



**Hour Exchange Portland**  
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### **The TIME Gallery Celebrates Its Third Year with the December First Friday Art Walk**

**Portland, Maine** – The TIME Gallery, a program of the Hour Exchange Portland (HEP), welcomes photographers David B. Merritt and Lesley M. Jones to the December First Friday Art Walk. This event represents the third year of the gallery's participation in the First Friday Art Walk activities. Merritt and Jones' work features landscape, portrait photography including of people and pets. She captures the exquisiteness in small images & faces; he sees the beauty in nature with a focus on light.

The TIME Gallery and HEP are pleased to continue their successful relationship with Portland Arts and Cultural Alliance (PACA). This event allows HEP to offer exhibit space to HEP members, and launch a fundraiser each month, as 30% of proceeds benefit the nonprofit agency, HEP. These events are free and open to the public.

Opening night is Friday, December 5 between the hours of 5 and 8pm at Community Television Network (CTN), Channel Four, at 516 Congress Street. This is the current location of the TIME Gallery which was formerly on Elm and Portland Streets in Portland. (CTN is between CVS and MECA on Congress.) This recent partnership with CTN, another member of Hour Exchange, enables HEP to continue to exhibit the work of their artist members. Nearly three dozen HEP members have had art shows at the TIME Gallery, including oil painting, photography, mixed media, and jewelry exhibits.

The Hour Exchange, formerly the Portland Time Bank, is a service exchange program, based on the currency of time that empowers individuals to utilize their assets to enhance their lives, neighborhood and community. Neighbors help neighbors by earning and spending time on a variety of services. Last year, nearly 700 members accessed over 20,000 hours of services. Services include anything from small business development, dog walking, errands, transportation to health care services including traditional and alternative care, and much more. With the declining economy, membership inquiries are up, and exchanges are strong.

This December First Friday festivities will include music by national touring artist, David Bullard, and local musicians Chuck Muldoon and drumming group, Anana. A musical performance has been added to each Opening night activities and takes place in the CTN Television Studios to the rear of the Gallery space. Also, the TIME Gallery recently added the *Kids Korner* where local youth artists' work is featured. This month Tyler Arcand of Portland will exhibit a drawing of an animal and monster. Tyler enjoys drawing and painting and attends school in Portland, where he lives with his mother, Michelle Arcand (a member of HEP), his dad and brother. This is his first exhibit outside of the classroom.

For more information, contact Abby Laplante at (207) 874-9868 or email her at [abby@hourexchangeportland.org](mailto:abby@hourexchangeportland.org). Information about HEP can be found at [www.hourexchangeportland.org](http://www.hourexchangeportland.org).

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