

### WESTERN REGIONAL EXHIBITION HOSTED BY MARY WILLIAMS FINE ARTS



The Gold Medal in the Master Signature Division was awarded to David Hettinger OPAM for "Crazy Quilt"

Located away from the hustle and bustle of downtown Pearl Street in Boulder, Colorado is the very attractive and inviting Mary Williams Fine Arts, the location of the 2018 Western Regional Exhibition. No one could have asked for a more welcoming entrance to a gallery, where colorful pots of annuals lined the walkway into the gallery.

Artists arriving early to Boulder were invited to participate in plein air painting at a lovely private estate on the outskirts of Boulder. The property offered beautiful gardens, striking statues, and expansive views of the Flat Irons, the deep reddish sandstone formations at the base of the

foothills. The weather was perfect for a day of outdoor painting and a number of striking paintings were created during the day. The day ended with artists and guests dining at The Mediterranean Restaurant, a local establishment well known for its wide variety of delicious cuisine.

OPA President Kurt Anderson OPA started Friday morning with a painting demonstration at the gallery. He stopped throughout the demonstration to explain the technique he uses to paint portraits and answer questions, giving a most informative and enjoyable presentation. Many artists and guests then went downtown to The Boulder Dushanbe Teahouse for lunch and to enjoy a few hours of relaxation and walking around the famous Pearl Street area.

The gallery was packed on Friday evening for the Opening Reception and in anticipation of the announcement of awards. Juror of Awards Mike Desatnick OPA had a variety of subjects and styles to review before making his final decisions. Though he had prepared in advance, by studying the entries before actually seeing the paintings, this still had to be a daunting task.

Saturday morning began with an interview of Juror of Awards Mike Desatnick OPA, led by OPA President Kurt Anderson OPA. Mike recapped his colorful past and spoke about his current painting career, locations and subjects. It was a pleasant and interesting way to learn something of the background of the Western Regional Juror of Awards.

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Bryce C. Liston OPA won the Gold Medal in the Associate Division for "The Ocean Beckons"

Western Regional Show con't.

works brought in by members for input and insights by two well qualified artists.

After lunch, Kelli Folsom OPA demonstrated how she could turn an ordinary copper pot, enamel bowl, plant and a few other items into an exquisite still life painting, in only 2 hours. Talent, such as Kelli's, was appreciated by all who watched her seemingly effortless manner produce a beautiful creation.

A complete list of winners follows.

## MASTER SIGNATURE DIVISION

Gold Medal: David Hettinger OPAM for "Crazy Quilt" - \$3,500 funded by OPA

Silver Medal: Nikolo Balkanski OPAM for "Elusive Visitor" - \$500 funded by OPA

Bronze Medal: Xiao S. Jiang OPAM for "March" - merchandise certificate funded by Savoir-Faire valued at \$500 funded by OPA



Xiao S. Jiang OPAM won the Bronze Medal in the Master Signature Division for "March"

## ASSOCIATE AND SIGNATURE DIVISION

Gold Medal: Bryce C. Liston OPA for "The Ocean Beckons" - \$4,000 funded by OPA

Silver Medal: John M. Pototschnik OPA for "Rural Highway" - featured in Artist Focus section of American Art Collector Magazine - valued at \$3,400

**Bronze Medal: Lyn Boyer for** "Havana Primaries" - full page advertisement funded by *Southwest Art Magazine* valued at \$3,380

Realism Award of Excellence: Howard Lyon for "The Return of Flora" - half page advertisement funded by Fine Art Connoisseur Magazine valued at \$2,150

Impressionist Award of Excellence: Kyle Ma for "New York Sunset" - Artwork Archive Lifetime Master Account + \$750 funded by OPA

Animal Award of Excellence: Linda Besse OPA for "Breath of Fresh Air" - merchandise certificate funded by Michael Harding Handmade Artists Oil Colours valued at \$500

Figurative Award of Excellence: Lei Q. Min OPA for "Figure No. 9" - merchandise certificate funded by Blue Ridge Oil Colors valued at \$500



"Elusive Visitor" painted by Nikolo Balkanski OPAM won the Silver Medal in the Master Signature Division

Landscape Award of Excellence: Jane Hunt for "Western Skies" merchandise certificate funded by Maimeri Puro Oils valued at \$500

Portraiture Award of Excellence: Susan F. Hotard OPA for "The Imp" - merchandise certificate funded by Savoir-Faire valued at \$500

Still Life Award of Excellence: Larry J. Clingman for "Indigo Vase with Teapot" - \$500 funded by OPA

#### AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

**Deborah Tilby OPA for "Waiting in the Mist"** - merchandise certificate funded by Gamblin Artists Oil Colors valued at \$250

### David W. Terry for

"Christopher" - merchandise certificate funded by Liliedahl Video Productions valued at \$250

**Susan Hediger Matteson for** "**Snowy Eve 2**" - \$250 funded by OPA

**Jeremy Goodding for "Earthen Vessel" -** \$250 funded by OPA



The Bronze Medal in the Associate and Signature Division was awarded to Lyn Boyer for "Havana Primaries"

# FRESH IDEAS ON PAINTING

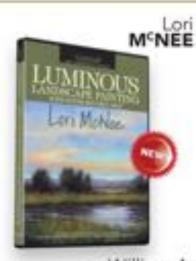


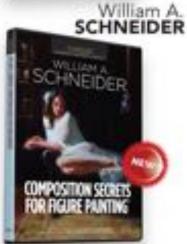
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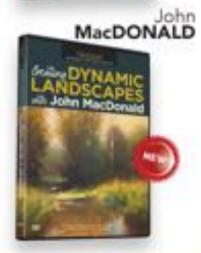














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### JUROR OF AWARDS STATEMENT MIKE DESATNICK OPA

I would like to start by thanking John Michael Carter OPAM for selecting me as the awards judge for this event as well as Kurt Anderson OPA. I am honored!

The exhibit was beautifully presented at Mary Williams Fine Arts in Boulder, Colorado. Mary and her assistant, Ani Espaiella, took extreme pride in the lighting and hanging of the show.

Before traveling to Boulder, I had the opportunity to review the works online. I

also printed the images, so that I could review them at my leisure, which I did many, many times. I have always prided myself in being able to recognize and respect good representational art, and, believe me, there were plenty to view. Unbeknownst to me at the time, I actually memorized the 90-plus images. Prior to the opening, I met with many artists, and when they described their paintings, the images immediately came to mind. Hopefully they appreciated my thorough and personal approach. This approach, however, didn't make my job any easier!

