

VETERAN ARTS SHOWCASE

November 20-22, 2015

At The FDR Presidential Library and Museum, Hyde Park, NY

Free Public Event

Location:
4079 Albany Post Rd
Route 9
Hyde Park, NY 12538

Opening Reception:
Friday November 20
5:30-8:30pm

Exhibits Open:
Friday 5:30-8:30
Saturday 10-5
Sunday 10-4

Workshop:
(Preregistration Required):
Saturday 11-2

Performances:
Friday 5:30-8:30pm
Saturday 2:30-5
Sunday 2-4:30



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The Veteran Arts Showcase, now in its third year, is a celebration of veterans and the arts and how arts heal, communicate emotions, and compel people to interact with each other. The Showcase was founded on the understanding that the arts are vital to veteran reintegration – for self-expression, recovery from the aftereffects of war and to reconnect with the civilian-veteran community. The Showcase features visual artists, crafters, writers, poets, musicians and performers who are veterans, family members of veterans, or military connected. The Showcase will be held at the FDR Presidential Library/Wallace Center on Route 9, Hyde Park, New York, November 20, 21 and 22. The entire weekend event is free and open to the public.

The Opening Reception and Ceremony is on Friday from 5:30-8:30pm; refreshments will be served. A Presentation of Colors and opening remarks will be followed by **The Veterans' Theater Project: Leaving Theater**, a civilian and veteran theatrical troop performing an interactive play with the audience that focuses on veteran reintegration.

Saturday there will be a free **Writers Workshop** (11am-2pm) for veterans and military families, with preregistration required due to limited seating. All community members are encouraged to attend **Warriors' Voices and The Long Road Home** from 2:30-4pm: veterans, including Everett Cox and Jennifer Pacanowski of *Warrior Writers*, as well as members of military families, will read original poetry and essays, and perform original songs. This segment includes opportunities for open discussion with the presenters about their work and the importance of the arts for individual and community healing. Civilian community members are invited to an **"Open Jam" with Veteran musicians** from 4-5pm.

Preregistration is encouraged for Sunday November 22nd's (2-4pm) **CORE STORIES** - a civilian-veteran dialogue on the aftereffects of war, which includes poetry and a community drum circle. The 2015 Veteran Arts Showcase closes with a special performance (4-4:30pm) by the **Nimham Mountain Singers**, with Native American veteran Gil Tarbox.

All weekend, visitors will experience a unique and powerful co-mingling of multiple arts that touch our deepest connections to war and community. There will be a hospitality room for anyone with questions or wishing to just speak about their experience during The Showcase. Information on effective therapies for PTSD will be on display.

A very special thanks to the **Outpatient Art Therapy Program at the VA Hudson Valley Montrose Campus** for their recruiting nearly half of participating Showcase artists. This local VA program has a long-standing reputation for providing a safe space for veterans to engage in the creative process of art making as a means for relaxation and/or to help them to understand and heal from difficult military experiences where words are hard to find.

The combined works featured at The Showcase affirm that the creative arts offer a non-threatening modality that benefits artists and audiences alike. The Showcase is the result of a unique collaboration between our host, the FDR Presidential Library and Museum, and three local organizations: the Veteran Family Support Alliance (VETFAMSA), the Orange County Arts Council, and H.G. Fairfield Arts Center for the Environment, with a grant from The Seriti Foundation. We especially encourage the civilian community to join us in this vital conversation with veterans and their families.

For artist bios, program details, ads or donations, or pre-registration for workshop or CORE STORIES, contact: Dr. Lori Arella (845) 226-4218 drloria@gmail.com www.VETFAMSA.org