

## PRESS RELEASE

The Veteran Centers of Maine have showcased the art of their member Vets over the years in small, contained shows at the centers in Lewiston, Portland, Sanford, Bangor and Caribou. This year they have joined together to present the art in a central, high traffic location – **Freeport Square Gallery** on Main St in Freeport, just a block North of LL Bean. Art has been solicited from veterans and current service members and will be shown throughout the month. Artwork will be available for sale. The exhibit along with other showcases – for poets, crafters and musicians – will be available to the public from November 4-29, 2009. An artist reception will be held on Wednesday, November 11 at 4pm. A poetry reading will follow at 7pm.

Veterans' organizations from around the state are working to bring this focus on veterans to Freeport. The **J Arthur Stowell American Legion Post 83**, commissioned in 1920, is very excited to be sponsoring this celebration to honor service people past and present. The art exhibit will bring together Veteran artists and art from all over Maine – Kittery to Fort Kent. This powerful exhibit will showcase the sensibilities of artists who have served our country throughout the years. Work will be both war related and of everyday life. Art styles will range from contemporary realism to abstract. All media will be presented from pencil to sculpture. Concurrent with the art exhibit will be poetry readings, book readings and musical performances. Artists exhibiting and performing will be veterans from all branches of service and will include posthumous submissions. This will be a powerful month of art experiences that will impact both exhibitor and viewer.

On November 11 at 11am, solemn ceremonies at the Gallery will honor those who have served, preceded by speeches at 10am. Following the ceremonies, guests will be able to view the exhibit and enjoy refreshments. On site tours of the Vet Center's Mobile Unit will also be available.

During the month, other activities are scheduled. For more information, check [www.freeportsquare.com](http://www.freeportsquare.com) or call Joyce from the AL Post 83 or gallery staff at 207-865-1616 or Bill Malay at the Lewiston Vet Center at 207-783-0068.