



OIL PAINTERS of AMERICA®

Dedicated to the Preservation of Representational Art

volume 28 issue 1

SPRING
2018

Brushstrokes

PICTURESQUE SAINT SIMONS ISLAND HOSTS THE 2017 EASTERN EXHIBITION



The Gold medal in the Master Signature Division was awarded to Shizhong Yan OPAM for "Drinking Milk Tea"

Picturesque, tranquil Saint Simons Island was the location of the 2017 Eastern Regional Exhibition. The inviting and warm Mary Anderson Fine Art Gallery exhibited over 100 of the finest eastern Associate and Signature members' paintings, as well as about 25 Master Signature works.

Activities began on Wednesday afternoon when some 45 artists began painting canvasses to enter in the plein air competition and wet paint sale, held in conjunction with, but separate from, the Eastern Regional Exhibition. Artists toured the area to find scenes to paint, including such things as the historic lighthouse,

Wesley Memorial Gardens, and beautiful 600-acre Musgrove Plantation on the banks of the Village Creek. Thursday was also devoted to plein air painting but wound down with members and guests eating at one of several of the well-known, local restaurants.

On Friday morning, Master Signature Member Marc Hanson presented a demonstration at the Artist's Annex Gallery, around the corner from Anderson Fine Art Gallery. Marc's painting was done with oil sticks, a new form of oil painting for a number of painters in the audience. He explained why he had chosen to use this medium and how it differed from painting with the more traditional tubes of oil. His resulting landscape proved that expanding ones horizons may open up a new world of oil painting to those willing to try something different. After lunch, at Tramici Restaurant, artists turned in there

plein air paintings for judging and awards to be announced later.

Friday evening began with an Opening Reception at the Anderson Fine Art Gallery with lively entertainment and refreshments on the patio behind the Gallery. The high point of the evening was the announcement of awards by Juror of Awards Howard Friedland OPAM. Dan Beck OPA's beautiful painting "Bella" won the Gold Medal in the Associate and Signature Division, while Shizhong Yan OPAM won the Gold Medal in the Master Signature Division for his striking entry "Drinking Milk Tea".



Dan Beck OPA's won the Gold Medal in the Associate and Signature Division for "Bella"

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Eastern Exhibition con't.

Howard Friedland OPAM began Saturday morning by offering a painting demonstration at the Sea Palms Resort. Taking into account the location of the eastern show, Howard offered his rendition of a dry docked boat. His explanation of his use of colors gave insight into how he developed a most striking painting.

After a lunch break, Katie Dobson Cundiff OPA presented a demonstration on painting a water scene. Katie spent extensive time telling how she develops an idea for a painting before putting her first brushstroke on the canvas. Hearing her tell of her thought and development process was quite enlightening.

Saturday evening offered a second reception, this time for the Plein Air Competition. Held at the Artists' Annex Gallery, Marc Hanson OPAM chose Mary O. Smith's painting "Musgrove Maze" as the First Place Winner. Noted news commentator Bob Schieffer was one of the guests at this enjoyable event. Afterwards, many returned to the Sea Palms Resort for dinner followed by a late night evening on the patio.

Anderson Fine Art Gallery invited

everyone to a "Thanks for Coming" breakfast on Sunday morning at the Artist's Gallery Annex. Following the breakfast, Master Signature Member John Michael Carter presented a demonstration on how he creates one of his masterful portraits, for which he is so well known.

All in all, the five day event was a pleasant experience with beautiful scenery, moderate temperatures and a lovely gallery as host to the exhibition.

A complete list of winners follows.

MASTER SIGNATURE DIVISION

Gold Medal: Shizhong Yan OPAM for "Drinking Milk Tea" - \$3,500 funded by OPA

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE
Marc Hanson OPAM for "Delta Soup" - \$500 funded by OPA

James Crandall OPAM for "Marcus" - merchandise certificate funded by Savoir-Faire - valued at \$250

ASSOCIATE AND SIGNATURE DIVISION

Gold Medal: Dan Beck OPA for "Bella" - \$4,000 funded by OPA

Silver Medal: Adam Clague OPA for "The Student" - featured in Artist Focus section of *American Art Collector Magazine* - valued at \$3,400

Bronze Medal: Patrick McGannon for "White Slip" - full page advertisement funded by *Southwest Art Magazine* valued at \$3,380

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Dominique I. Medici for "John" - merchandise certificate funded by Savoir-Faire - valued at \$1,000

David W. Mueller for "Sanquine" - \$750 funded by OPA

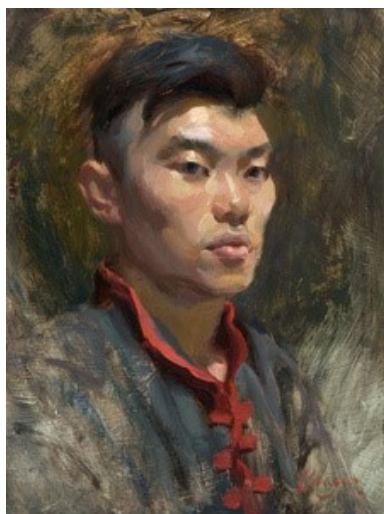
William A. Schneider OPA for "On the Road to Mandalay" - \$500 funded by OPA

Jason J. Sacran for "The Forgotten" - \$500 funded by OPA

J. Russell Wells for "Model Break" - \$500 funded by OPA

Christine Lashley for "Valley Shadows" - \$500 funded by OPA

Richard Christian Nelson for "Jodie Karr" - \$250 funded by OPA



Adam Clague OPA won the Silver Medal for "The Student"



David W. Mueller won an Award of Excellence for "Sanquine"



Patrick McGannon won the Bronze Medal for "White Slip"

JUROR OF AWARDS STATEMENT HOWARD FRIEDLAND OPAM

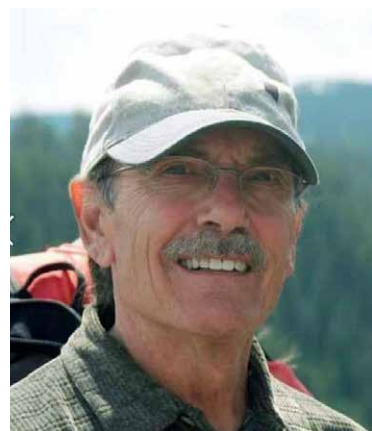
Being asked to judge an art show is a great honor, but it is also a great responsibility. To be an artist is to be sensitive. We wear our hearts on our sleeves when we put our work up for judging. It is said that we must develop a thick skin to the opinions of others, but aren't we thrilled when our work is accepted into a show or we get a prestigious award? Isn't the opposite also true if our work is not selected or it is passed over for an award?

