Initiative and serves as the Director of both the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation and InnovateOhio.

### Keynote Luncheon @ 12:15pm

#### Keynotes: MAJ Kimberly Snow & MSG Desiree Layne

Major Kimberly Snow deployed to Iraq with the 196th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Ohio Army National Guard, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2004. She completed her second combat deployment with the 37th Infantry Brigade Combat Team in 2012, serving as the brigade civil-military operations officer and officer-in-charge of the Female Engagement Team. She was inducted in the Ohio Military Hall of Fame for Valor in 2016. She is currently the deputy commander of the Ohio Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Battalion.

MSG Desiree Layne has over 19 years of total service, beginning with her enlistment into the California National Guard in May of 2000. Most recently, MSG Layne served as the Alpha Company Recruiting and Retention Non-Commissioned Officer In Charge (NCOIC) and before that an Alpha Company Recruiting and Retention Team Leader. MSG Layne deployed overseas ISO OEF in 2012 with HQ, 37th IBCT as a Female Engagement Team Leader and OIF in 2008 with HQ, 37th IBCT.

### Closing Ceremony @ 4:30pm

#### Keynote: ODVS Dir. Maj. Gen. Deborah Ashenhurst

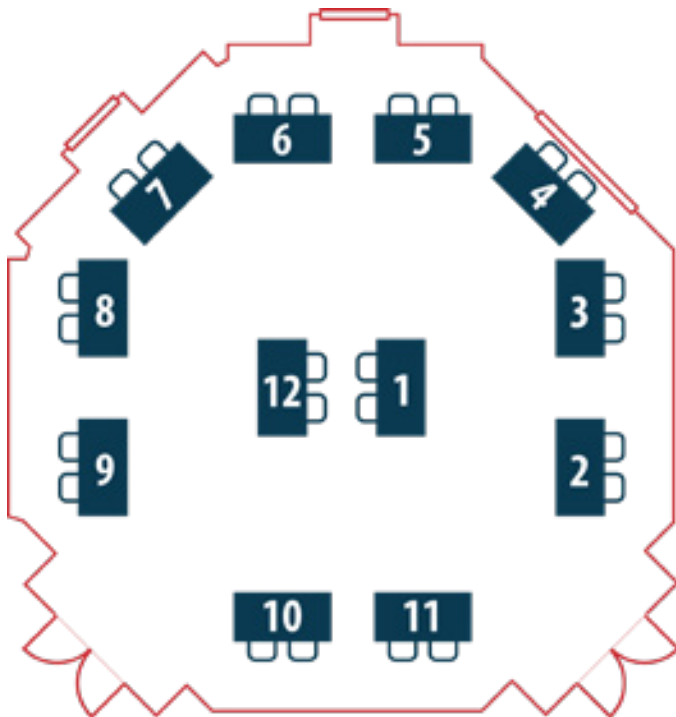
Major General (U.S. Army, retired) Deborah Ashenhurst is the Director of the Ohio Department of Veterans Services. She served as the Ohio Adjutant General under former Gov. John Kasich and Gov. Mike DeWine appointed her as ODVS Director in January of 2019, making Director Ashenhurst the first woman to serve in each of those roles.

*All Day*

**Education & Employer Expo**

**Map - Ohio Staters Traditions Room, Second Floor**

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Central Ohio Women in the Trades            | 7 The Reserve Network               |
| 2 ASM Global Great Columbus Convention Center | 8 University of Dayton              |
| 3 Cincinnati Police Department                | 9 Waldorf University                |
| 4 Grand Canyon University                     | 10 Western Governors University     |
| 5 Indiana Wesleyan University                 | 11 Xavier University                |
| 6 Intel                                       | 12 Trident University International |

