WOMEN AGAINST WAR believes:  "Weaponized and surveillance drones are increasingly used as tools of aggression and control. This leads to endless militarization and war instead of much needed respect for human rights and international cooperation. When the US violates the rule of law among nations and opts for extrajudicial killings as routine practice, it encourages a cycle of violence and increasing deaths of innocent civilians. When governments have the power to monitor and track their citizens, wherever they are, at every moment, everyone's freedom and rights to life and liberty are threatened. As drone technology quickly becomes widespread we must examine and question its use. When illegal and immoral use violates human rights and international law this must be exposed and protested."

The projects detailed here are part of WAW's continuing initiative regarding drones. More information on WOMEN AGAINST WAR as well as the GROUNDING THE DRONES initiative can be found at: www.womenagainstwar.org/wordpress

To speak with someone about these projects contact: aumanda@mac.com or mesola@earthlink.net

The DRONES QUILT PROJECT is a collective art project, organized by the National Office of Veterans for Peace. It will be brought to the Capital Region this fall by Women Against War's Beyond Afghanistan/No Drones Project.

Five quilts, with squares created by quilters both experienced as well as novice, will be hung. Each square contains the name of a victim of a US drone strike as well as the name if the artist who designed it.

The project was conceived as a way to capture the fact that each drone victim was a human being with the same hopes and dreams, fears and concerns as both artist and viewer.

The intention of the project is fourfold:
• to raise awareness
• to generate political advocacy
• to connect participants deeply to the victims and their families
• to convert the pain of awareness into art

The Drone Quilt Exhibit can be visited at:
THE CONCOURSE OF THE EMPIRE STATE PLAZA

0ct. 20th - Oct. 24th*
Opening press conference in the well of the Legislative Office Building (LOB)
Monday, Oct. 20th 12 noon
* Visitors will be invited to make their own square to contribute to a new quilt.

THE CHAPEL + CULTURAL CENTER AT RENSSELAER
2125 Burdett Ave. Troy, NY 12180

Oct.25th - Nov. 4th*
*Drone related videos throughout
*Performance of GROUNDED by George Brant on Oct. 30th
*Taking it to the Drone Base: A panel of Hancock AFB activists protesting the flying of weaponized predator drones out of their community.
• A panel of anti-drone activists - Ben Kuebrich, Ed Kinane, and Mary Anne Grady Flores Oct.31st, 2:00 P.M.
*Workshop for making drone squares to contribute to new quilt for future tours - TBA

THE HUBBARD INTERFAITH SANCTUARY OF THE COLLEGE OF ST. ROSE
959 Madison Avenue, Albany, N.Y. 12206

Nov.5th - Nov. 14th*
*A Panel Discussion in Observance of Veterans Day against the backdrop of the Drone Quilt exhibit - Nov. 11, 2:30 - 4:00 P.M.
* A performance of GROUNDED By George Brant, Nov. 13, 7:00 P.M. The Campus Theater, 996 A Madison Ave. (behind 1000 Madison Ave.)
On tour

GROUNDED
by George Brant

From the award-winning playwright George Brant, comes the story of an ace fighter pilot whose career in the sky is ended early due to an unexpected pregnancy. Reassigned to operate military drones from a windowless trailer outside Las Vegas, she hunts terrorists by day and returns to her family each night. As the pressure to track a high-profile target mounts, the boundaries begin to blur between the desert in which she lives and the one she patrols half a world away.

WOMEN AGAINST WAR says about the play: "George Brant's play GROUNDED invites the audience to witness the dislocation and angst of a woman drone pilot who, with joystick in hand, viscerally experiences the lie of a technology which has promised to make killing accurate, neutral and sterile.

The audience is invited to realize that we are all living under drone sights and within an ever expanding kill zone."

GROUNDED has won:
The Smith Prize for Political Theatre
Fringe First Award - Edinburgh Fringe Festival
Off-West End Theatre Award for Best Production of 2013
Short-listed for the Amnesty International Freedom of Expression Award
And was named: a Top 10 London Play of 2013 by both The Guardian and the London Evening Standard

Critics have called GROUNDED: "grIPPING"..."thought provoking"..."heartbreaking"..."engrossing"

The Capital region tour of GROUNDED is being produced by Women Against War in conjunction with The Theater Institute at Sage College. It is being directed by Russell Sage College Teaching Artist Leigh Strimbeck.

Katelyn Burrello as The Pilot in George Brant's "Grounded" presented by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.

The GROUNDED tour schedule is as follows:

October 30, 2014, 7:00 PM
The Chapel + Cultural Center at Rensselaer
2125 Burdett Avenue
Troy, NY
274-7793
www.chapelandculturalcenter.org

November 11, 2014, 7:00 PM
The Arts Center of the Capital Region
265 River Street
Troy, NY
273-0552
www.artscenteronline.org

November 13, 2014, 7:00 PM
The Campus Theater at The College of St. Rose*
November 13, 2014
996A Madison Avenue (behind 1000 Madison)  
Albany, NY 12203
454-5111
*Sponsored by the English Department of The College of St. Rose
www.strose.edu

November 15, 2014, 7:00 PM
Old Chatham Quaker Meeting
Meetinghouse
539 County Route 13
Old Chatham, NY 12136
794-0259
www.oldchathamquakers.org

November 19, 2014, 7:30 PM
Academy of the Holy Names Upper School
1074 New Scotland Rd.
Albany, NY
283-5353
www.womenagainstwar.org/wordpress

Please note:
* due to adult themes and language this play is not recommended for children
* running time is approximately 75 minutes
* all performances are free and open to the public

For more information about these projects and other Women Against War initiatives, please visit: www.womenagainstwar.org/wordpress

GROUNDING THE DRONES: A WOMEN AGAINST WAR INITIATIVE

Since 2004, the US government has employed, UAV or drone technology to kill an estimated 2400 men, women and children, and injure many more in the countries of Afghanistan, Pakistan, Yemen and Somalia. Many of these casualties were innocent civilians, "collateral damage."

WOMEN AGAINST WAR is a local, grassroots network of area women concerned about an increasingly militarized U.S. foreign policy. Through its "Afghanistan and Beyond/ No Drones" as well as "Grannies for Peace" committees, WAW has been working to understand, raise awareness about and protest the use of weaponized drones as well as domestic surveillance drones.

Numerous reports indicate that not only is the use of these new weapons of choice immoral and illegal, they are also ineffective. In addition, many civil liberties organizations are raising the alarm on domestic use of surveillance drones, voicing their concern about this technology becoming a key component in growing war on civil liberties.