



November 5, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For information call: Clifford Laube at (845) 486-7745

**The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum
to host a Tri-County Veteran Arts Showcase
Opening Reception: Friday, November 22, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.
Weekend Showcase: Saturday, November 23 and Sunday, November 24, 2013
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Henry A. Wallace Center at the
FDR Presidential Library and Home**

HYDE PARK, NY -- The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum will host a weekend long **Veteran Arts Showcase** -- featuring works by local artists, photographers, and authors with military backgrounds. The event will kick-off with a reception on Friday, November 22, 2013 at 5:30 p.m., followed by two full days (November 23 and 24) of exhibits, presentations, and performances. The Veteran Arts Showcase is the result of a collaborative effort between The Daniel Center, The Orange County Arts Council's Creative Warriors program, and The Veteran Family Support Alliance (VETFAMSA), who together serve communities in Dutchess, Ulster and Orange Counties -- and throughout the Hudson Valley. The reception, exhibits, and performances will take place in the Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home (open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.). Admission is free to artists and the general public. For a full schedule of weekend events visit www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu.

The Veteran Arts Showcase was conceived by Julia Dehn, founder of **The Daniel Center**, who sought to develop a veteran arts-related program to share ideas about the healing capacity of the arts for veterans who are suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other obstacles to community reintegration after discharge from the military. Dehn engaged the Roosevelt Library -- and developed partnerships with

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like-minded Hudson Valley veterans organizations -- to make this program available to Hudson Valley veterans and residents this November.

Julia Dehn is a licensed social worker and surviving sister of the Center's namesake, Daniel, a Vietnam veteran who took his own life after suffering many years with combat-related PTSD. **The Daniel Center** is a non-profit 501c3 located in Highland, a place where veterans can come to interact with other veterans, share experiences, and give each other encouragement and support for transition back into society. The Daniel Center's veteran painter Howard Miller and photographer Marine Sgt. Megan Sebeck will be featured in the Showcase.

The **Orange County Arts Council** -- headed by Dawn Ansbro -- champions the arts, connects artists and audiences, and fosters the growth of the county's creative resources. Their program, ***Creative Warriors***, cultivates ways for veterans to be seen by the community as more than just someone who served in a war, to provide opportunities to share experiences with each other, with their families and with other community members through the arts, to discover new talents, and to become part of the greater creative community.

Creative Warriors believe in the ability of the arts to help veterans find new forms of self-expression, encourage their creativity and positively contribute to any healing process they are going through. Vietnam veteran Bill Lemanski heads up *Creative Warriors*. Lemanski wrote a biography of Teddy Roosevelt's second son, Kermit, LOST IN THE SHADOW OF FAME, THE NEGLECTED STORY OF KERMIT ROOSEVELT; A GALLANT AND TRAGIC AMERICAN. He will be talking about the book at the event. *Creative Warriors* photographer Robert Demetry and sculptor Bob Breuer will also be displaying their works at the event.

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The Veteran Family Support Alliance is a Hudson-Valley based coalition of mental health providers, other health practitioners, educators, members of the VA and Veteran Services Agencies, Active and Retired Military and their families, emergency services, and various other community members. VETFAMSA works to (1) Raise awareness about the needs of troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, (2) Identify needs of local military families as well as existing sources of support, (3) Improve access to services and other support for our veterans and their families, and (4) Expand support networks and services for military families. Member writers Larry Winters, Vietnam combat veteran, founder of the Veteran-Civilian Dialogue, and Jenny Pacanowski, noted *Warrior Writer* and former Iraq war medic, will be reading their poems and excerpts of longer original works. Patricia Quinn, Orange County art therapist and addiction specialist will provide an illustrated presentation on how art helps heal PTSD and brain injury.

Please contact Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745 or email clifford.laube@nara.gov with questions about the event.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum

As generations of Americans that have no personal memory of the Roosevelt Era emerge, it is more critical than ever that the lives and legacies of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt be preserved and presented to new generations. The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum stands ready to serve as a visible and valuable resource for children and families, educators and students, and an international audience seeking to understand the past to make a better tomorrow. With a newly renovated building and new permanent museum exhibits the Library seeks to honor President Roosevelt's vision in dedicating his Library to the American people. The Roosevelt Library is one of thirteen presidential libraries administered by the National Archives and Records Administration. For more information about the Library or its programs call (800) 337-8474 or visit www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu.

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