Being an artist who has painted many subjects, but has concentrated on the portrait and figure, I wanted to make a point of honoring all genre. This made for a varied and well represented exhibit.

Fortunately, I was able to select excellent images for the different categories, but always landing on the same top three. Once I reviewed the paintings in person, my choices were confirmed.

I have had many great experiences as an artist. This will always be a memorable one. The great people and beautiful art will never be erased from my mind. Hope you enjoy my award selections and the show.

Respectfully, Mike J. Desatnick OPA



Howard Lyon won the Realism Award of Excellence for "The Return of Flora"



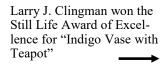
The Silver Medal in the Associate & Signature Division was awarded to John M. Pototschnik OPA for "Rural Hideaway"



Kyle Ma won the Impressionist Award of Excellence for "New York Sunset"



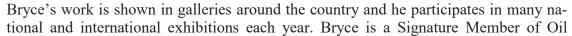
"Western Skies" by Jane Hunt won the Landscape Award of Excellence





### MEET THE WESTERN REGIONAL SHOW ASSOCIATE AND SIGNATURE DIVISION GOLD MEDAL WINNER BRYCE C. LISTON OPA

Bryce was born in Pleasant Grove, Utah in 1965. His art education started at a young age when he would go out with his mother while she painted the Utah landscape. He later went on to attend the University of Utah and Weber State. However the majority of his learning occurred in the studio and foundry of sculptor Edward J. Fraughton.



Painters of America where he has won numerous awards throughout the years. Bryce's artwork has won other frequent prestigious awards including The Tuffy Berg Award, The Honorary Chairman's Award and the *Southwest Art* Award of Excellence at the 2010 C.M. Russell Auction in Great Falls, MT. His art has also been published in many magazines as well as on book covers. He currently resides in Holladay, Utah with his wife and three daughters.





## MEET THE WESTERN REGIONAL SHOW MASTER SIGNATURE DIVISION GOLD MEDAL WINNER DAVID HETTINGER OPAM

Award winning artist, David Hettinger OPAM, began his career when he moved to New York on the advice of Joseph Welna, owner of Welna Gallery in Chicago, having virtually no worldly wisdom, only a fierce desire to "learn what it was to be a real artist". Welna began showing Hettinger's work while the young artist was still attending the American Academy of Art. After four years at the Academy, Hettinger moved to New York City where he studied with David Leffel OPAM and Richard Schmid. During his two years in Leffel's studio he painted

still-lifes and figures, always working from live models. He learned the importance of working from life, and to this day attends life drawing sketch groups twice a week to keep his drawing skills fine-tuned. With steadfast focus and determination, Hettinger made a name for himself as a fine artist and never looked back.

Today Hettinger's paintings are in private collections around the globe. He focuses on figurative work drawn from life in his Aurora, IL studio. These works represent a lifetime of observing everyday relationships between people. Relationships and the sweet subtleties shared between human beings is at the core of the man *and* the artist that Hettinger has become. The fleeting human treasure of those subtle moments between people is apparent in Hettinger's work in a true way, because it is Hettinger's truth. Forty years of drawing and painting from life have enabled Hettinger to work up concepts for paintings based on past experiences and life's observations. He often begins a painting without models or references, pulling a scene from a past memory. Models are hired for figurative paintings only after a concept is drawn out on canvas. Hettinger doesn't think of his figurative pieces as portraits or paintings of people but rather of relationships and moments in time. Every painting for Hettinger is a present experience in which he is reliving a past experience. Even his still-lifes hold personal memories for him. His mother was a gardener who loved to save plants from the summer by bringing them into the house over the winter. Windowsills were filled with potted plants. Now his paintings are of those potted plants sitting on the windowsill with a landscape outside.

He is a Master Signature member of Oil Painters of America. He has won awards for his landscapes, still-lifes, and figurative paintings. His work has been reviewed in *American Artist Magazine* 1993, *The Artist Magazine* 2003 and *International Artist* 2004, and won the OPA National Gold Medal Award in 2010 and Western Regional Gold Medal Award in 2018.





Linda Besse OPA won the Animal Award of Excellence for "Breath of Fresh Air"



"Christopher" painted by David W. Terry won an Award of Excellence



The Figurative Award of Excellence was given to Lei Q. Min OPA for "Figure No. 9"

### NATIONAL ADVANCED REGISTRATION DATE

If you are planning on attending the 2019 National Exhibition, Convention and Wet Paint Competition remember that there is a lower price if you register by March 15. This Early Bird Registration is \$325 for OPA members. After March 15 the rate increases to \$375 for OPA members. For more information, see page 13.

### 2018 WESTERN REGIONAL EXHIBITION PHOTOS



Inviting entrance to Mary Williams Fine Arts



Plein Air painting at a private estate with the Flat Irons as the back drop



Artists and guests share a pleasant dinner at The Mediterranean Restaurant



Opening Reception, prior to the Awards Ceremony, at Mary Williams Fine Arts



OPA President Kurt Anderson OPA interviews Juror of Awards Mike Desatnick OPA



Demonstrator Kelli Folsom OPA stands next to her completed still life painting



"Snowy Eve 2" painted by Susan Hediger Matteson was given an Award of Excellence



Jeremy Goodding won an Award of Excellence for "Earthen Vessel"



The Portraiture Award of Excellence was given to Susan F. Hotard OPA for "The Imp"



"Waiting In The Mist" painted by Deborah Tilby OPA won an Award of Excellence



Wet Paint Competition: May 6-8 • Convention Events: May 6-10 • Exhibition: May 10 - June 7

Illume Gallery of Fine Art • Saint George, Utah

### Monday, May 6

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Registration Open

Location: Illume Gallery of Fine Art under the OPA Tent

Registered attendees can pick up their registration packets and have their canvas stamped. On-site registration is available as well.

#### 8:00 a.m. - OPA's "Southwest Treasures" Wet Paint Competition Begins!

OPA's "Southwest Treasures" Wet Paint Competition begins bright and early Monday morning! Registered attendees\* will vie for approximately \$15,000 in awards. A first, second and third place will be given in two categories: studio and plein air, with remaining awards given based on the discretion of the Juror of Awards.