Before I arrived at the Anderson Fine Art Gallery to judge the show, I checked out the exhibit online several times. I was sure that I knew how I would pick the award winners. However, when I walked in the gallery door and saw the framed paintings in person I realized that selecting the awards wasn't going to be so easy!

As I examined the artwork, several of the paintings that I hadn't considered before kept calling me back again and again. I spent the entire day mulling over and over my choices. In the end, the thing that made the difference was how the artist used his or her materials to express the mood and feeling of their subject. The paint application, brushstrokes, composition, light, etc. certainly played an important role. There were many, many great paintings that had these qualities, but unfortunately there were just so many awards.

One thing I am sure of, you may have chosen an entirely different group of paintings for awards, but the quality of these award winners can't be denied.

My advice to OPA Members is "go for the gusto" if you don't enter the show, you can't win the award. Every judge likes a different type of painting. Yours just might have "the right stuff"! As Nike says "Just do it"!



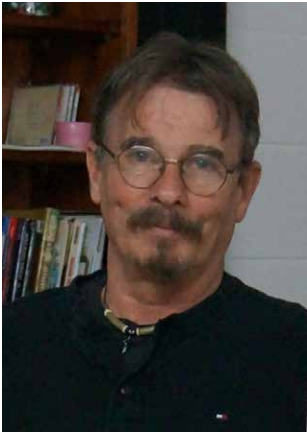
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**MEET THE EASTERN SHOW
ASSOCIATE AND SIGNATURE DIVISION
GOLD MEDAL WINNER
DAN BECK OPA**

Wanderlust was Dan's primary motivation in the decade following his graduation from high school. Dan took to the road, working jobs that included ranch hand in Arizona, construction worker on the beach of Florida, furniture refinisher in Louisiana and four years in the infantry, including a two year tour in Germany. Wherever he went, Dan filled sketch books and journals for his own enjoyment. Then in Colorado after a couple of years in college, he realized that the things that meant most to him were his sketch books. So, he quit his job and college, sold everything he had and decided that commitment to one path was where all the previous had led him.

Dan has studied at the Art Student League of Denver, with numerous contemporary painters and has continuously studied the impressionist masters. Equally adept at figurative, still-life and landscape, Dan is an experimenter by nature, as well as being firmly rooted in the tradition of Impressionism. His love of nature and a deep respect for the tradition of art serve as both guide and inspiration to his goal of "making a contribution" to the world of painting. Dan's paintings evoke a timelessness and dignity that are the underlying themes in whatever he paints. *"Painting is a balancing act between opposite ideas - direct observation and instinct, control and spontaneity, even between the literal and the symbolic. It seems to me that although a painter is deeply involved with his own private investigation, his real aim is to communicate something to the viewer that resonates on a uniquely personal level."*

In 2016, he received major awards in the Oil Painters of America National Exhibition, American Impressionist Society National Exhibition and Oil Painters of America Eastern Regional Exhibition. He has also won numerous other OPA awards, including being the Gold Medal winner of the 2011 National Exhibition. Dan has similarly won awards from other major organizations and has had feature articles in various magazines, such as *American Art Collector*, *Southwest Art*, *American Artist*, *Art of the West*, *Artists on Art*, *Cape Fear Living* and *Art Talk*. His paintings have appeared on the covers of *Southwest Art* and *Art of the West*. Dan has participated in many nationally prominent shows and has exhibited his work in many galleries across the country. His paintings have found collectors in both the private and corporate world as well as in such diverse places as Canada, Japan and the Middle East. His work is in the permanent collection of the Littleton Historical Museum and he has exhibited with the Phippen Museum, Prescott, Arizona.

Dan lives in Wilmington, North Carolina with his wife and two daughters.



Dominique Medici won an Award of Excellence for "John"



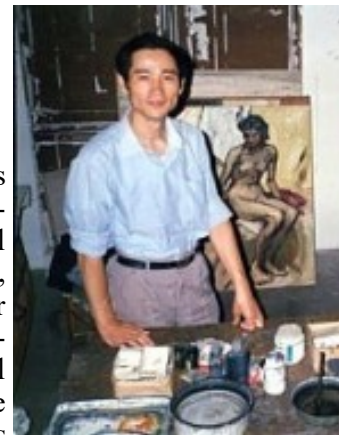
An Award of Excellence was given to Marc Hanson OPAM for "Delta Soup"



"On the Road to Mandalay" by Williams A. Schneider OPA won an Award of Excellence

MEET THE EASTERN SHOW MASTER SIGNATURE DIVISION GOLD MEDAL WINNER SHIZHONG YAN OPAM

Shizhong Yan was born and raised in the coastal city of Qingdao, China. Influenced by his father, who was an architect, Shizhong fell in love with art at a young age. He studied under various well-known local artists and at the age of sixteen he was accepted by Central Academy of Fine Arts Affiliated School, often referred to as the cradle of fine artists, where he studied for four years. When the culture revolution swept China, Shizhong never gave up on his artistic dream. He was exiled and worked at manual labor in the countryside, but still took every minute he could to paint the world around him. When the cultural revolution ended, he was one of the first students accepted by China Academy of Fine Arts' graduate program. He continued his study under one of the most well-known artists in China, Mr. Quan Shanshi. Shizhong studied in-depth the styles and techniques of Russian and European as well as American Impressionist masters, and was influenced by artists like Fechin, Degas, Cezanne, Sargent, etc.



