

Announcement ~ [911Arts Project](#)

Contacts:

Dr. ikuko Acosta: ia@911Arts.org

Dr. Tom Ettinger: te@911Arts.org

Anthony Flammia: wamflame@aol.com

New York University's Art Therapy Program, in partnership with the FealGood Foundation, is offering another round of free art sessions to first responders and their families.

The sessions begin in April and will be held on Saturdays 3:00 till 6:00. Weekday and evening sessions will be added shortly, based on demand. We will hold separate classes for different groups, such as families. You can choose either regular studio arts classes, or art therapy sessions, or try each format and see which you prefer.

For each session, we provide different media (art materials) and focus on different themes (subject matter and emotional issues). You certainly don't have to be a skilled artist to attend. Some of the most moving art is produced by people with no formal arts training at all. Also, most people benefit more from the act of making art (the process) than from whether they succeed in producing "great art". This is especially clear when we are working with children!

We have some serious purposes here. This project seeks to create a series of art exhibits, based on art from our participants, for *911Arts: A Decade Later*. The arts exhibits will provide an opportunity for achieving greater public awareness regarding the true state of affairs for first responders and their families. A picture is worth a thousand words, and we can convey poignant and raw themes in art that will otherwise fall on deaf ears. As we know, the Zadroga bill has passed, but there are still major hurdles and pitfall for obtaining benefits and quality healthcare. Through public arts exhibits, from galleries to Federal buildings, we can further educate the public, and further empower first responders with an ever louder voice.

If you are interested in participating, check out our NYU site and send us an email. Let us know if you are interested in traditional arts session, or more trauma-focused art therapy sessions. Also let us know if we should arrange sessions for families of first responders (including deceased responders, as with James Zadroga). Also let us know if you need transportation... special accommodations... and anything else.

Schedule and Location:

Open studio sessions begin in April, on Saturdays, at 3:00 pm.

We are located at [34 Stuyvesant street](#) in the East Village of Manhattan, room 204.

Hope to see you! Best Regards,
Ikuko and Tom

