



Dear OPA National Exhibition Participants,

As I am sure you will agree, these past few weeks have been extremely unsettling for everyone. As we hear of new closures every day and the rise in the number of people affected by COVID-19, it has become abundantly clear that cancelling the convention scheduled for this coming May is necessary and in everyone's best interest. While we are disappointed, we do not want to put our members, Board, Jurors, staff, speakers, gallery owner, and guests at greater risk.

Now, the great news is RS Hanna Gallery is still planning on hosting OPA's National Exhibition. Owner Shannon Hanna has agreed to move the show dates to October 16 – November 28, 2020. We can't begin to thank Shannon enough for being so flexible and helpful under these challenging circumstances. We know that this new plan might not work for some of you who have possibly made other commitments for your painting after the scheduled show dates but we DO hope that most of you will find this change to be welcome news. No doubt, this will provide RS Hanna Gallery the best opportunity to sell your artwork.

So, here are the most important changes that you need to know right now!

- New Exhibition Dates: October 16 – November 28, 2020
- New Shipping Dates: September 14 – 18, 2020
- Opening Reception Date: Friday, October 16, 2020
- Awards Ceremony Date: Friday, October 16, 2020
- While we will not be organizing a full convention for October, we will have a Wet Paint Competition & some lectures and demos scheduled during this time. More details to follow.

Please know, that while the exhibition has been delayed, the gallery is going to aggressively continue to promote the show through social media. OPA will also do its part to promote the show as well and we really hope you can do the same! If your painting sells between now and October, please know you will receive payment in a timely fashion. Shannon has already sold 5 paintings to date and the artists have received their checks. If you have a buyer, please help the gallery out and direct them to purchase through RS Hanna Gallery.

If you CANNOT participate in the exhibition with these new dates, we completely understand. If you need to cancel, please email Rosemary at mail@oilpaintersofamerica.com. Your painting will still be included in the catalog, but unfortunately it will not be eligible for awards. If you paid an uncrating fee already and cannot participate, we will reimburse you accordingly. And regardless of whether you exhibit or not, your acceptance into this year's National Show will count towards Signature status.



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If you signed up to attend the convention you WILL receive a full refund. Please give us a week or two to process your refund. If you have any questions, please direct them to Rosemary at mail@oilpaintersofamerica.com.

Thank you all for your patience and understanding as we navigate through these difficult and uncertain times. Stay safe and we hope to see you in October!

Sincerely,

Kurt Anderson OPA
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