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**Avow Premieres Veteran Documentary at
2021 Artis-Naples International Film Festival**

Naples, Fla., October 15, 2020 – Avow announces the premiere a new documentary film featuring local veterans at the Artis-Naples International Film Festival Saturday, October 23. *Avow Presents: Life Lessons Learned in the Military*, chosen as a special feature, chronicles the lives of 17 Southwest Florida veterans from the Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard. Though they come from different backgrounds and served in various generations, the movie shares the life lessons these veterans still carry with them from their time in the military.

“Avow is a level five partner of the nationally recognized We Honor Veterans program. This movie is an extension of how we serve our veteran population in Southwest Florida,” said Jaysen Roa, Avow President and CEO.

Annalise Smith, chair of the Avow Veterans Committee explains, “The movie was fully produced in-house by our Communications team and shows the dedication we have to veterans. The stories you will hear from these local men and women are tremendous examples of bravery we look forward to sharing on the big screen.”

The documentary cast includes several Purple Heart recipients and one Marine who spent more than five years as a prisoner of war during the Vietnam War. The film will debut October 23 at 3:00 PM at the Myra J. Daniels Pavilion in Naples, Florida. There will be a discussion after the movie with several of the veterans who participated. Tickets can be purchased on the Artis-Naples website at bit.ly/3liHqE3.

About Avow

Avow was founded in 1983 as Collier County's original, nonprofit hospice. Today, Avow's nonprofit companies provide palliative care consultations for adults facing chronic or serious illness and hospice care and bereavement support services for children and adults.

To learn more about the scope of services provided by Avow, call 239-261-4404 or visit www.avowcares.org.

About Artis-Naples International Film Festival

Artis-Naples is the premier destination for visual and performing arts in Southwest Florida. The range of programs include music, film, dance, comedy, lectures and exhibitions featuring internationally acclaimed artists. The 13th annual Artis-Naples International Film Festival takes place from October 21 – 24, 2021. The festival will display 60 domestic and international narrative, documentary and short films.

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