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**NEWS RELEASE: Veteran Self-portraits Tell Many Stories**  
**Richmond Art Center Summer Exhibition brings together over 100 portraitures**

May 30, 2019

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Richmond Art Center  
Summer Exhibitions - ABOUTFACE  
June 11 – August 16, 2019  
Tuesday – Saturday, 10Am – 5pm  
Gallery admission is FREE

With their fingers full of paint, Veterans from Contra Costa County finished painting their portraits the last week of May. This was the last ABOUTFACE workshop for the year, with over 30 Veterans finishing an acrylic painting of themselves on an 18”x24” canvas. The Returning Veterans of Diablo Valley and the Arts & Culture Commission of Contra Costa County (AC5) sponsored six two-day workshops held at Diablo Valley College and the Concord Veterans Center.

These and nearly 100 more Veteran portraitures are to be shown as part of the Richmond Art Center Summer Exhibition. This large exhibition brings together Veteran self-portraits from ABOUTFACE: Building Veterans’ Self-understanding through Self-portraits. Portraitures were created over the five years that AC5 has participated in the California Art Councils Veterans in the Arts grant program supported by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors.

The ABOUTFACE exhibit will be in the Community Gallery. Collectively, the pieces form a “unit” that represents the varied stories of Veterans transitioning from military to civilian life. Gallery admission is free. The show runs from June 11 through August 16. The Art Center is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm (closed Sundays and Mondays & Major holidays). The Richmond Art Center is located at 2540 Barrett Avenue, Richmond, California 94804.

For more information, contact Amy Spencer, Exhibitions Director [Amy@richmondartcenter.org](mailto:Amy@richmondartcenter.org) or call (510) 620-1252.

Visit the Richmond Art Center website: <http://richmondartcenter.org/>

Visit the AC5 website for more information: [www.AC5.org](http://www.AC5.org)

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ART CENTER**