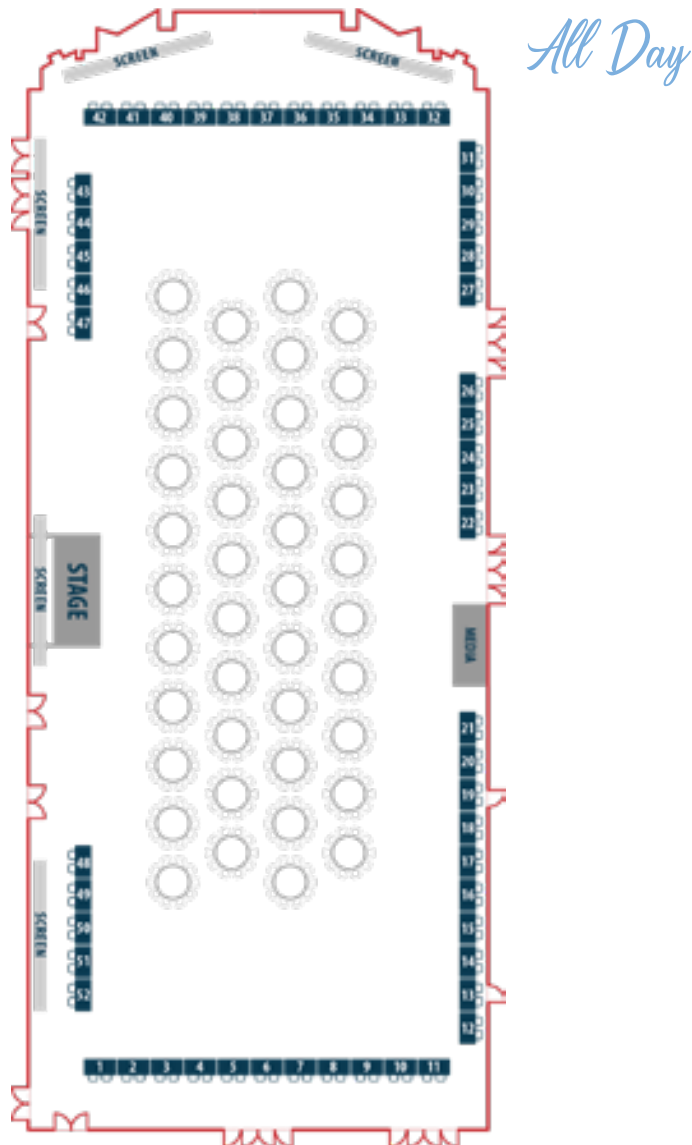


**Exhibitors**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 American Veterans Heritage Center     | 27 MOAA Central Ohio Chapter                |
| 2 Buckeye Military Moms                 | 28 Ohio Secretary of State                  |
| 3 Catholic War Veterans                 | 29 Lisa Cook - Independent Medical Rep      |
| 4 Moral Injury Support Network          | 30 OSU STAR Trauma Recovery Center          |
| 5 Ohio Military Retiree Group           | 31 Franklin County Recorder's Office        |
| 6 Think Veterans First                  | 32 American Legion Post 644                 |
| 7 Women's Memorial                      | 33 Catholic Social Services                 |
| 8 Damsel in Defense                     | 34 Family and Community Services Housing    |
| 9 Humana Insurance                      | 35 Legacy of Honor                          |
| 10 Kris Cross University                | 36 Military Veterans Resource Center        |
| 11 Landmark Recovery                    | 37 Nat'l Veterans Memorial & Museum         |
| 12 ScoreKeepers Consulting              | 38 Team Rubicon                             |
| 13 Suicide & Trauma Reduction (STRIVE)  | 39 Volunteers of America SSVF               |
| 14 Star Behavioral Health Providers     | 40 Wounded Warrior Project                  |
| 15 Ohio Department of Natural Resources | 41 Quilt of Valor                           |
| 16 Franklin County Veterans Services    | 42 Blue Cross Blue Shield Fed Employee Prog |
| 17 Stark County Veterans Services       | 43 Trauma Help for Women                    |
| 18 Ohio Department of Veterans Services | 44 CapTel Outreach                          |
| 19 Team HBC Keller Williams             | 45 Cincinnati VA / Million Veterans Prog    |
| 20 The Forum at Knightsbridge           | 46 Cincinnati VA Medical Center             |
| 21 Ohio Military Hall of Fame           | 47 LTC Charles S. Kettles VA Medical Center |
| 22 AmeriCorps RSVP of Vantage Aging     | 48 Dayton VA Medical Center                 |
| 23 Veterans on Medicaid                 | 49 Cleveland VA Medical Center              |
| 24 Dedicated Senior Medical Center      | 50 Chillicothe VA Medical Center            |
| 25 Flourishing Bodies, Redefining Aging | 51 VA Central Ohio Healthcare System        |
| 26 Franklin County Office of Aging      | 52 Vet Centers - Readjustment Counseling    |