The state of Utah is a plein air painter's playground. Just an hour away from St. George is the majestic Zion National Park, or just 9 miles north of St. George are the beautiful red rocks at Snow Canyon State Park. Looking for more greenery? Try the Pine Valley Mountains about 30 minutes outside of St. George. The city of Pine Valley also is home to the Pine Valley Ward Chapel which is the oldest Mormon chapel in continuous use.



Zion National Park

Canvas must be officially stamped by an OPA or Illume Gallery representative prior to painting. Maximum canvas size is 320 square inches. All paintings must be framed and wired for hanging to be in the competition & sale. Admission fees into any of the parks are not included and are the responsibility of the artist.

\*Please Note: Only attendees who have paid a full convention registration fee are eligible to participate in the wet paint sale & competition. Eligible convention attendees are guaranteed one painting in the exhibition; however, two or more paintings will be considered based on the number of participating attendees, so please come prepared. Please see the competition rules for the full details.

Wet Paint Rules can be found at: www.oilpaintersofamerica.com/2019wetpaint

### Tuesday, May 7

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Registration Open

Location: Illume Gallery of Fine Art under the OPA Tent

Registered attendees can pick up their registration packets and have their canvas stamped. On-site registration is available as well.

### 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - OPA's "Southwest Treasures" Wet Paint Sale & Competition

Both plein air and studio artists have the opportunity to paint. OPA will provide models for artists wishing to paint indoors or feel free to bring your own props. Plein air artists – you are free to explore the area! \*Please note: Admission fees to the parks are the responsibility of the artist.

## 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. – Welcome to St. George! Opening Reception Hosted by *Southwest Art Magazine*

**Location: Outdoors at the Painted Pony Restaurant** 

Help us get this year's conference off to a great start by joining us at OPA's Welcome Reception sponsored by *Southwest Art* Magazine. Come for a glass of wine and scrumptious appetizers. It's a friendly, welcoming group so don't miss out on an opportunity to meet new friends, mingle and network.



**Snow Canyon State Park** 

### Wednesday, May 8

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Registration Open

Location: Illume Gallery of Fine Art under the OPA Tent

Registered attendees can pick up their registration packets and have their canvas stamped. On-site registration is available as well.

### 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. - Southwest Art Magazine's Pampered Paint Out

Location: Dixie Academy

This event is all about you, the artist! Enjoy a continental breakfast, followed by a delicious lunch and great music, compliments of our good friends at *Southwest Art* Magazine. A little tired from standing all morning? Sign-up on-site for a 10-minute massage with a massage therapist – it might be just what you need! OPA will provide models and props and plein air artists will find no shortage of subject matter in the historic area of downtown St. George. Don't forget framed paintings for the competition are due at the Red Cliff Gallery between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.





Wet Paint Competition: May 6 - 8 • Convention Events: May 6 - 10 • Exhibition: May 10 - June 7

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4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. - Deadline for the Wet Paint Competition

**Location: Red Cliff Gallery** 

Drop off at Red Cliff Gallery for the Wet Paint Competition begins promptly at 4:00 p.m. and ends at 7:00 p.m. There will be plenty of volunteers on hand to make the process run as smoothly as possible. Paintings should be framed and wired for hanging. If you don't want to bring frames with you, OPA will offer participants the opportunity to purchase frames in advance for on-site pick-up. More details to follow.

### Thursday, May 9

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Registration & Exhibits Open

Location: Electric Theater/Arrowhead Gallery

Attendees may pick up their registration packets at the Electric Theater and visit the exhibitors located right next store in the Arrowhead Gallery. Be sure to plan ahead by leaving some extra room in your suitcase to take home some new art supplies! Even better, artists who visit each exhibitor and have their exhibitor cards stamped are eligible to enter the special exhibitors raffle basket drawing!

### 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - Painting Demonstration with Juror of Awards Kenn Erroll Backhaus OPAM Location: Electric Theater

Kenn Backhaus is a Master Signature artist in both the Oil Painters of America and the American Impressionist Society. He is a member and past President of the Plein Air Painters of America, the oldest and most prestigious plein air organization in the country. He has also achieved Signature Member status, the highest level, in the California Art Club, one of the oldest and most active art organizations in the country.

His paintings have won numerous awards, including Best in Show, Collector's Choice, Master's Award of Excellence and Artists' Choice Awards. His work has been included in several museum shows. Kenn was one of the host artists in the APT Television Series, Passport and Palette and the PBS Series Plein Air, Painting the American Landscape. Kenn was featured in the *PleinAir* Magazine's June/July issue, 2016. In addition, his painting graced the cover of *PleinAir* Magazine in the fall of 2011, and his work also appeared in an article in March of 2012.



His paintings were published in two books, *Art of the National Parks*, in 2013 and in the book, *100 Plein Air Painters of the Mid-Atlantic*, in 2014. In November of 2014, Kenn was invited, along with 9 other artists, on a painting trip to China by Chinese-American Master Artist, Zhiwei Tu OPAM and the Zhiwei Tu Museum of China. This trip proved to be a great honor and a very humbling experience. Kenn is very passionate about the historic traditions of representational painting and has given back to the profession for over twenty years in various educational programs and workshops. Kenn continues to look for new opportunities to foster the arts and is currently involved through the internet with on-line educational programs. Kenn's experience has long been recognized, and he has been asked to judge numerous national shows.

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch Break

1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. - Painting Demonstrations

**Location: Arrowhead Gallery** 

**Lyn Boyer's** two great passions in life are carrying on the great traditions of representational oil painting and passing that torch to her students. She is an award-winning plein air and studio oil painter with works that hang in private collections across the United States. After returning from studying art in Melbourne, Australia, Lyn began a 25-year career as an American illustrator and painter, garnering awards from the Oil Painters of America, *Fine Art Connoisseur* Magazine, *Southwest Art*, the Society of Illustrators, the Art Directors Club, the Illustrators Workshops, and the American Institute of Graphic Arts among others.

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**Michael Malm** is well versed in a variety of painting styles, from still life's to landscapes, but he is perhaps best known for his impressionistic paintings of figures. The surrounding rural communities and settings provide backdrops for his figural paintings and inspiration for his landscapes. His serious study began under Del Parson at Dixie College where he completed his associate degree. He then went to Southern Utah University where he had the opportunity to study with Perry Stewart and complete his formal education at Utah State University where he received a Master of Fine Arts Degree studying under Glen Edwards. He is also grateful to have studied under some great artists including Richard Schmid, Burton Silverman, Daniel Gerhartz OPAM, Quang Ho OPAM, Ron Hicks, Michael Workman, and Jim Norton.