In 1998, Shizhong and his family moved to United States, where he began a new chapter of his life, as well as artistic career. Shizhong now resides in Illinois. He has four collections of artworks published, and has been published by countless magazines and newspapers. Shizhong has had many solo and group exhibitions in China, United States, Japan, France, Australia, Canada, Taiwan and Hong Kong. He has received many awards and his paintings are collected and loved by collectors all over the world.

EASTERN REGIONAL PLEIN AIR COMPETITION WINNERS

Marc Hanson OPAM, Juror of Awards for the Plein Air Competition reviewed a diversity of subjects and styles and, after much consideration, announced the following awards:

First Place: Mary O. Smith for "Musgrove Maze" - half page advertisement funded by *Plein Air Magazine* valued at \$2,000

Second Place: Natalie Andreeva OPA for "Old Oak" - \$1,000 funded by OPA

Third Place: Marsha Hamby Savage for "Alligator Slide" - \$500 funded by Home Advisors

Fourth Place: Katie Dobson Cundiff OPA for "Slave Cabin" - merchandise certificate funded by *Savoir-Faire* valued at \$500

Fifth Place: Donna Biggee for "Autumn Arbor" - \$250 funded by OPA

Sixth Place: MaryBeth Karaus OPA for "St. Simon's Marshes" - \$250 funded by OPA

Seventh Place: Kay Hibbard for "November Wind" - \$100 funded by OPA & Bill Inman Plein Air Course, total value of \$197

Eighth Place: David Mueller for "Egret's Home" - \$100 funded by OPA & Bill Inman Plein Air Course, total value of \$197

HONORABLE MENTIONS

James Magner for "East Beach View"

Seth Tummins for "Evening"

Anita Elder for "Beach Palm".



Plein Air Juror Marc Hanson OPAM, Show Juror Howard Friedland OPAM, Gallery owner Mary Anderson and OPA President John Michael Carter OPAM



Plein air painting on a sunny day at the Musgrove Plantation



Interior view of Mary Anderson Fine Art Gallery



27th National Exhibition & Convention

Wet Paint Competition: May 29 - June 1

• Convention: May 29 - June 3

• Exhibition: June 1 - September 3

Steamboat Art Museum • Steamboat Springs, CO

Tuesday, May 29

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Registration Open - Location: The Steamboat Grand – Korbel Foyer

Registered attendees can pick up registration packets and have canvas stamped. On-site registration also available.

8:00 a.m. OPA's "Colorado Rocky Mountain High" Wet Paint Competition Begins!



OPA's "Colorado Rocky Mountain High" Wet Paint Competition begins Tuesday morning! Registered attendees will vie for \$10,000 in cash and merchandise awards split equally between the plein air and studio categories. Canvas must be officially stamped by an OPA or Steamboat Art Museum 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. ***Please Note:** Only attendees who have paid a full convention registration fee are eligible to participate in the Wet Paint Sale & Competition. Wet Paint rules may be found at: www.oilpaintersofamerica.com/2018wetpaint

Wednesday, May 30

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Registration Open - Location: The Steamboat Grand – Korbel Foyer

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

8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. - OPA's "Colorado Rocky Mountain High" Wet Paint Sale & Competition - Location: Perry-Mansfield Performing Arts Camp

Join us at the **Perry-Mansfield Performing Arts School & Camp** the oldest continuously operating dance and theater school in America. The camp is located on 76 acres in Strawberry Park, just outside the town of Steamboat Springs. Both plein air and studio artists will have the opportunity to paint. A model will be provided for artists wishing to paint indoors or feel free to bring your own props.

4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. – Welcome to Colorado! Opening Reception Hosted by *Southwest Art Magazine* - Location: The Steamboat Grand – Emerald Tent

Participants are invited to the Welcome Reception under the Emerald Tent at The Steamboat Grand Hotel. This kicks off the convention, giving attendees an opportunity to network, meet old friends and colleagues, as well as meet new people as the program begins.

Thursday, May 31

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Registration Opens - Location: The Steamboat Grand – Korbel Foyer

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: Art Depot

**southwest
art**

As always, *Southwest Art Magazine* pulls out all the stops for this popular event, held at the Steamboat Spring's Art Depot. It's all about the artists at this event and *Southwest Art Magazine* starts the day out with a well appointed continental breakfast and a delicious lunch is served at noon. Of course, live music is a must on SW's pampered paint out agenda! Artists will have the opportunity to paint indoors and plein air artists will find no shortage of material right outside with several parks and the Yampa River just steps away. Framed paintings for the competition should be turned in at the Art Depot between the hours of 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 31.

Friday, June 1

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Registration & Exhibits Open - Location: The Steamboat Grand – Korbel Foyer

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

9:00 a.m. to Noon - Painting Demonstration with Skip Whitcomb Location: The Steamboat Grand – Korbel Ballroom



Born and raised in Colorado, Skip Whitcomb spent much of his childhood painting, drawing and sculpting. However, his decision to pursue a career as a painter began in earnest when a college drawing instructor provided the encouragement he needed. After attending the prestigious Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California, Skip returned to Colorado where he connected with the Denver group, a loosely-affiliated but highly energetic group of artists. This fortuitous encounter was instrumental in his ability to establish himself as a successful artist at a young age. Today his paintings can be found in top exhibitions across the country. He has won numerous awards throughout the years.



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Steamboat Art Museum • Steamboat Springs, CO

Noon to 2:00 p.m. Lunch with Exhibitors - Location: The Steamboat Grand – Korbel Ballroom & Foyer

Grab a deli-style lunch before visiting this year's exhibitors who will have artists demonstrating their products. This event is a must see.

