

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Winooski: **December 21, 2012**

**Photos available**

**VSA Vermont** presents **Engage**, a juried exhibition featuring **Vermont artists with disabilities**

**February 1 – May 7, 2013**

**Artist Reception: April 6 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

**Reception Admission: Free**



Please contact The Bennington Museum with accessibility and accommodation requests. Call **802-447-1571**. For relay call 711.

Or write [dmallory@benningtonmuseum.org](mailto:dmallory@benningtonmuseum.org)

VSA Vermont's **Engage** exhibition project has importance to artists, audiences and venues across Vermont. Presenting both new and established artists, the **Engage** exhibition brings the work of 35 Vermont artists with various disabilities to the forefront of cultural life in Vermont. Artists across Vermont participating in the **Engage** exhibition include Robert Gold, Alexis Kyriak, Robert McBride, Margaret Kannenstine, Beth Barndt, Steve Chase, Lyna Lou Nordstrum, along with 30 others.

**Engage** is curated by Greensboro artist Paul Gruhler, whose works have been exhibited throughout the United States and Europe and are collected internationally. Gruhler's selection of artwork for VSA Vermont's **Engage** exhibition includes paintings in acrylic, oil and watercolor, drawings in ink, pastel and charcoal, as well as mixed media and assemblage.







With the help of Renee Wells, an accessibility consultant for the Vermont Arts Council, and other program partners, VSA Vermont has provided assistance to artists with



creating digital imagery of artwork and artist statements as well as with framing where needed. The **Engage** project also includes technical assistance to participating cultural venues including audio and verbal description. The result, beginning July 4, will bring people with and without disabilities together to engage in a richly presented experience of art.

In conjunction with the Engage exhibition, the Bennington Museum will present an historical exhibition, “*More Like You Than Not*,” organized by Bennington Museum curator Jamie Franklin. This exhibition will take a look at some of the varied contexts in which artists with disabilities have worked in Vermont and the surrounding region over the last 150 years.

VSA Vermont receives support for **Engage** from Bari and Peter Dreissigacker, The Vermont Community Foundation, Neda Nobari Foundation, Wells Fargo Advisors, the Vermont Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts, FairPoint Communications, Valerie and Chuck Maniscalco, Hilary Maslow, Sills Family Foundation, Patricia Fontaine, People’s United Bank, Burlington City Arts, Artist Mediums, Dan Lovell Photography, Karen Maxon voice actor and Northfield Savings Bank. VSA Vermont is an affiliate of VSA, a program of The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

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	information
	wheelchair access
	Assistive listening system
	sign language interpretation
	large print
	Braille

	Audio description
	Access for people who are blind or have low vision