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**Stephanie Birdsall OPA** loves to paint from life. She is enchanted by the way light falls on her subject and travels through it. Her goal is to share the softness and mystery that it brings to her paintings. She graduated from The City and Guilds of London Art School, London, England. In 2004, she was invited to paint with the Putney Painters, founded by Richard Schmid and Nancy Guzik. This ultimately inspired her move to New England and the proximity to VT. She currently lives in a converted barn with a huge north light window.



**Ron Rencher** is a native of Utah and is currently a resident of Canyon Lake, TX by way of 14 years in Taos, NM from 1987 to 2001. He earned a B.A. degree in Fine Art at Southern Utah University. His post collegiate art education included classes with Ned Jacob, Mark Daily, Dan Gerhartz OPAM, Lowell Ellsworth Smith, and Milford Zornes. His artistic mentors include, Len Chmiel, Dan Pinkham, Walt Gonske, and the late Jim Jones. He has won numerous awards and has been featured in several books and magazines including: Art of the National Parks; Historic Connections, Contemporary Interpretations, Fresco Books; Painters of Utah's Canyons and Deserts, Gibbs Smith Publisher; Enchanted Isle, A History of Plein Air Painting in Catalina Island; feature articles in Art of the West, American Artist, The Artist's Magazine, Plein Air Magazine; and the PBS series Plein Air: Painting the American Landscape.



**Doug Fryer** was born in Salt Lake City, Utah, and was raised in Illinois and California. In 1988 he received his BFA in Illustration from Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. He later returned to BYU for further study toward an MFA in Painting and Drawing, receiving his degree in 1995. Fryer has taught fine art and illustration at several universities and art schools, including Brigham Young University; the University of Hartford, New York City's Fashion Institute of Technology, and Snow College in Ephraim, Utah.

4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - "The Relationships Between Collector, Gallery and Artist" Location: Electric Theater

This session will bring together top artists and art executives to exchange ideas and share their opinions on how to build a successful business relationship between the artist, gallery, and collector. Moderator and owner of Illume Gallery of Fine Art, Jane Bell Meyer, will delve into why it is important for artists to have a knowledge of their collectors, how a gallery may best serve their collectors, and why it is of value to have an open dialogue between all 3 parties with the goal of achieving an exceptional, long-term working relationship.



7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. - American Art Collector Magazine's Celebratory Party Location: Entrada at Snow Canyon Country Club

There is no better place to showcase the stunning beauty of southern Utah than at Entrada at Snow Canyon Country Club. After an exciting week of painting, demos and other activities it is time to unwind. As always, *American Art Collector* Magazine has stepped up to sponsor what has become one of the most highly anticipated events of the week. Dinner, sodas and coffee provided. Alcoholic beverages are not included – cash bar available.

### Friday, May 10

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - Registration & Exhibits Open Location: Electric Theater/Arrowhead Gallery

Attendees can pick up their registration packets and visit the exhibitors located right next door in the Arrowhead Gallery. Artists who visit each exhibitor and have their exhibitor cards stamped are eligible to enter the special exhibitor raffle basket drawing!



8:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. - Painting Demonstration with Lori Putnam OPA Location: Electric Theater

Prior to becoming a full-time, fine artist in 2005, Putnam owned a successful graphic design business for 13 years. In 2008 and 2009, she and her husband Mark sold their home and belongings and traveled to the Italian countryside. The sole purpose was personal study and artistic experimentation. The concentrated work accomplished during that 7-month period culminated in an impressive breakthrough. While she considers herself primarily self-taught, the advice and support of Scott Christensen, Quang Ho OPAM, and Dawn Whitelaw have been key to the artist's development and success.

No stranger to hard work and dedication, her career has soared. Featured in numerous issues of major magazines, Putnam is now recognized as one of the finest American Impressionists of our time. She served as an Artist Faculty Demonstrator



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for the Annual Plein Air Convention for six years and has been keynote speaker and guest lecturer at many other notable events in the U.S. and abroad. Her sold-out workshops are a testament to her teaching style and her gratitude to those who taught and nurtured her.

Lori has exhibited with many respected organizations including, but not limited to, the Salmagundi Club in New York City, the Oil Painters of America, Laguna Plein Air Painters Association, the California Art Club, and the American Impressionists Society. Additionally, both Lori's plein air and studio paintings have received awards too numerous to count. Some of her more recent accolades have come from the Salmagundi Club in New York City, the Portrait Society of America, The American Impressionist's Society, the Oil Painters of America, All Along the Sierra Exhibition, National Oil and Acrylic Painters Society, and the Forgotten Coast Plein Air Invitational. Currently, Putnam also serves on the Board for Art Ambassador for a Colorful World, founded by Kevin Macpherson OPAM, whose belief it is that art has the power to change the world.

## 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – Studio Safety 101: Luncheon Presentation with Joe Gyurcsak OPA, AIS, ISAP, Resident Artists Brand Manager of Blick/Utrecht Artists Materials

**Location: Dixie Academy** 

Artists are very much familiar with paints and mediums, but many are not so familiar with personal, studio and environmental safety. OPA Signature artist Joe Gyurcsak will provide a comprehensive look into the labeling, usage and disposal of fine art materials. In this 1-hour presentation, artists will be educated on all the elements of exposure and best protection as a daily practice. As an added feature, artists will learn about the invention of Utrecht Cadmium-Free Artists Colors and why it is creating a major shift in the artist's market place! A brief Q&A period will conclude this session as artists enjoy this fantastic luncheon!

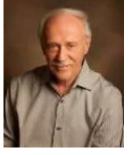


### 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. - Painting Demonstration with Gary Ernest Smith

**Location: Electric Theater** 

Gary Ernest Smith was born in the rural farm community of Baker City, Oregon in 1942. He exhibited an interest in art at an early age. His parents recognized his talent and encourage his ability through his youthful years. Gary began selling his landscapes and portraits while in Jr. High and High School. After graduating from high school and attending a workshop at his aunt's gallery in Lincoln Beach, Oregon, Gary was determined to get a college degree and teach art.