## Map

### Map - Archie M. Griffin Grand Ballroom, Second Floor



## Breakouts

### Breakout Session 1: Women Veterans Health & Wellbeing

11:00am - 12:00pm

#### Options:

#### 1 - Women Veterans Healthcare (offered again at 3:15pm)

Dr. Janet Porter - U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
*U.S. Bank Theatre, First Floor*

#### 2 - Advocating for your Health & Navigating the Healthcare System

Dr. Todd Fredricks & Women Veterans Panel:  
Diana French, Dana Robinson-Street & Kristine Stanley  
*Round Meeting Room, Third Floor*

#### 3 - Aging in Ohio: Resources for Older Adults & Caregivers

Kim DeDino & Hilary Stai - Ohio Department of Aging  
*Student Alumni Council Room, Second Floor*

#### 4 - Veterans Benefits Administration - Improving Claims, Discharge Status & New Legislation

Vanetta Jamison & Yolanda Fells - Veterans Benefits Administration  
*Barbie Tootle Room, Third Floor*

### Breakout Session 2: Education & Employment

2:00pm - 3:00pm

#### Options:

#### 1 - Education & Employment Benefits

Panel: Ryan Blackburn - ODVS Veterans Workforce, Jim Evers - Intel & Jared Shank - Ohio Department of Higher Education  
*U.S. Bank Theatre, First Floor*

#### 2 - Entrepreneurship & Small Business

Danielle Krakora - Ibility  
*Round Meeting Room, Third Floor*

#### 3 - What's the Buzz about Apprenticeship?

Kaila Cwiekalo - DOL/VETS & Holly Endicott - Apprenticeship Ohio  
*Student Alumni Council Room, Second Floor*

## Breakouts

### Breakout Session 3: Transitioning from Military to Civilian Life

3:15pm - 4:15pm

#### Options:

#### 1- Women Veterans Healthcare

Dr. Janet Porter - U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
*U.S. Bank Theatre, First Floor*

#### 2- Military Career Transition Coach

Bill Kieffer - Lounge with Legends  
*Round Meeting Room, Third Floor*

#### 3- The Power of Mentorship

Morgan Fitzgerald - The Overwatch Partnership Mentee  
*Student Alumni Council Room, Second Floor*

#### 4- Navigating and Applying for Federal Public Sector Careers

Terri Hilton - DFAS  
*Barbie Tootle Room, Third Floor*

### Other Things to Do During the Breakout Sessions

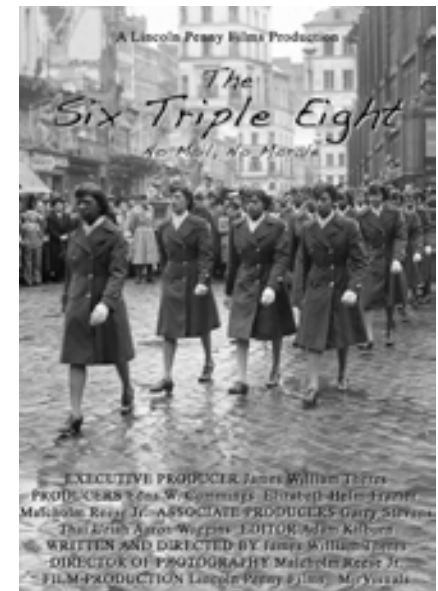
- Explore the Expo in the Archie M. Griffin Grand Ballroom, Second Floor
- Explore the Education & Employer Expo in the Ohio Staters Traditions Room, Second Floor
- Watch a showing of *The SixTripleEight* in the Suzanne M. Scharer Room, Third Floor
- Visit the VA's Health, Empowerment, Restoration, & Relaxation Room in the Interfaith & Prayer Room, Third Floor
- Visit the VA's Spa Room in the Tanya Rutner Hartman Room, Third Floor

## Historical Women Veterans Exhibit

Suzanne M. Scharer Room, Third Floor

### *The SixTripleEight* Documentary

In February 1945, the U.S. Army sent 855 black women from the Women's Army Corps (WACs) to England and France to clear the backlog of mail in the European Theater of Operations. The 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, known as the SixTripleEight, was the only all-black female battalion to serve in Europe during WWII. They were never fully recognized...until now.



