**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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The Kittery Community Center would like to announce the following art gallery event. For more info, please visit our website at [www.kitterycommunitycenter.org](http://www.kitterycommunitycenter.org).

**Morgan Gallery art showing**

**Kittery Art Association Presents: Painted Voices**

Showing October 25, 2016 – January 31, 2017

**Opening Reception - Friday, October 28th - 5:30-7:00pm**

“Painted Voices” is a beautiful exhibit of works by five local artists in the Morgan Gallery at the Kittery Community Center presented by the Kittery Art Association (KAA). This exhibit will be shown October 25th through January 31st. The public is invited to an Opening Reception with refreshments on Friday, October 28th at 5:30pm. Come hear the artists talk about the works and their process.

This exhibit showcases the works of Cheri Christenson, Deborah Cotter, Barbara D’Antonio, BJ Glanville and Polly Moak. Each artist will have multiple pieces on display. These artists are all part of the Kittery Art Association, a non-profit organization of volunteers, founded in 1958, committed to a mission to promote knowledge of the arts, stimulate interest in the work of local artists and express appreciation for the abundant creativity in the Seacoast area.

Christenson is a watercolor artist, art teacher, and musician, who discovered a love of art after a co-worker encouraged her to “just try” painting. “With the help of local artist Doris Rice and a lot of self-patience,” she says, “I discovered my love of watercolor. I am now blessed to consider myself an artist as well as a musician.” She is the owner/operator of Colors & Chords in Kittery.

Reverend Deborah Cotter has always loved Art History. She was just an observer of art until she found that messing with acrylic paint was a means of emotional release. “I paint wildly, often straight from the tube.” She continues, “It has become a sensual intuitive vehicle for capturing my raw emotion about anything from mass shootings to the beauty of an ocean wave.” Her interfaith ministry, Soul Matters, is based in South Berwick, Maine.

Barbara D’Antonio has been a lifelong artist who works with oils and focuses on figures. “For me, expressing the human figure is the highest form of art regardless of the medium.” Barbara explains, “I want to express the balance, rhythm and grace of the human form.” She still has works displayed in Greece and Italy where she lived and worked for many years.

BJ Glanville has been designing fabrics in the textile industry for over 30 years. Introduced to silk screening at a young age while growing up in the Virgin Islands, she says, “The textures, pattern and color of the Caribbean are still big influences in my work.” Her recent art has focused on monoprinting on paper and fabric, often incorporating a layering of both. “I am intrigued with working on only one print and taking that image and finding a pleasing way to repeat its pattern across a surface; always paying close attention to detail.”

Polly Moak will be displaying her oil works that offer reflections of local scenes. “Much of my work originates as plein air sketches and studies. I try to preserve the feeling of the moment which is refined by further work in the studio.” Polly also works with watercolor, paper-making and mixed media.

The Morgan Gallery, at the Kittery Community Center, is made possible through a generous donation by the Morgan Family of Kittery, ME. The gallery space is prominently located by the STAR THEATRE and provides a new venue for showcasing works by visual artists. The KCC Visual Arts Committee is responsible for curating the programming and schedules an ongoing series of art exhibits to showcase visual artists. Professional artists are encouraged to submit works for review for future exhibits. All works are reviewed and juried by a sub-committee of the Arts and Culture committee.

This gallery is free and open to the public during KCC business hours and also open during performances in the STAR Theatre. The Morgan Gallery is located in the Kittery Community Center at 120 Rogers Road in Kittery, Maine. For more information on the gallery and hours, please visit [www.kitterycommunitycenter.org](http://www.kitterycommunitycenter.org) or call 207-439-3800.