Gary met and married musician, Judy Asay in 1967. He completed a Bachelor's Degree and was pursuing a Master's degree when he was drafted into the Vietnam war. Following basic training he was assigned to Ft. McLellan, Alabama teaching at an NCO Academy. After a year he was sent to Korea for six months and was released from active duty. Throughout his military service, he pursued his Master of Arts in Painting at Brigham Young University where he taught part time and served as gallery director at the Harris Fine Arts Center. The friends he knew in college had all moved on by that time and after graduating he decided to pursue a career in painting rather than teach. It was very hard in the beginning, but after



ten years of commissions and perseverance, he met art dealer and agent, Ray Johnson from Minneapolis, Minnesota. Ray developed Gary's national career over the next forty years and still serves today as Gary's good friend and agent.

Gary Ernest Smith broke on to the national art scene in 1983 with paintings and sculptures that deal with his rural roots, the subject matter being both historic and contemporary. He has had more than forty one-man and group shows in galleries and museums in the US and throughout the world. His paintings have been displayed in such museums as the Brooklyn Museum of Art in New York Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, Ohio, Eiteljorg Museum of American Art, Indianapolis, Indiana, Denver Museum of Art, Denver, Colorado, Phoenix Museum of Art, Phoenix, Arizona to name a few. Gary has been featured in numerous publications such as *Southwest Art, Art of the West, Western Art Collector, Western Art and Architecture*. A book on his life and work was published in the late 90's titled "Holding Ground: The Art of Gary Ernest Smith" by Donald Hagerty.

## 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. - OPA's 28th Annual National Exhibition Opening Reception Location: Illume Gallery of Fine Art, Authentique Gallery and Mission Gallery

Please join us for a very special evening as we celebrate the opening of OPA's 28th Annual National Exhibition held at Illume Gallery of Fine Art and its 2 sister galleries: Authentique and Mission Galleries. These three elegant galleries, located side by side, will showcase the beautiful paintings that are part of this year's exhibition.

## 8:15 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. - Oil Painters of America's Awards & Recognition Ceremony Location: Electric Theater

OPA's Awards Ceremony celebrates the highest achievement and excellence in representational oil painting. Join us on Friday evening as we honor this year's National award winners and Wet Paint competition winners. Presentations will also be made to recognize artists who achieved the Signature and Master Signature designation in 2018.



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9:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Visit the Wet Paint Competition Paintings!

**Location: Red Cliff Gallery** 

After the awards ceremony, drop by the Red Cliff Gallery to take in the paintings from this year's "Southwest Treasures" Wet Paint Competition. Coffee, soda and dessert will be served. Please note: The gallery will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday as well.

### Saturday, May 11

8:00 a.m. to Noon – Registration & Exhibits Open Location: Electric Theater/Arrowhead Gallery

Last call to buy art supplies from your favorite vendors! Don't miss out. Exhibitor Raffle Basket winner will be chosen at 12:45 p.m. after the final demonstration of the day.

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. - OPA's Annual Business Meeting

**Location: Arrowhead Gallery** 

Find out what's new in the organization and what the future holds as OPA's Board of Directors discusses the state of the organization. This is the time to ask questions and voice your opinions.

9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - Painting Exhibitor Demos

**Location: Arrowhead Gallery** 

Back by popular demand! Watch some of your favorite artists demonstrate their painting expertise using our exhibitors' products. A great opportunity for you to meet top artists and to see what products they like to use.

11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. - Painting Demonstration by David Dibble OPA

**Location: Electric Theater** 

Born in 1977, David Dibble OPA was raised on a farm in Davis County, Utah, where he was influenced by the landscape from an early age. He completed a BFA in Illustration from Brigham Young University and began landscape painting in earnest in graduate school at the Academy of Art University. Following the Academy, he and his wife Liz moved to New York, where he worked as a color artist for Blue Sky Studios (20th Century Fox), creating Concept Design for such films as Rio, Epic, Ice Age 4, Peanuts, and Ferdinand. David and his family now reside in Orem, Utah, where he teaches Illustration at Brigham Young University and paints often in the surrounding mountains and valleys, focusing largely on agricultural themes.

**ADVANCED REGISTRATION INFORMATION** OPA has customized the registration process to meet your convention needs. Registration includes options to attend the entire convention or individual days. Attendees must pay the full registration fee to participate in the Wet Paint Sale and Competition.

**HOW TO REGISTER FOR THE CONVENTION** <u>To register online</u>, visit www.oilpaintersofamerica.com. Click on the National Exhibition & Convention Registration link found on the home page. <u>To register by mail</u>, complete the registration form and mail it into OPA, PO Box 2488, Crystal Lake, IL. 60039-2488, with a check or credit card information. Please, one registrant per form. Students must provide proof of student status.

**EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT!** Save money and secure your spot by registering right now. Last day to receive the early bird discount is Friday, March 15. Mailed in registration forms must be postmarked by March 15, 2019, in order to receive the Early Bird discount and must arrive in the OPA office no later than Friday, March 22, 2019.

Please Note: Full registration IS required to participate in the Wet Paint Sale & Competition. A one-day registration includes all activities and social events listed for that day. Registration is NOT required to attend the 28th National Exhibition Opening Reception on Friday evening at Illume Gallery of Fine Art or the Awards & Recognition Ceremony at The Electric Theater. Both events are free and open to the public.

**ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION NOTES** - Advanced Registration Deadline **by Mail** is Monday, April 22, 2019 or **Online** by Monday, April 29, 2019. To register via mail, complete the registration form and mail it into OPA, PO Box 2488, Crystal Lake, IL. 60039-2488 with a check or credit card information. Please, one registrant per form. Students must provide proof of student status.

**CANCELLATION/REFUNDS** An 80% refund of registration fees is allowed if a written request is sent to OPA headquarters 14 days prior to the scheduled start date of the convention. No refunds are made after this date. Requests for refunds must be postmarked no later than Monday, April 22, 2019, and must arrive in the OPA office no later than Monday, April 29, 2019. OPA assesses a \$25 administrative charge for all returned checks. NO refunds will be issued onsite or for failure to attend.

**SPECIAL REQUESTS:** If you have any special requirements under the ADA, e-mail your request to Rosemary Murray at least 30 days before opening day of convention to assure reasonable accommodation. Email to: mail@oilpaintersofamerica.com.



