

NEWS RELEASE

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100 Faces of War exhibition travels from Massachusetts to Saint Paul Central Library

Two local war veterans featured in national art exhibit

The national *100 Faces of War Experience* exhibit will be on display at the Saint Paul Central Library August 17 to 31 and will feature two Minnesota war veterans, Army Chaplain (Maj.) Fr. Tim Vakoc and Marine Staff Sgt. Koufan Hersons.

Father Tim Vakoc is scheduled to attend the 100 Faces of War Experience opening reception from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sat., Aug. 18, at the Saint Paul Central Library.

Father Tim was gravely wounded in Iraq in May 2004 and since then he has made miraculous improvements and has been on a spiritual journey to recovery. He is the first documented U.S Army chaplain seriously injured during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Staff Sgt. Koufan Hersons served as an aviation mechanic and provided air support in the first siege of Fallujah, Iraq in 2004.

The 100 Faces of War Experience exhibit is open to the public August 17 to 31. Open hours are Monday 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., Tuesday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Sat 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Members of the media are invited to attend the 100 Faces of War Experience opening reception 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sat., Aug. 18, at the Saint Paul Central Library, 90 West 4th Street. Interviews with the artist, Matthew Mitchell, and Father Tim's family will be available.

100 Faces of War Experience Background

100 Faces of War Experience is a national project using portraits and words to build connections between Americans returned from war and the American public. A total of 22 portraits will be on display in the library, each portrait accompanied by words written by the person pictured. 100 Faces is a work in progress which will culminate in 100 portraits and statements from Americans of all backgrounds who have experience in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Civilians and military personnel are included. At least one person from each state is included.

ADD 1: EXHIBIT

View 100 Faces on line at <http://www.100facesofwarexperience.org/>

100 Faces is featured in the September issue of the *American Artist Magazine* and posted on line at <http://www.myamericanartist.com/2007/07/matthew-mitchel.html>