2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Jill Carver: A Painter's Progress (with References from a Small Island) - Location: The Steamboat Grand – Korbel Ballroom

In this power point presentation, Jill will discuss significant moments in her journey as an artist, both in terms of her process and the evolution of her thoughts. She will include references and illustrations from some of her favorite British painters, whose works are relatively unknown in this country. Before becoming a full time professional artist, she was a curatorial research assistant at the National Portrait Gallery in London after which she moved to the United States. Jill now lives in Rico, Colorado, a small historical mining town nestled in the San Juan Mountains. In 2014, Jill won the Gold Medal (Artists' Choice) for Best in Show at Maynard Dixon Country and in the same year was inaugurated as Signature Member in "Plein Air Painters of America". She has won numerous awards and was invited as Guest Artist at the 2016 Northwest Rendezvous show at The Brinton Museum in Sheridan, WY. She is a popular and highly regarded teacher.



5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. - OPA's 27th Annual National Exhibition Opening Reception - Location: Steamboat Art Museum

Please join us for a very special evening as we celebrate the opening of OPA's 27th Annual National Exhibition held at the newly renovated and stunning Steamboat Museum of Art.

8:15 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. - Oil Painters of America's Awards & Recognition Ceremony - Location: The Chief 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 have achieved the Signature and Master Signature designation in 2017.

9:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Awards Ceremony After Party! - Location: Steamboat Springs Art Depot

Join us at the Art Depot for food, libations and a chance to take in the beautiful artwork created during the Wet Paint Competition.



Saturday, June 2

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Registration & Exhibits Open - Location: The Steamboat Grand – Korbel Foyer

Attendees can pick up their registration packets and visit the exhibitors. Artists who visit each exhibitor and have their exhibit-tor cards stamped are eligible to enter the special exhibitor raffle basket drawing!

8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. – "Color Theory: Unlocking the Mysteries" by Joe Gyurcsak from Blick/Utrecht Location: The Steamboat Grand – Korbel Ballroom

Joe Gyurcsak, Resident Artist for Utrecht Art Supplies, has demonstrated & lectured throughout North America. An award-winning artist, Joe has written several articles of instruction and observation for *American Artist* Magazine. An OPA favorite, Joe can take a complex subject and convey it to his audience in simple to understand terms. Joe will present an easy to understand presentation on color theory, understanding the keys to better color perception and manipulations through a series of exercises. This short but informative class will address such topics as value, chroma intensity, pure vs hue, tint strength, color manipulators, mass tone/ under tone, color temp and paint making and much more.

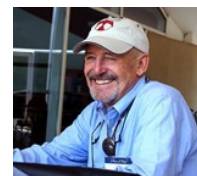
BLICK
art materials



10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. – "Up Close and Personal" with Distinguished Artist Skip Whitcomb

Location: The Steamboat Grand – Korbel Ballroom

OPA is proud to have Skip Whitcomb as its 2018 Distinguished Artist. Join us for an in-depth interview with Mr. Whitcomb as we delve into his successful career as an artist covering his education, artistic influences, and unique painting process.



11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. – "State of the Art" Roundtable Discussion & Lunch - Location: The Steamboat Grand – Korbel Ballroom

This roundtable discussion will provide an opportunity to share valuable information on different topics related to the art business. Share your successes and struggles and hear ways that your peers have dealt with similar issues. A deli-style lunch will be served.



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Steamboat Art Museum • Steamboat Springs, CO



1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Painting Demonstration with Juror of Awards Craig Tennant OPAM

Location: The Steamboat Grand – Korbel Ballroom

Craig Tennant OPAM, grew up in New Jersey and began his early art training in 1967 with Grey Advertising in New York. Starting in the mat room, he quickly moved up and then was made the Assistant Art Director for the Kool-Aid account. He later joined the staff of illustrators at BBD&O working on major accounts including Campbell's Soup and Dodge Chrysler for national television ads. His magazine ad accounts consisted of Tarreyton, GE, Shaffer, and Pepsi (Generation). For the next twenty years, Craig illustrated on a freelance basis for clients including TV Guide, Field & Stream, Diet Coke, and IBM to name just a few. He was elected a member of the New York Society of Illustrators in 1980 and received their Silver Medal Award in 1981. In 1989, Craig moved to Colorado to focus on western oil paintings. He started his own publishing business, Cheyenne Press, to promote his work and was voted 21st in the nation's top print artists (by a U.S. Art Magazine survey of over 850 galleries nationwide). In 1996, he was commissioned by the Park Meadows Shopping Resort to paint a Colorado scene for the Nordstrom entrance. His work has appeared on the covers of many well known magazines. He has been the subject of additional feature articles in numerous periodicals. Four of his Native American paintings are shown in Crabtree Publishing's Native Nations of North America series of children's books published in 2001.

4: 00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Break

Join us in the Exhibitor Room to see which lucky artist wins the Exhibitor Raffle Basket!

4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. "The Thoughtful Art Critique" with Jill Carver and Skip Whitcomb— Location: The Steamboat Grand – Korbel Ballroom

Thoughtful and appropriate criticism can be one of the most valuable ways to grow as an artist. This power point session, led by Jill Carver and Skip Whitcomb will look at a variety of paintings created by OPA artists and observe what is working and aspects that might need greater attention.



7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. - American Art Collector's Closing Party Location: TBD

After a fantastic and inspiring week, it's time to kick back and relax – you deserve it! AAC's Closing Party has become a fan favorite and this year will be no exception! Stay tuned for more details on this event – it will be worth the wait.

Sunday, June 3

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. - OPA's Annual Business Meeting - Location: The Steamboat Grand, Spring Creek Conference Room

This meeting is the perfect opportunity for members to hear from OPA's Board of Directors. Find out what's new in the organization and what the future holds. This is the time to ask your questions and voice your opinions!

9:00 a.m. to Noon - Registration & Exhibits Open - Location: The Steamboat Grand – Korbel Foyer

Last call to visit your favorite exhibitors. Too much to bring home? We can help you arrange to have it shipped home.