# 28th National Exhibition & Convention Wet Paint Competition: May 6-8 Convention Events: May 6-10 Exhibition: May 10 - June 7

Registration Type	Thr	y Bird ough ch 15	Advanced Through April 29	Onsite May 6 – 11	Total	
<b>Full Registration includes</b> wet paint sale & competition, OPA tradeshow, all educational presentations and social events including the Welcome Reception and AAC's Celebration. Party						
☐ OPA Member – Full Registration	\$3	325	\$375	\$425		
☐ Non-Member* – Full Registration	\$3	350	\$400	\$450		
Student – must be a part-time or full-time s under the age of 25 and provide a valid student	tudent ID		\$200	\$225		
<b>Daily Registration includes</b> **A Full Registration is require						
Daily Registration			Advanced	Onsite		
☐ One Day – Thursday, May 9* (Includes AAC Celebration Party)			\$135 member/ \$145 non-member	\$145 member/ \$155 non-member		
☐ One Day – Friday, May 10*			\$135 member/ \$145 non-member	145 member/ \$155 non-member		
☐ One Day – Saturday, May 11*			\$135 member/ \$145 non-member	\$145 member/ \$155 non-member		
Individuals/Spouses not registe	red to attend the co	nvention	may register for the	following events		
Ala Carte			Advanced	Onsite		
Southwest Art Magazine's Welcome Recept Tuesday, May 7 (Member & Non–Member)	ion		\$35	\$50		
☐ <i>American Art Collector's</i> Closing Party Thursday, May 9 (Member & Non-Member)			\$50	\$75		
Please type or print clearly and use black or (Please, only one registrant per form				TOTAL DUE:		
□ OPA Member □ Non-member Artist		nember collector   Non-member guest/spouse				
Last Name						
Address		City		_ State Zip		
Phone ()	E-m	ail				
Method of Payment: ☐ Check ☐ MasterCard	□ Visa □ Discov	er □ Am	erican Express TOTA	AL DUE:		
Credit Card Number:(Please print clearly)		I	Expiration Date:	CVV:		
Print Name on Card						
If credit card billing address is different from mailing address:						
Billing Address	City_			StateZip		

<sup>\*</sup>Non-member artists may apply for membership onsite to qualify for member rate. Please bring 2 photos of your recent work to be eligible. Or apply now at: www.oilpaintersofamerica.com

"Father of My Father" by David Dibble won First Place in the Associate Division



"Bioluminescence IV" by Rob Rey OPA won First Place in the Signature Division

### ANNOUNCING THE FALL 2018 ONLINE SHOWCASE WINNERS

MaryBeth Karaus OPA had her hands full reviewing almost 600 entries in the Fall 2018 Online showcase. As always, this Showcase offered members the opportunity to submit any size and subject matter of painting for jurying. With these criteria, MaryBeth viewed a variety of diverse, interesting and quality paintings. Thank you MaryBeth for your hard work on jurying this Showcase. We also thank Dorothy Driehaus Mellin and The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, for their ongoing financial support of the Online Showcases.

### **Associate Winners**

First Place: David Dibble for "Father of My Father" Second Place: Derek Penix for "Peach Orchard"

Third Place: Kyle Stuckey for "Marcus"

### **Signature Winners**

First Place: Rob Rey OPA for "Bioluminescence IV" Second Place: Adam Clague OPA for "Beloved" Third Place: Mary Pettis OPA for "Road to the Sea"

Honorable Mentions: Kyle Ma for "White Peonies", Bart Lindstrom for "Bart Lindstrom-Holland", Jon Tocchini for "Funny Money", Connie Lynn Reilly for "Peony I", Trent Gudmundsen for "Momentarily Distracted", Kathleen Coy for "The Thinker", Allie Zeyer for "Wandering Path", Brian Cote for "In the Shade of Summer", Claudia Selene for "Pot Latch", Jane Hunt for "Looking West", Katherine Galbraith OPA for "The White Horse", Deborah Tilby OPA for "High Oaks Farm" and Kirk Larsen OPA for "The Gangster Legacy".

UNCOMPROMISING TEXTURE
BEAUTIFULLY PIGMENTED
BRUSH STROKES THAT HOLD
ENVIABLY INVITING

ENVIABLY INVITING

The Spring, 2019 Online Showcase is open for accepting entries March 1st through May 15. This competition is open to Associate members only.

## EMERALD ISLE, NORTH CAROLINA PAINT OUT A GREAT SUCCESS

Host Irene Bailey related the following about the North Carolina Paint Out. "We had 25 artists participate. We had windy and cloudy weather off and on through the event. Everyone had a great time and came away with some very nice paintings. I had three new artists tell me they want to participate next year. At the art show we had about 200 people go through. Several paintings were sold. All in all everyone had a great time and are looking forward to next year."

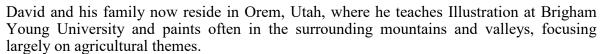






## MEET THE ASSOCIATE ONLINE SHOWCASE WINNER DAVID DIBBLE

Born in 1977, David Dibble was raised on a farm in Davis County, Utah, where he was influenced by the landscape from an early age. He completed a BFA in Illustration from Brigham Young University and began landscape painting in earnest in graduate school at the Academy of Art University. Following the Academy he and his wife Liz moved to New York, where he worked as a color artist for Blue Sky Studios (20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox), creating Concept Design for such films as Rio, Epic, Ice Age 4, Peanuts, and Ferdinand.







### MEET THE SIGNATURE ONLINE SHOWCASE WINNER ROB REY OPA

Originally from a suburb north of Chicago, Rob hiked across New England on the Appalachian Trail before going on to study at the Rhode Island School of Design, graduating with a BFA in Illustration. Rob now lives in Denver, CO.

While his foremost passion is for learning of any kind, Rob's interests are frequently peaked by natural sciences like astronomy and physics as well as social sciences like psychology and sociology. These interests commonly influence his work, as do a

multitude of inspiring artists from classical art to golden age illustration and contemporary representational art. Through his love of the medium of oil, he strives to make pictures that are not only beautiful, but thought-provoking as well. Above all, he feels that a successful painting must convey emotion in order to connect with the viewer in a lasting way.

