*For Immediate Release*

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**Groundbreaking *‘Picturing Nam’* Exhibit Opening at Upcountry History Museum**

*Original Images, Documents Help Unravel the Complexities of Vietnam War*

**Greenville, S.C. –** Iconic images are a powerful part of the collective memory of the Vietnam War, and many never-before-seen photographs and documents of this complex conflict will be on display in *Picturing Nam: U.S. Military Photography of the Vietnam War*, a new exhibition from the National Archives opening at the Upcountry History Museum-Furman University, a Smithsonian Affiliate, on Saturday, June 16, 2018, and on display through Sunday, October 21, 2018.

While many recognizable Vietnam-era photos were taken by photojournalists working for newspapers, magazines or wire services, military photographers serving in the United States Armed Forces in-country were also taking thousands of photos that documented every aspect of this nearly 20-year conflict. Their assignments sent them from the jungles, rivers and swamps to the forward bases, hospital ships and air bases. These uncensored and unsanitized images give an intimate view of the war from the ground up and of those who fought it.

*“Picturing Nam”* is divided into three photographic themes: landscapes, objects and faces. The landscape images provide visual context to a country most Americans knew almost nothing about; a country of dense jungles, rugged mountains, endless rice paddies and brown rivers. Images of objects display the things that have become the artifacts of this war; things such as helicopters, M-16 rifles, graffiti-covered helmets, peace symbol necklaces and body bags. The faces seen in the third themed grouping reveal the range of emotions etched by determination, anxiety, exhaustion, boredom, compassion, exaltation and dread into the expressions of those who were there; raw emotions exposing the impact of war on individuals in extraordinary and often dangerous situations.

Organized by the National Archives and Records Administration, *“Picturing Nam”* provides a framework for understanding decisions and consequences of this polarizing war and its legacy. The Museum, in addition to hosting this distinctive exhibition, will offer programs that encourage historical inquiry and public conversations around this framework, as well as about the war and its aftermath.

The Upcountry History Museum is located at 540 Buncombe St., in Greenville, S.C. Summer hours of operation are Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Sunday from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. For more information, call 864-467-3100 or visit [www.upcountryhistory.org](http://www.upcountryhistoyr.org).

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