9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. – Group Demonstrations - Location: The Steamboat Grand – Korbel Ballroom



Nancy Boren OPA received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Abilene Christian University and cites the influence of notable traditional painters such as Sargent, Sorolla and Fechin. Boren's painting, "Aloft in the Western Sky," is part of the permanent collection of the Booth Museum of Western Art in Cartersville, GA. She has also exhibited at the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame, the Gilcrease Museum, The National Cowboy and Western Heritage Center and the Catharine Lorillard Wolfe Show at the National Arts Club, NY. Her paintings were used in the feature film "9 Months" and the ABC TV show "The Benefactor." She was one of five finalists in the state of Texas for the design of the Texas Quarter in 2004.



Mostafa Keyhani OPA was encouraged by one of his teachers to pursue his artistic talents. As a result, he became devoted to painting and went on to study art at Tehran and Dusseldorf Universities after already receiving diplomas in biology and anatomy. Upon completion of these studies, he spent seven years traveling through Germany and France, all the while developing his technique and style. He eventually became a Canadian citizen, where he lives today. His paintings convey the lively spirit of European street scenes, scenic landscapes and the beauty of floral still-lives.



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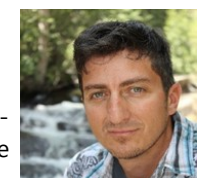
Rob Rey OPA is originally from a suburb north of Chicago. Rob hiked across New England covering 1,100 miles along the Appalachian Trail before studying at the Rhode Island School of Design where he graduated with a BFA in Illustration. Rob now resides in Denver, Colorado. His foremost passion is learning of any kind, Rob's interests are frequently peaked by both 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 affair with the medium of paint, he strives to make pictures that are not only beautiful but thought provoking as well.



Jason Sacran is an artist/painter living in Arkansas. He has been invited to many exhibitions and awarded many times by such organizations as the Oil Painters of America and the American Impressionists Society among others. Some of Jason's recent awards include Best of Show awards in the: 2016 Maui Plein Air Invitational, 2016 Plein Air Rockies, 2015 Plein Air Easton, 2015 Olmsted Plein Air Invitational, 2015 Easels in Freer-ick and 2014 Door County Plein Air. Jason has also had featured articles with publications such as Southwest Art Magazine, International Artist, Artist Magazine, and Plein Air Magazine.



David Santillanes OPA began painting shortly after graduating from Colorado State University with a degree in Graphic Design. But he points to his first plein air painting excursion as the true beginnings of his development as a painter where direct observation allowed for a more precise rendering of color, light and atmosphere. And although studying the physical aspects of nature is important, it isn't the only reason Dave paints outdoors. He says, "the sensory experience of being there is equally important." Dave's passion for painting has led to many recent awards and he has been featured in both Plein Air and Southwest Art Magazines.



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 To register online, visit www.oilpaintersofamerica.com. Click on the National Exhibition & Convention Registration link found on the OPA home page.

To register by mail, complete this 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.

Please Note: Full registration IS required to participate in the wet paint sale & competition. A one-day registration in-cludes all activities and social events listed for that day. Registration is NOT required to attend the 27th National Exhibition Opening Reception on Friday evening at the Steamboat Art Museum or the Awards & Recognition Ceremony at The Chief Theater. Both events are free and open to the public.

ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION NOTES - Advanced Registration Deadline by Mail is Monday, May 14, 2018 or ONLINE by Monday, May 21, 2018. 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 Tuesday, May 15, 2018 and must arrive in the OPA office no later than Monday, May 21, 2018. 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, please e-mail your request to Rosemary Murray at mail@oilpaintersofamerica.com. Special needs must be received at the OPA office 30 days before opening day of convention to assure reasonable accommodation.



27th National Exhibition & Convention

Wet Paint Competition: May 29 - June 1

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Steamboat Art Museum • Steamboat Springs, CO

Registration Type		Advanced Through May 21	Onsite May 29 - June 3	Total
Full Registration includes wet paint sale & competition, OPA tradeshow, all educational presentations and social events including the Welcome Reception and AAC's After Dinner Celebration. Bus service NOT included to dinner celebration.				
<input type="checkbox"/> OPA Member – Full Registration		\$375	\$425	
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member* – Full Registration		\$400	\$450	
<input type="checkbox"/> Student – must be a part-time or full-time student under the age of 25 and provide a valid student ID		\$200	\$225	
Daily Registration includes all convention events and social activities on the specified day. **A Full Registration is required in order to participate in the wet paint sale & competition. **				
Daily Registration		Advanced	Onsite	
<input type="checkbox"/> One Day – Friday, June 1*		\$135 member/ \$145 non-member	\$145 member/ \$155 non-member	
<input type="checkbox"/> One Day – Saturday, June 2* (Includes AAC's Celebration*)		\$135 member/ \$145 non-member	\$145 member/ \$155 non-member	
<input type="checkbox"/> One Day – Sunday, June 3* (includes critique session)		\$135 member/ \$145 non-member	\$145 member/ \$155 non-member	
Individuals/Spouses not registered to attend the convention can register for the following events				
Ala Carte		Advanced	Onsite	
<input type="checkbox"/> Southwest Art Magazine's Welcome Reception Wednesday, May 30 (Member & Non-Member)		\$35	\$50	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Art Collector's Closing Party Saturday, June 2 (Member & Non-Member)		\$50	\$75	
<input type="checkbox"/> Awards and Recognition Ceremony — Friday, June 1		No charge	No charge	
Please type or print clearly and use black or blue ink. (Please, only one registrant per form)			TOTAL DUE:	

☐ OPA Member

☐ Non-member student

☐ Non-member collector

☐ OPA Student Member

☐ Non-member artist

☐ Non-member guest/spouse

Last Name _____ First _____ M.I. _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ E-mail _____

Method of Payment: ☐ Check ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ American Express **TOTAL DUE:** _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____ CVV: _____

(Please print clearly)

Print Name on Card _____ Signature _____

If credit card billing address is different from mailing address:

Billing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

*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



Kevin Macpherson, OPAM



Mian Situ, OPAM



Kathleen Dunphy, OPA



William Schneider, OPA

Special Offer for OPA Members

Join fellow OPA members like Kevin Macpherson, Mian Situ, Kathleen Dunphy, and William Schneider on FASO for just \$30 for your first year.