Rob strives to paint inspiring science in poetic ways. Through countless mythological traditions, humanity has proven to have a deep-seated need for awe-inspiring stories and the experience of wonder. With a powerful resonance, mythological stories provide a framework for understanding where we fit in our communities, and in our cosmos. They can also give us a feeling of shared connection and participation with the rest of humanity, helping us to show our more caring and compassionate side. What are the resonant, positive, and awe-inspiring stories of today? How can our expanding scientific knowledge provide a myth-like enchantment with the natural world and grow our empathic interests toward our fellow humans? Exploring these questions visually, Rob hopes to promote or create the stories that best help us to achieve these goals. See more at robreyfineart.com.

Rob has received numerous awards, including 1st Place, Gold, or Best in Show awards from the National Oil & Acrylic Painters Society, Richeson75, BoldBrush, Spectrum Fantastic Art annual, and the Infected by Art annual competitions.

### ALMOST EVERYONE CAN HELP THROUGH AMAZONSMILE

It seems that in today's world almost everyone buys something online, through Amazon, or knows someone who shops via Amazon. Any purchase made through Amazon can benefit Oil Painters of America, at no cost to the purchaser. Not all purchases qualify for a donation, but those that do will give 0.5% to OPA. To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to: smile.amazon.com. If you currently have an Amazon account you may use this for future donations. It's easy, and goes toward promoting representational oil painting. Please help OPA take advantage of this great opportunity.

### NOTES FROM YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **GREAT PAINT OUTS**

It's time to start planning your fall activities. Why not consider hosting an OPA Great Paint Out. These events are held in the United States and Canada, depending on where you live and where you want to paint. Paint Outs range from one day to long weekends and are open to your creativity as to what you want to do. Consider a single day of painting or a few days of painting with an exhibition and sale at the end. The opportunities are endless. For more information or to sign up to host an event, please visit the OPA website and look under the "Education & Events" menu for "Paint Outs".

### **2019 NATIONAL EXHIBITION**

Plans are being finalized for this year's National Exhibition, Convention & Wet Paint Competition. For those who attended one of these events recently, you know how much fun and informative this week can be. For those who have never attended a national show, you are missing an unbelievable experience. Note that the Early Bird Rate is only good through March 15. So register now and avoid the last minute rush to visit Illume Gallery, Saint George, UT, with activities beginning on Monday, May 6.

The yearly General Meeting is part of the National Exhibition and is open to all current OPA members. A review of past accomplishments will be given as well as an introduction to what lies ahead for OPA. The election of board members is also included. The following slate is submitted for re-election at this meeting:

Susan Abma John Michael Carter OPAM Stuart Fullerton Jane Hunt William Suys Jr OPA Zhiwei Tu OPAM

### SHIRL SMITHSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

One of the benefits of being an Associate Member in OPA is the availability of a scholarship to attend an oil painting workshop. Each year four \$500 scholarships are awarded to members (one of these to a student) to help further their oil painting careers. This year the board awarded scholarships to the following members: DK Palecek, Laurie Snow Hein, Ester Wilson and Cassandra Ronning (student). Congratulations to this year's scholarship winners.

### SIGNATURE MEMBERS ANNOUNCED

The Board of Directors proudly announces the elevation of the following artists to Signature status: Karen Budan, Angela Campbell, Larry Clingman, Gene Costanza, David Dibble, Joseph Gyurcsak, Greg LaRock, Christine Lashley, Leah Lopez, Kyle Ma, Jeff Merrill, David Mueller and Sabina Turner.

Members who have newly received the status of Signature or Master Signature Member will be recognized and receive their pins at the 2019 National Exhibition and Convention in May.

### MASTER SIGNATURE MEMBERS ANNOUNCED

The Board of Directors is pleased to introduce the newest Master Signature Members: Cindy Baron and William Schneider. This designation is attained after years of hard work and exhibiting exceptional talent in representational oil painting.



### MEET THE NEWEST MASTER SIGNATURE MEMBERS

### **Cindy Baron OPAM**

Cindy is nationally recognized in both watercolors and oils, painting the grand landscapes of the western mountains and coastal shorelines.

Cindy was raised in South Bend, Indiana and has had the experience of living all over the country. Her art career started early when her first grade teacher noticed her drawings, which lead to weekends assisting teachers through high school at the Art Center in town. A full time artist, she conducts workshops across the country and internationally and has taught at the Rhode Island School of Design in their Continuing Ed. Department.

Her passion in the arts began with pastels, which then led to watercolors. She is among a select group of artists who have received acknowledgment from her peers in both mediums. A plein-air painter enthusiast and her extensive travels have given Cindy an abundance of information and knowledge, which she shares with her students and she offers Continuing Education classes to teachers. She has had the privilege of judging many shows and has been featured in numerous publications.

Her paintings reflect the beauty that is found in nature. She can capture beauty in a blustering storm or the tranquil air of everyday places. Her portraitures relay a story of human life as though they were family or friend. The versatility of mediums and subjects keeps her energized, excited and creative. She finds that each medium has influenced the other, which gives her paintings a wall of their own.

Notes From the Board con't.

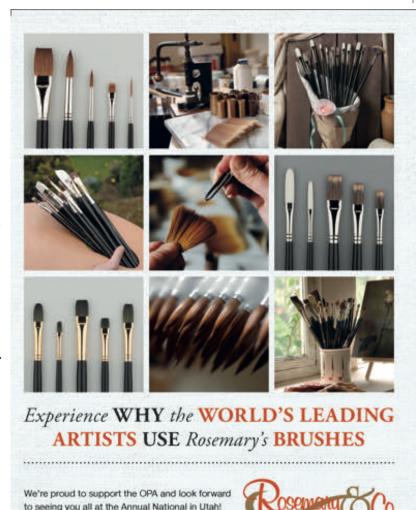
### William A. Schneider OPA

William A. Schneider paints primarily from life, he seeks to capture the emotion of a particular moment and place. Sargent, Zorn, Fechin and Sorolla have been influences.

After careers in music and finance he returned to his first love, painting, in 1990. His shills were honed during eight years at the American Academy of Art's Saturday Program in Chicago, where he studied figure drawing with Bill Parks and oil painting with Ted Smuskiewicz. He continued his education through workshops with Carolyn Anderson, Dan Gerhartz OPAM, Scott Burdick, Harley Brown OPAM, Scott Christensen, Hiuhan Liu OPAM, David Leffel OPAM, and Richard Schmid among others. William commented "The wonderful thing about art is that you can always get better. I view myself as a perpetual student!"

