

## PRESS RELEASE

Ellsworth Public Library  
20 State Street  
Ellsworth, ME 04605

### **VSA arts of Maine Brings Art by People with Disabilities to Ellsworth Public Library**

ELLSWORTH, ME – VSA arts of Maine announces the opening of its Matter of Perception 2008 exhibit at the Ellsworth Public Library.

The exhibit runs from October 28 – November 28, 2008 and includes works by local artists Jared Hansen of Ellsworth, Jennifer Blake of Hulls Cove, Charlotte Isay Lanier of Islesboro, Jerry M. Houck of Searsport, “Evie” (Joan Casoff) of Penobscot, Mark Shedd of Deer Isle, and Robert Nutting of Deer Isle, as well as other artists from across the state. The show includes photography, drawings, collage, and paintings. A reception will be held on Friday November 21 from 4:00 – 6:00 PM. Please call the Library at 667-6363 before your visit to be sure the Riverview Room is not in use for Library Programming.

**VSA arts of Maine** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization providing innovative and inclusive arts, educational and cultural opportunities for children and adults with disabilities in Maine. Programs include artist residencies in schools, workshops for teachers and artists, mentoring for adult artists with disabilities, exhibitions by artists with disabilities, and partnerships with cultural venues throughout the state to improve accessibility.

**VSA arts of Maine** is part of the VSA arts international network, dedicated to promoting education and lifelong learning opportunities in the arts for people with disabilities. Founded in 1974 by Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith, VSA arts is an affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. Formerly named Very Special Arts, VSA arts changed its name in 1999, eliminating the use of the word "special" to honor the progress made by members of the disability community since the organization's inception. VSA is an acronym for Vision of an inclusive community, Strength in shared resources, and Artistic expression that unites us all.