



OIL PAINTERS of AMERICA®

Dedicated to the Preservation of Representational Art

Presents The 2023 Eastern Regional Juried Exhibition Of Traditional Oils

Oil Painters of America is pleased to return to the Beverly McNeil Gallery, located in Birmingham, Alabama, for our 2023 Eastern Regional Exhibition. This year's show will open on Thursday, September 14 and run through Friday, October 13 with the opening reception and awards ceremony taking place on Thursday evening.

Birmingham has been called the "Dinner Table of the South" due to its extensive assortment of foods, ranging from the country's best barbecue to a variety of dishes influenced by the heritage of the American South. While in Birmingham you might want to visit the Birmingham Museum of Art, displaying over 21,000 works of art. For those wishing to be outdoors, you might visit the Birmingham Botanic Gardens, with over 67 acres of plant material or the Birmingham Zoo, with over 700 wild animals.

Our goal is to assemble approximately 100 of the finest representational oil paintings by our Associate and Signature members, as well as approximately 20 paintings by Master Signature artists. The focus in the jurying process will be to select paintings that show the highest quality in draftsmanship, color, and composition, emphasizing a diversity in representational style and subject matter.

The total awards will be approximately \$11,500 in cash and merchandise, including a \$4,000 Best In Show.

The awarding juror will be an OPA Signature member Bill Farnsworth.

Artists eligible to compete are 2023 OPA members who are citizens of the United States and Canada who reside in: Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Labrador, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New Brunswick, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Newfoundland, North Carolina, Nova Scotia, Ohio, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.

Current members who are citizens, both natural born or otherwise, of the United States or Canada are eligible to participate regardless of where they live. For sake of convenience, citizens who reside elsewhere will compete in the region that corresponds with their last place of residence within North America.

Nonresident aliens who currently live in the above states of the United States or Canada, are eligible to participate provided that they have been physically present at the address provided to OPA for eight of the last twelve months and that the residency is considered to be their permanent domicile. Nonresident aliens whose North American residency is in question will be asked to provide proof of residency including, but not limited to, employment history, references, and utility bills in the individual's name. The decision of the Board is final.

Entry Guidelines

SUBMISSIONS DUE: Friday, July 7, 2023

- Canvas size: Maximum size not to exceed **1,200 square inches** (unframed). Example: 30" height x 40" width = 1,200 sq. in.
- Maximum entries three (3). However only one (1) painting may be accepted.
- Paintings must be created on one singular flat substrate and framed and wired for hanging. Multiples are unacceptable – i.e., diptychs, triptychs.
- The substrate must not exceed the maximum size set forth in the prospectus. Be sure to read each prospectus carefully, as the acceptable size of the substrate changes depending on the gallery/museum.
- Copyright infringement of any kind is unacceptable. It is unethical and against OPA policy for artists to submit work created from another person's drawing/painting/photo or other artwork. Purchased reference material that transfers copyright to the artist is unacceptable.
- Digital apps and programs may be used for cropping your reference photos, etc., but no digital, mechanical, photo, or other transferring to the substrate of any kind is acceptable. You must draw and/or paint the image on your substrate yourself.
- Your submission must be originally conceived: your own reference, your own drawing, your own concept and must have been self-painted.
- No direct copies of stock images, historic photos, or of any reference to which you do not hold total copyright are allowed. You must be able to provide signed documentation of total copyright should OPA request.
- Paintings created in an instructional setting, including but not limited to workshops and art classes are not considered original artwork. A painting created from a group photo shoot set-up by another artist is not considered original artwork. Paintings created in an open studio where artists share the model are acceptable provided there was no instruction being given of any kind.
- Painting must have been created within the last 3 years.
- An artist may not submit a painting for a Regional Exhibition that has previously been accepted into a Regional Exhibition, Salon Show or an OPA National Exhibition.
- The artist retains copyright to his/her image(s). However, accepted images do become part of OPA archives and may be used for future OPA event promotion.
- All work must be for sale. No NFS. Paintings that do not reflect the artist's current pricing structure may be disqualified from the competition.
- An artist who withdraws an entry after acceptance into the exhibition shall not be eligible to enter any OPA exhibitions for the next two years.

Substrate and Framing Guidelines

ACCEPTABLE SUBSTRATES: Any primed, smooth, flat substrates including: primed canvas or linen, stretched or on a panel, wood, gesso board, acrylic gessoed dibond, aluminum, aluminum composite panel. Acrylic primer is acceptable. Oil primed paper is acceptable if adhered with archival adhesive to a proper archival substrate. Paintings should NOT require being placed under glass.