William has been featured in numerous publications and has received extensive awards as well as the Pastel Society of America having recognized him as a "Master Pastelist", The International Assoc. of Pastel Societies has named him to the Masters' Circle and AIS made him a Master Signature Member.

His home is in the Village of Lakewood, IL, with his wife, Caren.



### **MORE 2018 GREAT PAINTOUT PHOTOS**

www.rosemaryandco.com | +44 1535 632666







### ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA



Host Martha Ferguson said that their show was great fun! They had approximately 30 artists from around NE Florida painting on Saturday and Sunday last October. They also had good press representation and there was an article in the paper with a couple of the artists. - What a great way to have fun and advertise.



PAONIA, COLORADO

The Paint Out hosted by Cedar Keshet in Paonia was a success! 10 artists participated and had a great time! Not only did they paint but they also ate really well at the local farm market cafes and had a fun night out on Saturday. The spouses who came with artists brought their bikes and mountain biked on trails around town.

A good time was had by all.

### PAINTING OUR FUTURE NEWS BRIEFS AND SPECIAL OCCASIONS

announce that she was elected an Artist Member of the Salmagundi Club, NYC. Also, her painting "And Then She Was Gone" won the Bronze Medal at the Women Artists of the West's 48th Annual National Exhibition, last Sept.-Nov. at Price Tower, Bartlesville, OK.

Ramona Dooley's plein air painting "Cottage Late Morning Shadows" won First Place-Buildings at the 27th Tewksbury Juried Art Exhibition in October.

**Ilene Gienger-Stanfield** won the Best of Master Signatures Award at the Women Artists of the 2018 West Tallgrass Rendezvous for her painting "Decisions".

Lili Anne Laurin was noted as one of the "Artists to Watch - The Editors' Choice for Up-and-Coming Talent" in a recent Southwest Art Magazine.

Carol Lindemulder's exhibition my of Fine Arts. "Carol Lindemulder: Color Story" opened on February 9 and runs

Victoria Castillo OPA is pleased to through May 5 at the San Diego History Center. It features a selection of her oil paintings dating from 1996-2018 and highlights her dedication to recording the region's beauty.

> Nancy and Lisa Quatrocchi, mother and daughter OPA members were pleased to have 4 paintings accepted into the 27th Tewksbury Juried Art Exhibit, held in New Jersey.

> Patrick Saunders OPA's painting "A Window Onto Bentley's Backyard" was featured on the cover of the September, 2018 Southwest Art Magazine, with an article describing the painting's creation and other insights into his work.

> William Schneider OPAM had the incredible opportunity to demonstrate and be a panelist at the 2018 Figurative Art Convention & Expo in Miami, FL. Additionally, his painting "A Deeper Meaning" won Second Place in the 2018 National Art Show at the New Orleans Acade

John Stobart OPAM was one of two artists exhibiting at Eisele Gallery's November through December exhibition. The exhibition highlighted new works, including the very first painting Stobart created of Cincinnati.

William A. Suys Jr OPA won Second Place in the Richeson75 International Portrait and Figurative Exhibition 2018 as well as 9th Place and dual Finalist, Animals and Finalist, Still Life at the Portrait Society of America Members Only Exhibition in 2018.

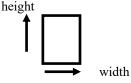
Ni Zhu was noted as one of the "Artists to Watch - The Editors' Choice for Up-and-Coming Talent" in the September, 2018 Southwest Art Magazine.

A number of OPA members shared the spotlight in Ft. Wayne, IN. at Castle Gallery Fine Art's "Art Harvest" last November: Fred Doloresco OPA, Jason Sacran, Doreen St. John OPA and Jill Stefani Wagner.

### A FEW REMINDERS ON ENTERING IMAGES FOR JURYING

It has come to the review committee's attention that we need to remind entrants a few things before submitting entries for the next show:

Entries should be measured Height x Width



- Images should be of unframed paintings
- The name you use when entering an image in Juried Art Services should be the same as the name you enter in the OPA data base. Please use the name under which you paint and/or are represented.
- Please confirm that the address/contact information you enter in Juried Art Services is the same address/ contact information you enter in the OPA membership data base. We may try to contact you through either data base and if one is not updated your correspondence may be delayed.

Thanks for your cooperation.

### **IN MEMORIAM**

With deep sympathy to family and friends, we note the passing of Bob Newman of Minneapolis, Minnesota, an OPA member since 2007.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

**September - November - 14th** Annual Great Paint Out held throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico

For more information, visit: www.oilpaintersofamerica.com and go to "Paints Outs" under the "Education & Events" menu.

**September 1** – Deadline for submission for 2019 Master Signature membership status. Minimum requirement is current Signature status.

**October 15** - Deadline for submission for Signature membership status. Minimum requirement is current Associate status. Two options are available for application. Visit the OPA website and look under the "Member Services" menu for "Information/Join/Renew/Rejoin" for complete details.

**December 1** – Deadline for submission for 2019 Shirl Smithson Memorial Scholarships.

### NATIONAL EXHIBITION

Twenty-eighth Annual National Juried Exhibition, Convention & Wet Paint Competition - Illume Gallery of Fine Art in Saint George, Utah

Convention: May 6 - 11, Wet Paint Competition May 6 - 8, Exhibition: May 10 - June 7, 2019

Exhibition Juror of Awards: Kenn Erroll Backhaus OPAM Wet Paint Competition Juror of Awards: Lori Putnam OPA

Twenty-ninth Annual National Juried Exhibition, Convention & Wet Paint Competition - RS Hanna Gallery in Fredericksburg, Texas

Exhibition: May 1 - July 4, 2020

More details to be announced as they become available

### **REGIONAL EXHIBITIONS**

October 10 - November 11 - Eastern Regional Exhibition - Beverly McNeil Gallery in Birmingham, Alabama More details to be announced as they become available

**November 1 - 30** - Western Regional Exhibition - Sorrel Sky Gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico Canvas Size: not to exceed 1,200 square inches

More details to be announced as they become available

### **ON-LINE SHOWCASES**

March 1 - May 15 - open to Associate members only

June 1 - August 15 - open to Associate members only

October 1 - December 15 - open to Associate and Signature members, with separate awards for each division

## **OIL PAINTERS OF AMERICA Representational, Inc.**

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