Just outside of the  
Suzanne M. Scharer Room,  
explore historical  
displays from:

- Miami Valley Military History Museum
- Motts Museum

## The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame

**Class of 2019, 2020 & 2021**

# Ohio Women Veteran Inductees

- women inducted since our last Ohio Women Veterans Conference -

<p>Mary Hanna Katherine Platoni Lori Stone</p> <p><b>2019</b></p>	<p>Kimberly Frisco Jane Lengel Carolyn Nagy Connie Pillich</p> <p><b>2020</b></p>	<p>Wanda Dillard Linda Strite Murnane Jo Wildman</p> <p><b>2021</b></p>
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The Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame recognizes the post-military achievements of Ohio's veterans. We salute these women veterans for their exceptional acts of volunteerism, advocacy, professional distinction, public service, and philanthropy.



**Nomination deadline: June 1, 2023 for the Class of 2023.**

[OhioVets.gov/hofnominations](http://OhioVets.gov/hofnominations)

## Health, Empowerment, Restoration, & Relaxation Room

*Presented by*

**The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

*Interfaith Prayer & Reflection Room, Third Floor*

Hours: 9:30am - 11:30am & 2:00pm - 4:15pm

### *Community Engagement & Partnership Program*

The VA's expanded, proactive suicide prevention efforts that include collaborations with communities and coalitions.

### *SoulCollage®*

An easy, intuitive collage-creating process that honors the unique life stories of individuals and helps them to visually process emotions that they may have had a hard time putting into words.

### *Intimate Partner Violence Prevention*

This program explains intimate partner violence and how it impacts veterans, and provides VA services and community resources available to assist veterans.

### *Tapping & Reiki*

Both Reiki and Tapping are hands-on-complementary therapies that aim to help remove blocks of stagnant energy that often remain in the body due to stress and trauma.

### *Peer Support Specialists*

Veterans with a lived experience and specialized training to assist, support, and model recovery from substance use and/or mental health conditions resulting from military service.

### *Whole Health*

The Whole Health System concept moves the VA from focusing on episodic care to continuous engagement with the veteran throughout life, and The Whole Health System model is its vision for integration.

### *Sexual Wellness*

The Columbus VA, invested in addressing veterans' sexual health issues, has providers with expertise in sexual health assessment who provide individual, couples, and group treatments for addressing sexual problems.

### *Women's Mental Health Services*

VA mental health professionals will share mental-health related resources, education, and empowerment for women veterans.

**Spa Room**  
(Group or Individual Sessions)

*Presented by*

**The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

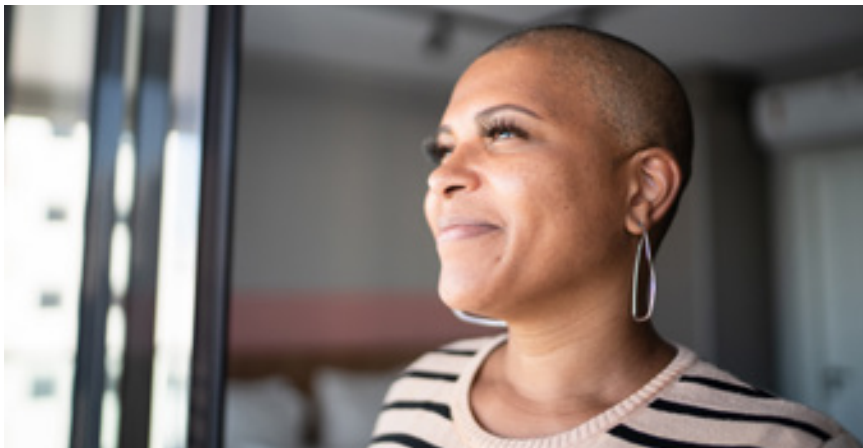
*Tanya Rutner Hartman Room, Third Floor*