UNACCEPTABLE SUBSTRATES: Any textured surface including decorative copper, tooled aluminum, natural stone, barn wood or three-dimensional objects. A substrate containing any printed image or photograph is prohibited regardless of whether it is your own or someone else's image/photograph. Paintings should NOT require being placed under glass.

ACCEPTABLE FRAMING: All paintings must be framed and wired for hanging. When framing deep-edged paintings (museum/gallery wrap canvas or deep board), the frame must be of adequate depth that the substrate does not extend more than half an inch beyond the back of the frame. Floater frames are acceptable for paintings on museum/gallery wrap canvas or deep board panels.

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF ACCEPTABLE AND UNACCEPTABLE PAINTING CRITERIA, PLEASE VISIT THE OPA WEBSITE. Questions should be emailed to: mail@oilpaintersofamerica.com, or call 815-356-5987.

Entry Information

Online Submissions — Deadline: Friday, July 7, 2023

Electronic applications will be accepted beginning Monday, May 1, 2023. Maximum canvas size may not exceed **1,200 square inches** (unframed). Maximum file size is 5mb. Please upload a JPG, JPEG, PNG or HEIC with a filename that only contains alphanumeric characters. The minimum size for image uploads is 1400 pixels (px) in the longest dimension. However, for best results we recommend your image size be closer to the maximum size of 4000 pixels in the longest dimension.

To submit your electronic application and images, please go directly to: <http://www.oilpaintersofamerica.com> and look for OPA's 2023 Eastern Regional Exhibition.

Jurying Fees

The jurying fee for entries is: first painting is \$35.00, second painting is \$15.00 and third painting is \$10. Only one painting can be accepted. Electronic payment may be made by credit card or through Stripe. **No e-checks will be accepted.**

Membership

You must be a paid member through December 31, 2023 at a cost of **\$70.00**. If you are not a member of OPA you must apply and be accepted before the system will allow you to enter the exhibition. To apply for membership go to the OPA website and look for the Member Services menu. If you are a renewing member and have not paid your dues for 2023 the system will not accept your exhibition entry. To renew your membership, go to the Member Services menu on the OPA website.

Sales Commission

Artists will receive 50% of sale price with the other 50% going to the gallery and OPA. Please take this into consideration when setting your price. All work that is submitted must be for sale. No NFS. Paintings must be priced in accordance with the artist's current pricing structure.

Delivery and Return of Accepted Work

Delivery for Local Artists: Deliver uncrated paintings to Beverly McNeil Gallery, 605 28th St. South, Birmingham, AL 35233, from September 1 - 6. Hand delivered work may be picked up October 14 - 20.

Out of Town Artists: ship to Beverly McNeil Gallery, 605 28th St. South, Birmingham, AL 35233, from September 1 - 6.

Handling Fee: Out of Town Artists must pay a \$25.00 fee online prior to their painting being hung. This fee covers the expense of uncrating, storage of crates, re-crating and contacting your shipper for return. Artist may elect to include a return shipping label with their painting OR may email the label directly to Beverly McNeil Gallery. **OPA will waive the uncrating fee for artists who use a commercially manufactured artist's/strong box such as a StrongBox™ by Airfloat Systems, or similar brands, like Masterpak, Uline, or a FedEx Premium Art Box (not a FedEx Large Frame Box).** **NOTE: Home Depot boxes are NOT included in the list of boxes for which the fee will be waived.** Artists who do not use one of these special boxes are required to remit the \$25 prior to hanging of the painting. Strong boxes will be returned to the artists at the conclusion of the show at the artist's expense. **PLEASE, NO WOODEN CRATES!**

Shipments from OUTSIDE the US must be shipped "FREE DOMICILE" or will not be accepted.

Notification will be posted on the OPA website: Jury results posted on OPA website August 9.

Calendar Checklist

July 7

Deadline for submissions

August 9

Acceptance notification posted on the OPA website

September 1 - 6

Shipped artwork to arrive at Beverly McNeil Gallery

September 1 - 6

Hand delivered artwork to arrive at Beverly McNeil Gallery

September 14

Opening Reception: for collectors, press, exhibiting artists and the public from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Awards Presentation:

announcement of winners will take place at 7:00 p.m.

September 14 - October 13

Show open for viewing. See below for gallery hours

October 14 - 20

Local Artists: pick up paintings. If not removed, a storage fee will be charged. Beverly McNeil Gallery thanks you for your cooperation.

GALLERY HOURS

Monday - Friday
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Sunday
Closed

Liabilities and Responsibilities

Oil Painters of America and Beverly McNeil Gallery will not be responsible for loss or damage of any artwork, no matter what the cause. By submitting artwork to this exhibition, each artist will be deemed to have concurred with this agreement. Artists pay for shipping both ways. We suggest that you provide insurance to cover the full value of the artwork while in transit.

Good Luck and Good Painting