



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 29, 2011

The Museum of Art & History @ the McPherson Center presents:
Our Threads of Allegiance: World War II in Santa Cruz & Abroad
An exhibition created by UCSC students; **May 28 - July 17, 2011**

The Museum of Art and History, Santa Cruz (MAH) celebrates the contributions of Santa Cruz citizens to the WWII relief effort through this exhibition in the Lezin Gallery showcasing historical objects. *Our Threads of Allegiance: World War II in Santa Cruz & Abroad*, on view from May 28 through July 17, weaves together textiles and personal stories to examine the relationship between local Santa Cruz citizens and those abroad during WWII. Rationing and the creation of care packages became unifying forces for people stateside linking them to loved ones overseas.

Local stories of the four Franks brothers who served as lieutenants, and Dora Cecilia Anderson, a member of the Women's Army Corps will connect the war to Santa Cruz on a personal level. *Our Threads of Allegiance* has many objects detailing how people at home offered material backing for people abroad. A quilt, which Santa Cruz military mothers crafted and signed for their sons overseas, epitomizes this communal support and strength.

Several interactive components are also included in this exhibition, such as audio stations containing interviews and personal stories of veterans and locals who experienced WWII. The Facebook page (facebook.com/OurThreads) offers visitors a place to see behind-the-scenes photos and videos, post feedback or personal stories, and read interesting WWII facts.

This exhibition honors those veterans who served in World War II but extends gratitude to all veterans who have served or are currently serving the United States of America by offering free admission every weekend to these individuals and their families. Students, local residents, and tourists will leave the exhibition with a better understanding of how World War II affected the people of Santa Cruz.

Our Threads of Allegiance is a collaborative effort by UC Santa Cruz students, the History of Art and Visual Culture faculty, and the Museum staff. This exhibition is the concluding project of a three-class series, generously funded by Patricia and Rowland Rebele, where students gained knowledge of museum cultures and practices.

705 Front Street | Santa Cruz | California | 95060
831.429.1964 | Fax 831.429.1954 | www.santacruzmah.org

The Museum of Art & History is a non-profit educational institution that promotes a greater understanding of contemporary art and the history of Santa Cruz County through its exhibitions, collections, and programs for the benefit of residents and visitors to Santa Cruz County

WHAT: *Our Threads of Allegiance: World War II in Santa Cruz & Abroad*

WHERE: The Museum of Art & History @ the McPherson Center
705 Front Street Santa Cruz, CA 95060

WHEN: May 28, 2011-July 17, 2011

COST: \$5 general; \$3 students 18+ and seniors 62+; \$2 Students 12-17; free to Museum members, Children under 12; FREE the First Friday of the month

HOURS: Tuesday-Sunday 11 am-5 pm

INFO: Call the Museum at (831) 429-1964
For more information, please contact ourthreads2011@gmail.com or visit our facebook page at www.facebook.com/OurThreads

RELATED EVENTS:

Free First Friday June 3
UCSC Curator Tour, 12pm-1pm

Join the MAH for a free noontime tour with the UCSC curatorial group. The tour meets in the atrium.

Reception, 5pm-9pm

The reception will celebrate *Our Threads of Allegiance*, in conjunction with *Alexander Lowry: Documentary Photographs of Santa Cruz County*, an online exhibition. Festivities will include live music and refreshments. For more information please call (831) 429-1964 x 10 or visit www.santacruzmah.org.

Saturday June 4
Free Family Day, 11am-2pm

Celebrate the discovery of local Santa Cruz history at this fun-filled day for the whole family. Enjoy live 1940s music, WWII ration snacks, and fun hands-on activities like quilt sewing, & more! Children 12 and under can have their picture taken dressed up as a nurse or soldier in a mock portrait studio. Admission is free during festivities.

Image Captions: WWII Quilt, 1943. Cotton. Collection of The Museum of Art & History @ the McPherson Center.
Trenbeth WWII Navy Dress Blues Uniform and Hat, Lieutenant Commander (U.S.N.R.), 1945. Cotton and wool. Collection of The Museum of Art & History @ the McPherson Center.

Hi-resolution images from this exhibit are available upon request, call (831) 429-1964 ext. 21, or email membership@santacruzmah.org ###

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