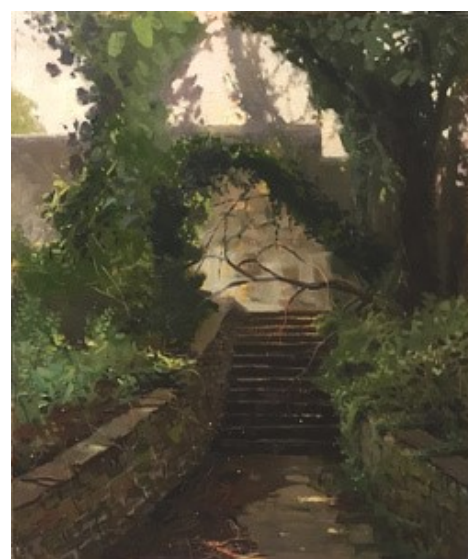
We'll even help you build your artist website for free!



FASO

The Leading Provider of
Professional Artist Websites

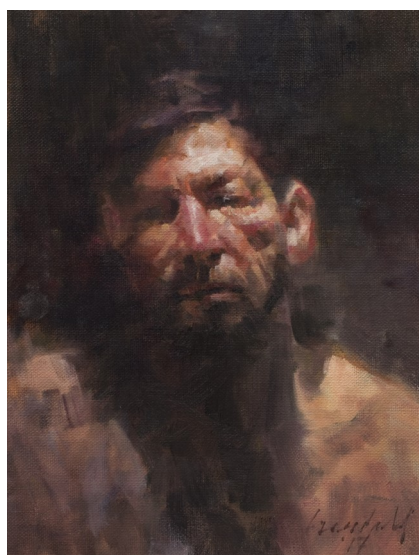
<https://l.faso.com/3l>



Jason J. Sacran won an Award of Excellence for "The Forgotten"



"Model Break" by J. Russell Wells was given an Award of Excellence



An Award of Excellence in the Master Signature Division was given to James Crandall OPAM for "Marcus"



Christine Lashley won an Award of Excellence for her painting "Valley Shadows"

"Jodie Karr" by Richard Christian Nelson won an Award of Excellence



FALL, 2017 ONLINE SHOWCASE WINNERS

With almost 700 paintings entered in the Fall, 2017 On-Line Showcase, Aimee Erickson OPA had no easy task picking the 3 top Associate and 3 top Signature winners, along with 10 Honorable Mentions. We offer our sincere thanks to Aimee for her diligent work as well as to Dorothy Driehaus Mellin and The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, sponsors of this competition.

Associate Winners

First Place: Derek Penix for “New York in Blue”

Second Place: David Dibble for “Leftovers”

Third Place: Jason Sacran for “Breaking Light - Three Arches”

Signature Winners

First Place: Elizabeth Pollie OPA for “The Inheritance”

Second Place: Tim Horn OPA for “With the Sun Behind Me”

Third Place: Patrick Saunders OPA for “Back from the Bazaar”

Honorable Mentions: Nancie King Mertz for “Sun Spots”, Daria Schachmut for “Beach”, Laura Gable for “Shifting Light”, John Richardson for “Passing Through”, Jim Wodark for “Prairie Sundown” Mary Garrish for “Windswept”, Lawrence Preston for “Untitled”, Charis Congail for “Butterfly Waiting”, Jane Flowers for “Afton Villa Whites” and John Buxton for “Spatterdock and the Alien”.

The Spring, 2018 On-Line Showcase is accepting entries through May 15. This competition is open to Associate members only and may be entered by visiting the OPA website at: www.oilpaintersofamerica.com.



“New York in Blue”
by Derek Penix won First Place
in the Associate Division



“The Inheritance” by
Elizabeth Pollie OPA won First
Place in the Signature Division



HAVE you EVER DREAMT of visiting ENGLAND?
WE are hosting FOUR fabulous WORKSHOPS!

Rosemary Brushes are proud to host Michael Klein, Michelle Dunaway and Lori Putnam this summer to teach Oil workshops in Yorkshire. Featuring Botanical Still Life, Figure in the Landscape and Plein Air. You can stock up on brushes too, this is where we make them! Book today, spaces are limited.

Contact Symi for more information:

Email: symi@rosemaryandco.com

www.rosemaryandco.com | +44 1535 632666



Juror of Awards
Howard Friedland OPAM
presents a demo

More Eastern Regional Exhibition Photos



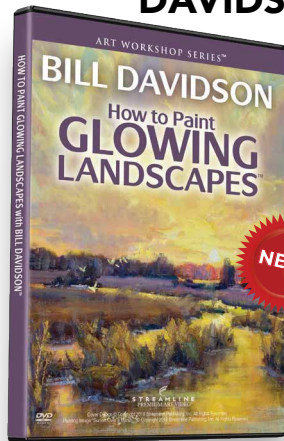
Closing dinner at the
Sea Palms Resort



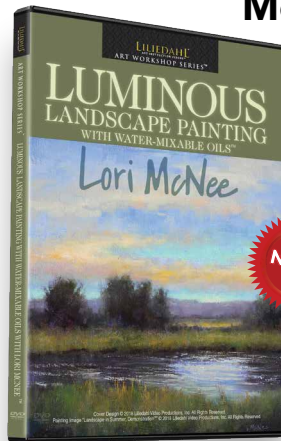
John Michael Carter OPAM
giving a portrait
demonstration

MOVE TO THE NEXT LEVEL.