Hours: 9:30am - 11:30am & 2:00pm - 4:15pm

*Spa Room*

The Spa Room has certified practitioners offering several alternative therapies. Massage, Reflexology (a medical practice involving the application of pressure to specific points on the feet, ears, and hands using thumb, finger, and hand massage techniques), and Reiki/Healing Touch.

*Diamond, Deb, Karen, Abra, and Susan look forward to pampering you!*



**Map**

**The Ohio Union at OSU, First Floor**

- **Women Veterans Healthcare** (11:00am & again at 3:15pm)
- **Education & Employment Benefits** (2:00pm)



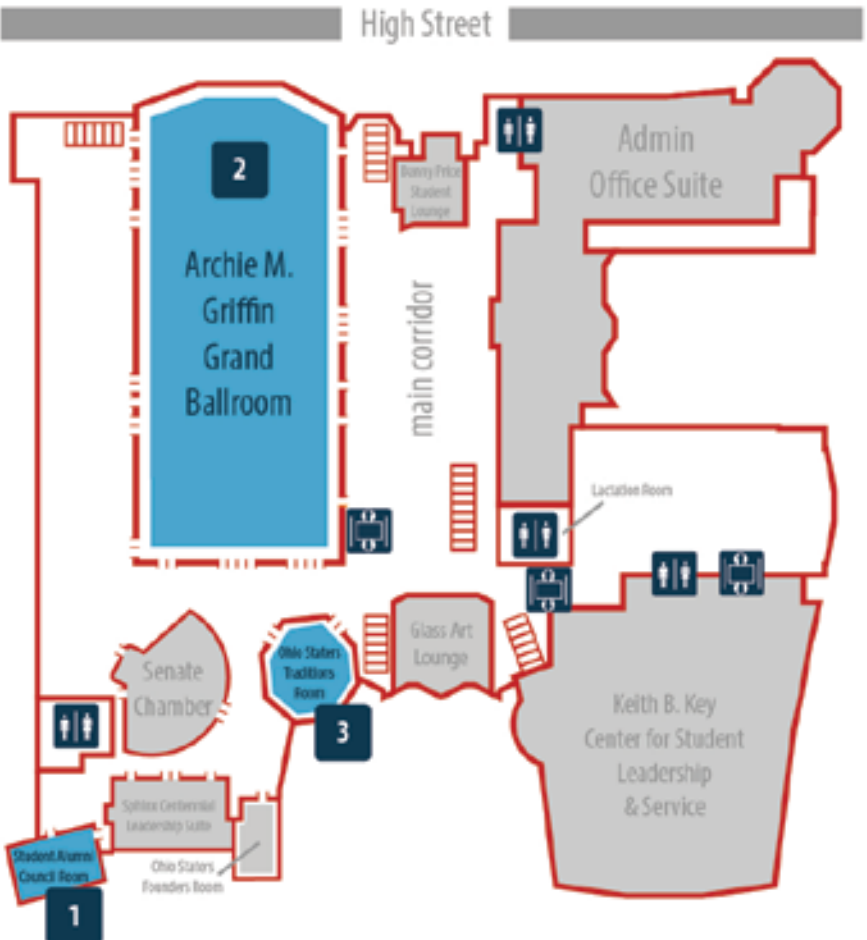




## Map

### The Ohio Union at OSU, Second Floor

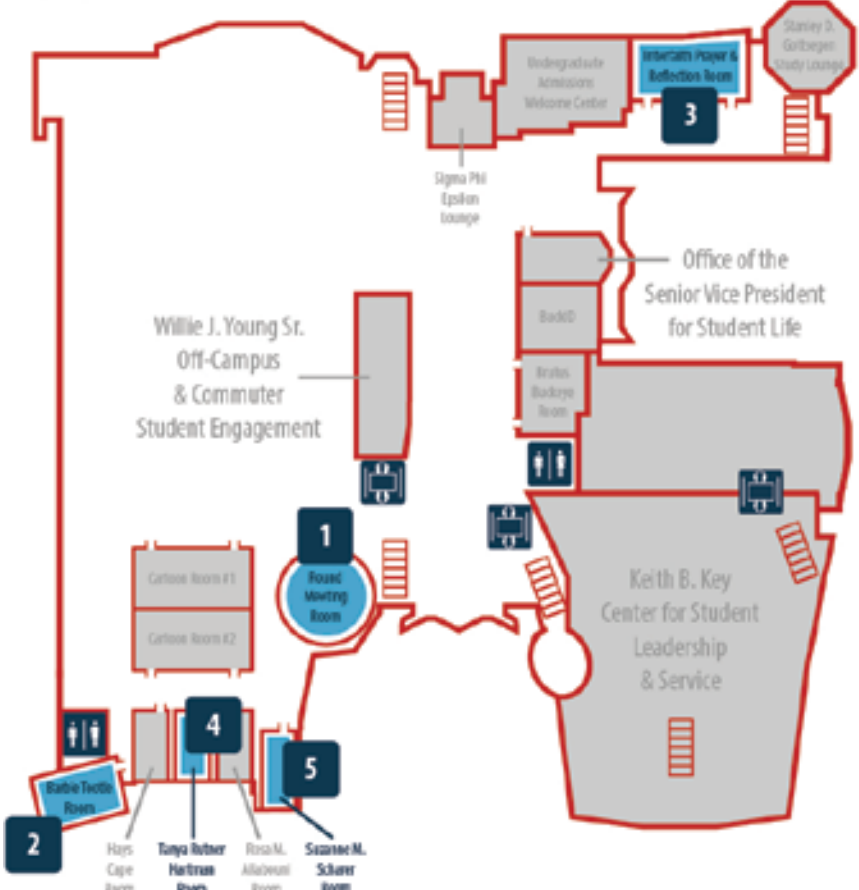
- 1** breakout sessions - **Aging in Ohio** (11:00am)  
**Apprenticeship** (2:00pm) **The Power of Mentorship** (3:15pm)
- 2** coffee & networking, exhibitors, opening and closing ceremonies, lunch & keynote address, branch photos
- 3** education & employer expo elevator restrooms



## Map

### The Ohio Union at OSU, Third Floor

- 1** breakout sessions - **Advocating for Health & Navigating Healthcare** (11:00am)  
**Entrepreneurship & Small Biz** (2:00pm) **Military Career Transition Coach** (3:15pm)
- 2** breakout sessions - **Veterans Benefits Administration** (11:00am)  
