



*To honor those who have sacrificed for us all*

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**Thornton Veterans Memorial to Unveil “Grace”**  
*Sculpture to become newest component of veterans memorial*

THORNTON, Colorado – A winged angel releasing the fallen to the heavens will soon join the Thornton Veterans Memorial.

Titled “Grace”, the nearly four-foot tall bronze sculpture of a winged angel releasing a dove with dog tags is an extraordinarily moving piece of artwork. Grace’s outstretched arms symbolize the release of those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to this nation. The dog tags carried aloft by a dove provide a visual and emotional representation of those brave men and women.

The installation of Grace reflects the culmination of a community effort to honor the nation’s fallen.

The artwork was generously donated by local artisan and sculptor, Christopher Romero. Casting and molding of the piece was funded by the Thornton Veterans Memorial Foundation (TVMF) through contributions by citizens to the memorial project. Additional funding for the sculpture’s base was generously provided by the Thornton Arts, Sciences and Humanities Council (TASHCO).

Mr. Romero, TVMF and TASHCO will be unveiling the artwork at a public ceremony honoring our nation’s heroes on Saturday, September 24, 2011 at 10:00am. The group invites the entire community to join them in this first viewing of Grace.

The Thornton Veterans Memorial is located adjacent to the Veterans Memorial Aquatic Center at 5310 E. 136th Ave, Thornton, Co 80026.



## About the Sculptor / Artist Christopher L. Romero

Public art is perhaps one of the single most important contributions we can make to society. Art can make us think. Art can make us feel emotion. Art can bring to light a memory. Art can evoke a sense of honor to those things we value or feel are important to us. Indeed, art can do all these things and more. Throughout this ever-changing world we live in art has always been a constant and it has served to remind us of who we are and where we have been, since the beginning of mankind.



Christopher Romero believes it is his challenge as an artist to create sculpture that does all of these things. He sculpts out of the passion for art and respect for the subjects he selects. Truth, beauty, honor, and spirit are all goals that Romero seeks with his artwork and his resume bears out his success in achieving those goals.

Romero's artwork is now held by many private collectors. Municipalities in Colorado have commissioned or purchased his extraordinary work for their parks including the town of Parker, the cities of Thornton, Westminster and the city of Lone Tree. The city of Thornton proudly displays "Messenger," an extraordinary bald eagle sculpture that is a prominent feature of the city's civic center.

More information about Mr. Romero can be found on his website at:  
<http://www.clrmetalart.com/>.

## About the Thornton Veterans Memorial Foundation

Founded in 2005, the Thornton Veterans Memorial Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established by citizens of Thornton, Colorado with the sole purpose of building and maintaining a veterans memorial. Our nation's veterans have served and protected the United States for over 230 years. They have made sacrifices small and large, all to ensure the freedom of this great nation. A fitting and proper tribute is a small way of showing our appreciation for their service. Privately funded and created, the Foundation works to make this memorial a reality all veterans.



The memorial is located in the vicinity of 136th Ave and Holly Street in front of the Adams 12 Five Star Schools Veterans Memorial Aquatics Center. Coupled with the Veterans Memorial Aquatics Center, the entire area becomes a 'destination' dedicated to honoring veterans.

The first phase of construction of the veterans memorial has been completed and fundraising is continuing for a second phase. To learn more about the Foundation and the memorial project, please visit our website at <http://www.thorntonveteransmemorial.org>.

## About the Thornton Arts, Sciences and Humanities Council (TASHCO)

The Thornton Arts, Sciences and Humanities Council (TASHCO) is a 501(c)(3) organization whose purpose is to promote and orchestrate cultural, historical and scientific activities in the City of Thornton.

The goals of TASHCO are to establish dynamic partnerships and sponsorships; make TASHCO a part of the City's Infrastructure to identify Thornton as a strong arts community; support, celebrate, encourage, recognize and present a variety of inspiring programs; and develop sound, consistent, and reliable funding sources.

The vision of TASHCO is to capture the hearts and minds of Thornton citizens and enhance the quality of their lives through exposure and involvement in the Arts, Sciences and Humanities.

