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Promoting the creative power in people with disabilities through the arts.

PRESS RELEASE

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Deadline for Matter of Perception Art Submissions Extended Due to Harsh Winter Weather

BRUNSWICK, ME -- *VSA arts of Maine* will accept submissions of artwork for its **Matter of Perception 2008** exhibitions from February 29 through March 15. The original deadline of February 15 has been extended because of the weather. Work may be mailed, or dropped off at the VSA arts of Maine office, 185 Park Row in Brunswick, between 10 AM and 3 PM. Artists should call ahead to make sure a staff person will be available. Pick up points in Portland, Augusta and Bangor are also being arranged.

A Matter of Perception 2008 is a traveling exhibition of work by artists with disabilities. Each item submitted will appear in at least one exhibition during the year. The artwork may be available for sale if the artist chooses. The schedule of exhibitions is as follows:

February 15 - March 21: University of Maine at Machias
February/March: VSA Gallery/Augusta
April: Freeport Community Center

May-June: Stephens Memorial Hospital, Norway
June: VSA Gallery/Augusta
June: Camden Public Library
Summer: Thomas Memorial Library, Cape Elizabeth
September: Portland Public Library
September: VSA Gallery/Augusta
Fall: Bangor Public Library
October-January: Boyd Place, Bangor
November: Ellsworth Library

Complete entry forms and information about the exhibition can be obtained at the VSA arts office or by downloading from www.vsartsmaine.org. Alternative formats of the Call for Art and entry forms are available upon request. For further information please contact *VSA arts of Maine* by calling 207-607-4016 (voice/tty).

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ABOUT *VSA arts of Maine*

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.