

# A *Midshipman's* JOURNEY

OIL PAINTINGS BY U.S. NAVY VETERAN, KRISTIN CRONIC

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
April 6, 2023

MEDIA CONTACT: Isabel Wening, 380.239.2544  
[iwening@nationalvmm.org](mailto:iwening@nationalvmm.org)

## **NVMM Announces New Art Exhibition** ***A Midshipman's Journey Opens April 14***

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The [National Veterans Memorial and Museum \(NVMM\)](https://www.nationalveteransmuseum.org/) today announced the opening of [\*A Midshipman's Journey\*](#) on Friday, April 14, from 6 – 8 p.m. in the museum's Gallery 33 (lower level). The exhibition created by artist and U.S. Navy Veteran, Kristin Cronic, shares the United States Naval Academy (USNA) experience with all its traditions and processes through a series of 20 impressionistic oil paintings.

Cronic, who chose to attend the USNA over art school, has always been a creative and was inspired by her time at the Naval Academy to create *A Midshipman's Journey*. Through loose, intentional brush strokes, she shares the quiet, gritty and nostalgic experiences of USNA candidates during their transformation from plebes to officers.

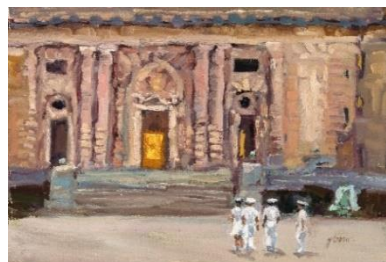
"We are excited to continue our mission of sharing Veteran stories through Kristin Cronic's artful insights on the education, training and proud traditions that shape our USNA graduates and service members," said Lt. General Michael Ferriter, U.S. Army (Retired), president and CEO of the National Veterans Memorial and Museum. "Embedded in these stunning artworks, viewers will find their own personal revelations and inspiration."

*A Midshipman's Journey* is on loan from the USNA Museum where the exhibition was launched in 2021 as part of their 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. It will be on display at the NVMM through September 19. The coffee table book which accompanies the exhibition, "A Midshipman's Journey: Plebe to Officer at the United States Naval Academy Through a Graduate's Eyes and Painter's Brush," will be on sale at the NVMM along with a series of prints and a children's coloring book. A limited number of pre-signed books will be available for purchase opening night on a first-come, first-served basis.

"*A Midshipman's Journey* is my story, but it is also yours," said artist Kristin Cronic. "It's the journey of accepting the call, stepping past the threshold of the unknown and arriving through the other side a different person, yet somehow still the same."



***Accepted, 2019-2020***  
Kristin Cronic



***Outsiders and Friends, 2019-2020***  
Kristin Cronic



***Colors, 2019-2020***  
Kristin Cronic

About the Artist, Kristin Cronic

With a Bachelor of Science degree in Naval Architecture, Cronic was commissioned as a Surface Warfare Officer in 2011. She served as a naval officer until 2017, deploying twice. Kristin pursued an informal art education in her free time. She has dedicated recent years to documenting the midshipman's journey through painting under the alias "Easel on Stribling," painting more than 150 pieces about the USNA. Cronic has a Master of Fine Arts in Visual Art from Jacksonville University. She resides in Florida with her husband, Caleb, also a U.S. Navy Veteran, and their three children.

About the National Veterans Memorial and Museum

The National Veterans Memorial and Museum takes visitors on a narrative journey telling individual stories and sharing experiences of Veterans from all military branches throughout history. [The National Veterans Memorial and Museum](#) pays tribute to the sacrifices of men and women in service and their families. History is presented through a dynamic, participatory experience with photos, letters and personal effects, multi-media presentations, and interactive exhibits. Together, these elements link our national story of service to the larger context of the world.

**THIS EXHIBITION IS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF:**



**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Online Press Kit available [here](#).

###