



# OIL PAINTERS of AMERICA

CREATING COMMUNITY · ADVANCING SKILLS · ELEVATING EXCELLENCE

## 2026 OPA NATIONAL SALON Exhibition of Small Paintings

**Oil Painters of America** is pleased to announce that the 2026 National Salon will be held at Cassens Fine Art, in Hamilton, Montana from July 31 through August 29, 2026. The gallery will host the opening reception on Friday, July 31 from 5 to 7 pm with the awards presentations at 5:30.

**Located** in the heart of the Bitterroot Valley, Hamilton invites visitors to enjoy its stunning mountain vistas while appreciating its strong local arts presence. Visitors are welcome to tour the over 50 room Daly Mansion and the Ravalli County Museum, both rich in local history. The Bitterroot River offers flyfishing as well as many wildlife viewing and hiking areas are found throughout the area.

**Our goal** is to assemble approximately 180 of the finest representational oil paintings by our Associate and Signature members, as well as paintings by our 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 \$30,000 in cash and merchandise.

**The awarding juror** will be James Crandall OPAM.

**Artists eligible to compete** are current members who are citizens and most non-resident aliens who currently live on the continent of North America. Please see eligibility details on the OPA website.



### ENTRY GUIDELINES

#### ENTRIES DUE FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2026 •

- Canvas size: May not exceed 320 square inches (unframed). Example: 16" height x 20" width = 320 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.
- Paintings must have been created within the last 5 years
- An artist may NOT submit a painting to a Salon that has previously been accepted into a physical OPA Exhibition, or that has been accepted as a finalist or award winner in an OPA Online showcase.
- 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.
- Only original paintings are acceptable for entry. They must be created by hand, solely by the artist submitting the painting and be original in concept and design.

**Click here for OPA's full rules** designating what constitutes an original painting and an acceptable entry. Entries must be in full compliance with these rules.

#### SUBMISSION RULES

If you are unsure if you are in compliance, we are happy to answer your questions.

Email: [mail@oilpaintersofamerica.com](mailto:mail@oilpaintersofamerica.com)  
or call (815) 356-5987.

## CALENDAR

**SATURDAY, JUNE 12** Deadline for submissions

**FRIDAY, JUNE 26** Acceptance notification posted on the OPA website

**JULY 13 - 22** All artwork, shipped or hand-delivered to arrive at Cassens Fine Art

**FRIDAY, JULY 31** Reception for collectors, press, exhibiting artists and the public 5-7 pm

Awards & Recognition Ceremony: 5:30 pm

**JULY 31 - AUGUST 29** Exhibition open for viewing. See below for exhibition hours

**AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 4** Painting pickup window for local artists.

## GALLERY HOURS

Monday through Saturday  
10:00 am to 5:30 pm  
Sunday – By Chance  
Appointments Available

## LIABILITIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Oil Painters of America and Cassens Fine Art 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.

Submissions Accepted Online

ENTER

Good Luck and Good Painting!

## ENTRY INFORMATION

**SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED** April 1 to June 12, 2026 through the OPA website at [www.oilpaintersofamerica.com](http://www.oilpaintersofamerica.com)

**CANVAS SIZE** May not exceed 320 sq. in. (16"x20" = 320 sq. in.)

**DIGITAL IMAGE TYPE** JPG, JPEG, PNG or HEIC are acceptable with a filename that only contains alphanumeric characters.

**DIGITAL IMAGE SIZE** Maximum file size of 5MB, image 4000 pixels in the longest dimension. Minimum size of 1400 pixels in the longest dimension. We recommend that images be close to the maximum size.

**JURYING FEES** \$35 first painting, \$15 second painting, \$10 third painting. Only one painting can be accepted. Payment made by credit card or through Stripe. No e-checks.

**MEMBERSHIP** You must be a paid member through December 31, 2026 at a cost of \$80. 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. If you are a renewing member and have not paid your dues for 2026 the system will not accept your exhibition entry until payment has been made.

**SALES COMMISSION** Artists will receive 50% of sale price. Please take this into consideration when setting your price. All work that is submitted must be for sale and priced in accordance with the artist's current pricing structure.

**DELIVERY OF ACCEPTED WORK** Ship to Cassens Fine Art to arrive July 13 through July 22, or hand deliver paintings to Cassens Fine Art from July 13 - 22, 10 am to 5:30 pm.

**RETURN OF ACCEPTED WORK** Hand delivered work must be picked up August 31 - September 4, 10:00 am to 5:30 pm.

*Shipping information (including shipping address and address for physical deliveries) and the necessary accompanying forms will be emailed to accepted entrants after jurying has been completed.*

**CRATING FEE** Artists who ship their paintings must pay a \$25 crating fee through the OPA website portal. **OPA will waive the crating fee** for artists who use a commercially manufactured artist's strong box manufactured by Airfloat Systems, Masterpak, or Uline. Artists may opt to have their strong boxes returned to them at the conclusion of the show at their own expense.

**RETURN SHIPPING LABEL** Artist must send a return shipping label to the gallery. Do so by either including the label with your painting OR email the label directly to Cassens Fine Art. *Shipments from outside the US must be shipped "FREE DOMICILE" or will not be accepted*