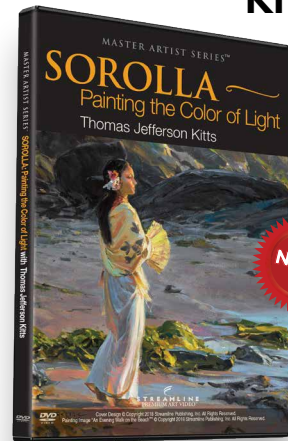
Bill
DAVIDSON



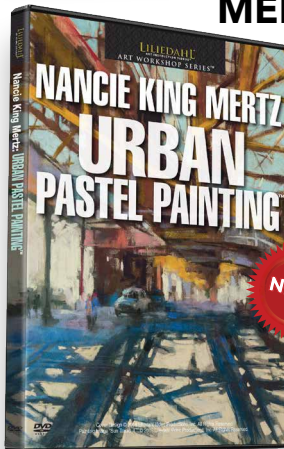
Lori
McNEE



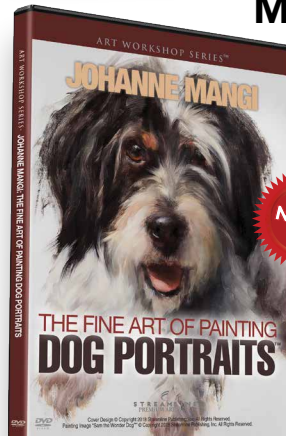
Thomas Jefferson
KITTS



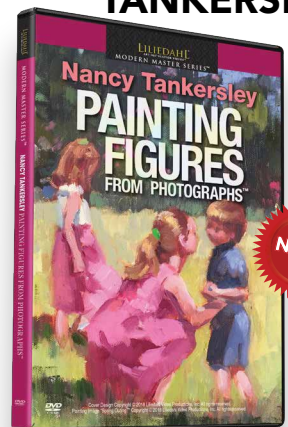
Nancie King
MERTZ



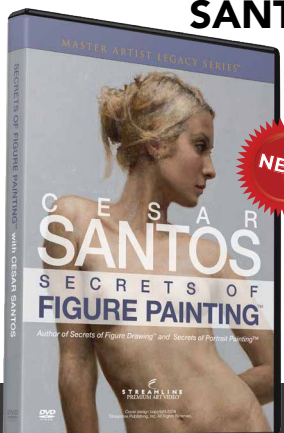
Johanne
MANGI



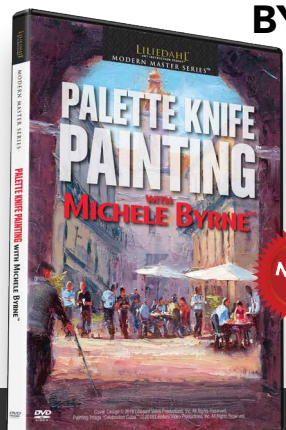
Nancy
TANKERSLEY



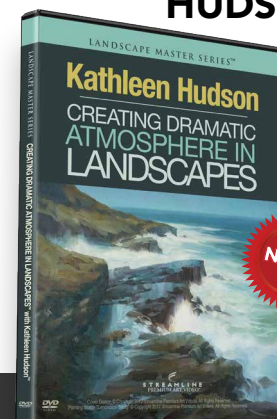
Cesar
SANTOS



Michele
BYRNE



Kathleen
HUDSON



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MEET THE ASSOCIATE ONLINE SHOWCASE WINNER DEREK PENIX

Derek Penix was born on December 29, 1980 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Penix grew up watching members of his family paint but didn't pursue painting himself until after high school. After trying his hand at painting and selling his first piece he knew this was what he wanted to do for the rest of his life.

Over the years Penix's work has changed greatly and continues to evolve with each painting. "I never want to be stuck painting only one way or only one subject matter. Variety is the spice of life and is especially that way for me with painting."

Penix has had the opportunity to work under Quang Ho OPAM and later with C.W. Mundy OPAM. "They have helped me as an artist immensely. I am so thankful that they have been willing to feed into my life as they have."

Penix has been recognized in many national competitions and publications. Even at a young age Penix was recognized in *Southwest Art Magazine's* "21 Under 31" artist competition in 2010, and *Oklahoma Magazine's* "40 Under 40" in 2014. To date, Penix's most notable and recent award has been the 2016 "Gold Medal Award" from Oil Painters of America 25th National Juried Exhibition, boasting a \$30,000 prize. Penix currently lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Penix has won numerous honors and awards from such organizations as OPA, Boldbush and RayMar as well as recently having received the Best Of Show in The Gateway International Painting Competition and Boldbrush Best of Show. He has also been recognized in such magazines as *Fine Art Connoisseur*, *American Art Collector*, *Southwest Art* and *The Artist Magazine*.

MEET THE SIGNATURE ONLINE SHOWCASE WINNER ELIZABETH POLLIE OPA

Elizabeth Pollie's *personal* art history extends back decades. Art as a path, a language and a personal frontier has been present from the time of her childhood. Her parents exposed her to the arts as a child and encouraged her to follow her interests. She earned her BFA from The College For Creative Studies where she later taught.

Her interests led her into the field of editorial illustration. The 1980's were rich with greatly imaginative artists who helped her hone both her conceptual and representational skills in the world of illustration. Ms. Pollie's work was nationally published and awarded. As illustration began to fade from magazines and book jackets her focus upon representational painting became central.

In Elizabeth's words:

The intrigue and intimacy found in observing the surrounding world provides me with ceaseless inspiration. There is a great sense of freedom as well as a spirit of discovery that is derived through the act of painting. My emphasis is based on finding and teasing out a sense of poetry, mood and depth. I want to believe that what binds humans as a species is an inward call to experience the sublime even in the most ordinary of things. Art is an outward expression of that desire.

Pollie's work has received a strong reception in the art world, collecting numerous awards as well as media coverage.

She lives and works in the waterside town of Harbor Springs, MI. along with her husband, three dogs and a steer named Egbert.



