

CITY OF NEW BRITAIN



Office of the Mayor

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New Britain to hold reception for new veteran's art exhibit at City Hall

NEW BRITAIN—Mayor Erin E. Stewart and the New Britain Commission on the Arts will host a reception on Wednesday, February 10th to mark the opening of a new art exhibit at City Hall that features the work of 10 artists who are veterans.

“This is another way for us to show our gratitude to the service men and women of our country,” said Mayor Stewart. “We are proud to host this exhibition in City Hall and display these impressive and inspiring pieces of art for everyone to see.”

The artwork includes paintings, poetry, photos, drawings, and watercolors created by veterans of the Vietnam, Desert Storm, Afghanistan, and Iraq wars. The exhibition, which is being put on in partnership with Newington resident and Army veteran Edward Santos, will be on display until March 10th. Santos, who was in the Army National Guard for nine years and was twice deployed to Afghanistan, took part in art therapy while at the V.A. Hospital in Newington.

The veterans live in several surrounding towns, including Southington, Newington, Wethersfield, Hartford, New Haven, and others.

The reception, which is free and open to the public, will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. prior to the start of the Common Council meeting, on the second floor of City Hall. Food and light refreshments will be available. To view the exhibit, City Hall is open 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays.

“For many of these veterans, this art is a form of therapy. It’s also the first time for many of them to publicly display their work. To have these veterans see their artwork out there—it really boosts their self-esteem,” said Santos. “The arts allowed me to come out of my shell and I hope it inspires others to make positive changes in their lives.”

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