



Oil Painters of America's

Wet Paint Competition

Guide, Rules, and Regulations

Painting: Tuesday, May 27 - Thursday, May 29, 2025

Sale: Friday, May 30 - Saturday, May 31, 2025

This event is in conjunction with the Oil Painters of America's National Exhibition at the Herrig Center of the Arts in Bradenton, FL. Cash or merchandise awards will be presented in the indoor studio and plein-air painting divisions. Paintings will be displayed at The Herrig Center for the Arts. Winners will be announced at the Awards & Recognition Ceremony on Friday evening, May 30th. First-place winners in the plein air and studio divisions will receive automatic inclusion in the following year's National Exhibition.

Plein Air (*i.e., open-air*) paintings are executed outdoors from real life instead of using photographs or models in a studio. The painter and subject matter must be outdoors, and photographs may not be used.

Studio paintings are executed indoors. The painter and subject matter must be indoors, and photographs may not be used.

COMPETITION GUIDE

- Artists competing in the Studio Division are welcome to join us at the Herrig Center for the Arts.
- OPA will have volunteers onsite to answer your questions and help you set up.
- Remember your supplies! Gamsol and a dumping container will be available at The Herrig Center for the Arts.
- The Herrig Center for the Arts will serve as an "open studio" for still-life and portrait/figure painters from 8 am to 3 pm on Wednesday and Thursday.
- OPA is taking steps to provide excellent live models with unique outfits and poses.
- Still-life artists will use a variety of props, including pottery/vessels, flowers, fruit, and other objects. Artists are allowed to bring their props.
- Modern solid-state lighting will illuminate models and still-life set-ups. Because lighting is limited, sharing may be required. You may bring your own lights and extension cords.
- Be sure to bring your frames. Artists can also preorder frames from JFM and pick them up at The Herrig Center for the Arts. JFM is offering a 12 percent discount. Watch for special ordering instructions from OPA.
- OPA will have framing hardware and tools available.

Be familiar with the rules!

RULES FOR THE EVENT

Eligibility Requirements: Artists with full convention registration to the National Convention can participate in painting events and competitions.

Painting Area:

- Plein air artists may paint any subject or scene outdoors that he/she chooses within the state of Florida, provided the subject matter and artist are also outdoors.
- Artists competing in the indoor studio competition must paint indoors and can paint any subject matter of his/her choosing, provided the subject matter and artist are also indoors.

Painting Period: Each work of art must be stamped by an OPA representative, started, and completed between 3:00 pm on Tuesday, May 27, and 5:00 pm on Thursday, May 29, 2025.

This event will be held rain or shine, so come prepared!

Required Registration: All participating artists must register for full registration to the 2025 National Convention and have their canvas stamped by an OPA representative before any work is done. **There are no exceptions.** A schedule of registration times and locations is listed below.

Material Requirements: Oil is the only medium that will be accepted. Before starting work, an OPA representative must stamp the artists' substrate with the OPA seal.

Painting Submission Requirements:

Maximum painting size should not exceed 320 square inches unframed.

(For Example: 16" x 20" = 320 sq. inches)

- Paintings must be delivered framed and wired for hanging to The Herrig Center for the Arts between 3:00 pm and 5:00 pm on Thursday, May 30, 2025.
- One painting per artist is guaranteed. Based on the number of registered attendees, OPA may allow an additional painting, so come prepared!
- The "OPA" stamp provided at registration must be visible on the back of each painting.
- All paintings must be appropriately framed, mounted, and securely wired for hanging.
- OPA reserves the right to refuse any painting improperly framed or wired.

Proceeds from Painting Sales: For any paintings sold, the proceeds will be divided as follows:

Artist: 70%
The Herrig Center for the Arts: 15%
Oil Painters of America: 15%

Artists are responsible for picking up unsold paintings at The Herrig Center for the Arts between 3:00 pm Saturday, May 31, and 10:00 am Sunday, June 1.

Wet Paint Schedule of Events

Oil Painters of America and The Herrig Center for the Arts assume no responsibility for theft, damage, or liability. Please note that artists are responsible for insuring their artwork.

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
5/27	Canvas Stamped	3:00 – 6:00 pm	Herrig Center for the Arts
5/27	Plein Air Painting	3:00 – ?????	Plein Air: Anywhere in Florida
5/28	Canvas Stamped	8:00 am – 3:00 pm	Herrig Center for the Arts
5/28	Plein Air & Studio Painting	Plein Air: All Day Studio: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm	Plein Air: Anywhere in Florida Studio: Herrig Center for the Arts
5/29	Canvas Stamped	8:00 am – 3:00 pm	Herrig Center for the Arts
5/29	Plein Air & Studio Painting	Plein Air: All Day Studio: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm	Plein Air: Anywhere in Florida Studio: Herrig Center for the Arts
5/29	Painting Turn In	3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Herrig Center for the Arts
5/30 & 5/31	Painting Sale	8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Herrig Center for the Arts
5/30	Awards Ceremony	8:15 pm – 10:00 pm	Stone Hall Theater
5/31	Painting Pick Up	3:00 am – 8:00 pm	Herrig Center for the Arts
6/1	Painting Pick Up	8:00 am – 10:30 am	Herrig Center for the Arts

If you have questions about OPA's Wet Paint Competition, please email Rich Alexander OPA at richardmksigns@aol.com. Thank you!