



OIL PAINTERS of AMERICA®

Creating Community – Advancing Skills – Elevating Excellence

2026 Student Art Competition

Show Your Talent Find Your Community

Oil Painters of America (OPA), one of North America's leading professional art organizations with 3,500+ members, invites students to submit their original, representational style oil paintings in accordance with OPA's Submission Rules.

The competition has two divisions:

High School Age (14-18)

College Age (19-23)

Two Levels of Membership

Student Membership

Free to all registered students age 14-23

Allows entry into OPA Student Art

Competition and free access to OPA

Lunch and Learn webinars.

Student Associate Membership

\$40 (½ Regular \$80) for all registered students age 14-23

Allows full membership privileges including entry into all

OPA gallery and online competitions.

oilpaintersofamerica.com



Sponsored by

BLICK
art materials



Claire E. Cochran
1st Place 2025 College Age Division



Margaret T. Cole
2nd Place 2025 High School Age Division

Only \$10 per entry

Up to three entries

OPA's submission rules must be followed

\$1,000 First Place

in both High School Age and College Age divisions and \$4,000 total in cash and merchandise awards

Winners Featured in OPA National Exhibition

Competition is image only, however the top three winning artists in each division

are invited to exhibit their paintings in

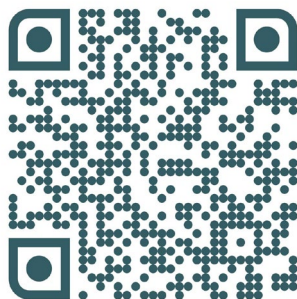
OPA's 35th National Exhibition

Steamboat Art Museum

Steamboat Springs, Colorado

May 29 to August 29, 2026

Entries Due April 1, 2026



**Join and Enter
Today!**



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2026 Event Schedule



35th National Exhibition & Convention

May 30-August 27, 2026

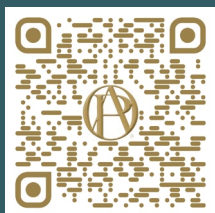
Steamboat Art Museum

Convention at Steamboat Grand, May 26-31

Steamboat Springs, Colorado

With over \$100,000 in cash and merchandise awards the National Exhibition is taking place in one of our most popular destinations. The Convention will include demos and presentations by North America's leading artists. The **OPA National Wet Paint Competition** will take place in conjunction with the Convention, with all entries displayed and eligible for major OPA awards.

Entries Due March 6, 2026



Join OPA today!

Information on membership,
events, and programs at

oilpaintersofamerica.com

OPA National Salon Exhibition of Small Paintings

July 31-August 29, 2026

Cassens Fine Art, Hamilton, Montana

Featuring nearly 200 works 16 x 20 inches and smaller, with over \$35,000 in awards and held in one of the premier galleries of the Mountain West.

Entries Due June 12, 2026

Virtuosos of the OPA

October 9-November 8, 2026

Principle Gallery, Alexandria, Virginia

An exclusive show with over \$35,000 in awards and a strong focus on sales by this prestigious gallery in Old Town Alexandria, an historic district across the river from Washington, D.C.

Entries Due August 20, 2026



Clement Kwan OPA

Online Showcase Competitions

Over \$20,000 in cash awards. All entries are posted on the OPA website for two years.

Spring Jan 1-April 15
Summer May 1-Aug 15
Fall Sep 1-Nov 30

OPA Student Art Competition

Two Divisions: High School Age 14-18 and College Age 19-23. Cash and merchandise awards. Winners are invited to exhibit their work in OPA's National Exhibition.

Entries Due April 1, 2026