

PRESS RELEASE

April 4, 2017

For Immediate Release

Budget Cuts: Veterans & The Arts - Open Call, Exhibit & Conversation

Fayetteville, NC - Event offers an important night of art, storytelling and conversation about the connection between arts and our veterans for community and local/state leaders.

Local veteran and artist, Trish Brownlee, is hosting an exhibit at Revolutionary Coworking on Thursday, April 13th from 6:30pm-9:00pm, located at 100 Hay St, 1st Floor, Fayetteville, North Carolina. The evening will highlight the work of veteran artists and writers, and their families. This evening will focus on an open conversation about how veterans benefit from art therapy and arts related practices, formal and grassroots, in the years following their service to our country.

This event includes:

- A multimedia exhibition and conversation in response to veteran artworks and writing from the personal collection of Trish Brownlee.
- Guest Speaker & Discussion: Dr. Diane M McKnight, Art Therapist/Psychotherapist, an independent art therapist with Carolina Counseling Services
- An interactive papermaking demo, reading and spoken word from veteran artists, fiber arts demo, storytelling “booth” and more.

Open Call: The event is growing daily with a standing open call for local veteran and current military/spouse artwork, speakers, storytellers and more. Email trish@trishbrownlee.com to respond to the open call.

The event is open to the public, and has been created in light of the proposed federal budget that cuts federal support to arts and humanities programs, such as the National Endowment for the Arts while also failing to adequately increase veteran affairs support in relationship to the proposed defense budget. The goal of the exhibit is to bring awareness to our leadership about the burdens facing our veterans, and impending harm to art programs for veterans that are currently being funded by the National Endowment for the Arts and similar arts and humanities program. By participating, attending and supporting this event, we hope to peacefully and honestly make our representatives hear our voices regarding the recently proposed federal budget. We are highlighting some of the ways in which this budget would impact the veteran and military populations within our community. We hope to bring awareness and shed light on the veteran-arts connection in all its forms.

Invitations are being extended to local city leadership and the event is open to the public. Congressional representatives, who will also receive copies of the art, writing and research, are also being invited to attend the event. Breaking Rag is hosting this event in partnership with Cape Fear Indivisible, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fayetteville, Poetry-N-Motion, LLC, Iona Rose Studio, and Revolutionary Coworking.

Learn more, Donate and RSVP: trishbrownlee.com/budgetcuts

Online Invitation: <http://eepurl.com/cjz36P>