**Navigating and Applying for Federal Public Sector Careers** (3:15pm)
- 3** VA's Health, Empowerment, Restoration, & Reflection Room **5** Historical Exhibit/ Showing of The Six Triple Eight
- 4** VA's Spa Room elevator restrooms





# 2022 VETERANS CONFERENCE



## Special Thanks to

- Emcee Kimberly Frisco, Executive Director, Montgomery County Veterans Services
- Grove City High School NJROTC Color Guard
- National Anthem Singer Lisa Griffin
- And to all Speakers & Exhibitors joining us today

## Resources

### Ohio Department of Veterans Services

614-644-0898 or 1-877-OHIOVET | [www.ohiovets.gov](http://www.ohiovets.gov)

### Ohio's County Veterans Service Offices

[www.ohiovets.gov/find-a-cvso](http://www.ohiovets.gov/find-a-cvso)

### Veterans Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

Dial 988, or 800-273-8255 (Press 1 for veterans) | <https://988lifeline.org>

### Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

[www.jfs.ohio.gov/veterans](http://www.jfs.ohio.gov/veterans)

### U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

800-827-1000 | [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

### GI Bill® and Education Benefits

888-442-4551 | [www.gibill.va.gov](http://www.gibill.va.gov)

### VA Health Care

877-222-8387 | [www.va.gov/health](http://www.va.gov/health)