



**Noyes**  
Museum of Art  
STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

Education Guide

January 21 – February 29, 2020

## ***Frontline Paper***

**Closing Reception:**

***Third Thursday -***

**Thursday, February 20th**

**5:00 – 7:00 pm**



*Anonymous, Sleeping in Chairs, screen print*

Frontline Paper, formerly known as Combat Paper NJ, is a program offered by Frontline Arts, an arts organization that offers creative tools and

professional instruction for all, with a focus on providing a space for veterans to use art and writing to explore experiences and, ultimately, to share them publicly, all through papermaking.

This exhibition of prints comes from the collection of the Frontline Arts organization and is supplemented with work made by veterans, students and the public at Stockton University's Galloway, NJ campus during Veterans Week in November 2019. The Frontline Arts Paper program took place with support from Stockton's Office of Military and Veteran Services and the Noyes Museum of Art.

Program participants, including veterans, students and the public, heard stories presented by Stockton and Frontline Arts service members. They learned about the process of shredding military uniforms to create pulp and then used the pulp to make their own handmade paper. Using a pulp spray process, they created printed images and wrote on their paper.

The unique approach of Frontline Paper is through the transformative process of making handmade paper from military uniforms. During public workshops, this handmade paper creates a platform for veterans and non-veterans to come together and share stories, providing a new language, and much needed discourse between veterans and society. In casual drop-in sessions, on college campuses, in community centers, at pop-up street corner workshops, and at Veterans Administration and military hospitals, Frontline Paper artists teach the art of papermaking and printmaking to veterans of all service eras.

Each workshop session begins with the veterans sharing their stories while cutting up their uniform. These uniforms can hold dirt, blood, sweat, and memories. The participants take apart the trace object as they deconstruct the memories associated with the uniform. The cut pieces of uniform are beaten into a pulp using specially designed papermaking equipment, creating a slurry of fibers and water. Sheets of paper are then pulled from the pulp and dried to create handmade paper. In this process the fibers and memories are reconstructed or reclaimed into something different - paper.

Dried sheets of paper become the platform for veterans to communicate their stories. Through instructional workshops, veterans integrate drawing, printmaking, and/or written words into their paper using various techniques. Whether it is a blank piece of paper or a created image on the surface, each work of art tells a story through the new language of papermaking.



Scout, pulp print, anonymous

Community-based events and exhibitions are important opportunities for veterans to talk about their military service, and for society to hear stories from the veterans themselves. The practice of community-based art, storytelling and art-making engages society, gives everyone a voice, and exposes the true complexity of the veteran experience. This sparks a dialogue of revealing the raw realities of what it means to serve in the military and live through the aftermath. These opportunities help the public better understand the complex veteran narrative and raise awareness among witnesses that the bridge between veterans and society needs repairing.

Frontline Arts, formerly known as the Printmaking Center of New Jersey (PCNJ), and, before that, as Combat Paper, is a 501c3 non-profit arts organization serving the entire state of New Jersey and the larger eastern United States through in-house and mobile programming. Their home base is located in Branchburg, New Jersey, where they offer groundbreaking mobile print and papermaking programs and events alongside quality classes, studio services, and a communal space with shared equipment for the print and papermaking communities. Frontline Arts works on the frontlines of artmaking to serve thousands of artists, veterans, youth, community groups, and the general public each year.



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For more information about Frontline Arts, visit: <https://www.frontlinearts.org>

Check us out on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.

The Noyes Arts Garage of Stockton University // [www.artsgarageac.com](http://www.artsgarageac.com) // (609) 626-3805  
The Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton University // [www.noyesmuseum.org](http://www.noyesmuseum.org) // (609) 626-3420



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