

ROBIN PHOENIX JOHNSON CEO, BEST MEDICINE BRIGADE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HEAL*ARIOUS: HUMOR THERAPY FOR VETERANS (501C3)

Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Robin Johnson served over twenty years in the U.S. Army before making her transition into the entertainment industry and veteran support space. During her time in service, she deployed five times to Afghanistan and Iraq and earned the Airborne, Air Assault and Pathfinder badges, three Bronze Stars, and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal. Her career highlights include serving as the Special Assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and commanding a battalion in Iraq where she was charged with leading 960 Soldiers, maintaining over \$50M in equipment, and acting in the capacity of a mayor for a coalition base responsible for a \$300M budget and over \$3B in construction projects and contracts.

After retiring from the Army, Robin discovered her new mission was to heal people, organizations and communities with humor. She founded HEAL*ARIOUS, a non-profit offering therapeutic humor programming that focuses on incorporating humor to improve psychological performance. She works in collaboration with clinicians to develop customized programming and motivational speaking for veterans, first responders, athletes, and corporate executives.

She is a Level III Certified Humor Professional through the Association for the Applied & Therapeutic Use of Humor and a Comedy Bootcamp Instructor for Armed Services Arts Partnership. Robin is also a stand-up comedian and motivational speaker with performances at venues such as Carolines on Broadway, Stardome, Atlanta Comedy Theater, Charlotte Comedy Zone, Bricktown Comedy Club, Louisville Comedy Club, and corporate venues all over the country. Voted Charleston's Best Comic 2022 and featured on USA Today, Fox, and ABC, Robin continues to use her voice to advocate for more representation of veterans and military spouses in comedy and the use of humor to complement traditional therapy.

Despite having a distinguished military career, her proudest achievement is her family. Robin has been married to retired Army Apache pilot, Cayton, for 20 years and they have two wonderful children that give her an abundance of comedy material!

HEAL*ARIOUS SPEAKER ★ COMEDIAN



VOTED CHARLESTON'S BEST COMEDIAN - 2022 * CHARLESTON CITY PAPER *





