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**Media Web site:** [americanart.si.edu/press](http://americanart.si.edu/press)

## “Over the Top: American Posters from World War I” Fact Sheet

### Exhibition

“Over the Top: American Posters from World War I”

Oct. 26 – Feb. 3, 2008

### Location

Smithsonian American Art Museum, Eighth and F streets N.W.

Graphic Arts galleries, second floor

### Description

This exhibition features 44 war bond posters, which made an important contribution to the United States’ successful war effort during World War I. “Over the Top: American Posters from World War I” focuses on the four Liberty Loan campaigns, the War Savings Stamp program, the Victory Loan and support for the Red Cross. The motivational power of these posters is largely credited with creating such successful campaigns. The best illustrators of the time were chosen to create posters whose persuasive images, bold graphics and concise commands encouraged citizens to support the troops, contribute to the Red Cross and buy bonds to finance America’s participation in the war. The works in the exhibition are from the collection of Thomas L. and Edward L. Pulling, grandson and great-grandson of R.C. Leffingwell, who was charged with funding the war effort as assistant secretary of the U.S. Treasury and head of the War Loan Organization. Joann Moser, senior curator for graphic arts, selected the posters, which are a fascinating window into the early 20th-century American experience. A brochure accompanies the exhibition.

### Tour

The exhibition will be on view at the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Mass. (Nov. 8, 2008 – Jan. 25, 2009)

### Credit

“Over the Top: American Posters from World War I” is organized by the Smithsonian American Art Museum. The exhibition’s tour is supported in part by the C.F. Foundation, Atlanta.

The Smithsonian American Art Museum is located at Eighth and F streets N.W. above the Gallery Place/Chinatown Metrorail station. It is open daily from 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Admission is free. Smithsonian Information: (202) 633-1000; (202) 633-5285 (TTY). Web sites: [americanart.si.edu](http://americanart.si.edu) and [reynoldscenter.org](http://reynoldscenter.org). Recorded museum information: (202) 633-7970.

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**Note to editors:** Selected high-resolution images for publicity only may be downloaded from <ftp://saam-press@ftp.si.edu>. Call (202) 633-8530 for the password.

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