CHECK OUT THESE 2018 WORKSHOPS, PRESENTED BY OPA MEMBERS

May 3-May 6	Kathleen Dunphy OPA	Capturing the Light: Painting in Mendocino, CA Scottsdale Artists' School, Scottsdale, AZ - \$775
May 7-May 10	Stephanie Deshpande	Chiaroscuro Still Life Painting Scottsdale Artists' School - Scottsdale, AZ - \$450
May 18-May 20	Scott Conary	Painting the Story in Still Life Atelier Dojo Austin- Austin, TX - \$450
May 18-May 21	Jennifer McChristian OPA	Learn how to interpret the landscape in terms of paint, using light and color - Chesapeake Fine Art Studio - Stevensville, MD - \$750
May 18-May 20	Kim Casebeer OPA	Demystifying Color in the Landscape, Plein Air Flint Hill Flying W Ranch - Cedar Point, KS - \$450
May 18-May 20	David Terry	Weekend of outdoor painting in Southern Oregon wine country Jacksonville Vineyards - Jacksonville, OR - \$375
May 26-June 3	Deborah Tilby OPA	Opportunity for plein air and studio painting in Tuscany Tuscany - Certaldo, INTL \$0
June 1-June 3	Kim Casebeer OPA	Color and Light in the Landscape, Plein Air Mary Weil's Studio - Dundee, OR - \$425
June 25-June 29	Ned Mueller OPAM	Destination: Plein Air: Painting the Beartoo Scottsdale Artists' School - Scottsdale, AZ - \$650
June 29-July 1	Dominique Medici	Speed Portraits with a Limited Palette Atelier Dojo Austin - Austin, TX - \$450
July 9-July 13	Donna Catotti	Studio Incamminati's Natalie Italiano will teach "Color Study with Still Life" - Haines ANB/ANS Hall - Haines, AK - \$599
July 25-July 28	James Tennison OPAM	Painting Animals in Oil Whidbey Island Fine Art Studio - Langley, WA - \$600
Sep 1-Sep 26	Victoria Brooks	All inclusive workshop in Lake Como, Italy Lake Como, Italy - \$3540
Sep 29-Oct 2	Kaye Franklin OPA	Indoor/Outdoor Fredricksburg Artists' School - Fredericksburg, TX - \$495
Oct 1-Oct 4	William A. Schneider OPA	Portraits in Pastel and Oil Fredricksburg Artists' School - Fredericksburg, TX - \$575

UPCOMING IN 2019

May 25-June 1, 2019	Jennifer McChristian OPA	Paint 'en plein air' in Tuscany Tuscan Renaissance Center - Chianti Province of Siena, INTL - \$3395
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For complete information visit: <http://www.oilpaintersofamerica.com/events/workshops/workshops.cfm>

The following is a letter from OPA President John Michael Carter OPAM regarding Oil Painters of America's position on harassment and racial bias, as it relates to OPA activities.



OIL PAINTERS of AMERICA®

Dedicated to the Preservation of Representational Art

March 19, 2018

Dear OPA Members:

As an organization representing artists, both women and men, of different races and ethnicities the OPA Board of Directors states that it is our policy to promote and encourage an environment of inclusivity, equality and fairness in all OPA-sponsored activities and events.

In light of current events in this country, and the heightened awareness of these issues, we feel it is important to outline our position.

We, the OPA Board of Directors, have endeavored to design a jury system for entry into OPA exhibitions which is as free from bias as possible. Our juries are composed of both women and men from our Master Signature and Signature divisions. Individual jurors are selected from different genres and styles of painting and are anonymous to one another so that one juror cannot influence another. In this way we try to ensure that selections for our exhibitions are based on the merit of the submitted painting and not on the identity or reputation of the individual artist.

The board also strives to create OPA events at which all its members may participate and feel welcome. At some of these events we design activities that offer opportunities for our less experienced members to learn from and work beside some of our more experienced Signature and Master Signature members. We expect our members to be cordial and respectful to one another and helpful in terms of sharing their ideas and artistic experiences with our membership. The OPA Board of Directors will not condone behavior that is racially biased, sexist in nature or any type of sexual harassment from members attending or participating in OPA events.

In order to be proactive in dealing with these issues, the Oil Painters of America has appointed a task force to create an effective anti-harassment policy that applies to all meetings and activities associated with the OPA. We hope that this will ensure that all our members and staff are free from all forms of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation within our organization. We also hope that it will set an example of good practice for all artists and the organizations they work with.

Sincerely,

John Michael Carter OPAM
President

NOTES FROM YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NATIONAL WET PAINT WINNERS WIN TWICE

In case you missed this, or have forgotten of the many reasons to enter the Wet Paint Competition at the National Convention, the 2 following should be noted. Not only are the cash and merchandise awards for this event at least \$10,000 but ALSO, the first place winners in both the Plein Air and the Indoor Studio Competitions are automatically accepted in next year's National Exhibition.

ARTISTS' FELLOWSHIP INC.

If you are a professional artist and in need of financial support, or know of a professional artist in these circumstances, please contact the Artists' Fellowship Inc. This not-for profit organization has roots that date back to 1859, with the founding of the Helpful Aid Society. The Endowment aids over 50 professional artists annually to overcome medical emergencies, studio fires, natural disasters and deep economic hardship. It does not support grants for art supplies, projects, exhibitions or publications. For further information or assistance, visit: www.artistsfellowship.org.

REFINED GUIDELINES

In an effort to answer questions concerning show entries, the Board has established some definitive guidelines for submittals to exhibitions. The following are of specific note:

ACCEPTABLE SUBSTRATES: Flat substrates including: primed canvas or linen, stretched or on a panel, 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: Paintings on decorative copper and tooled aluminum, natural stone or on 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/photo-graph. Paintings should NOT require being placed under glass.

ACCEPTABLE MEDIUMS: Oil paints, alkyd resin, water soluble oils, oil sticks/bars. Metal leaf (i.e.: gold, silver, etc.) is acceptable if it doesn't comprise more than 20 percent of the visible surface.

UNACCEPTABLE MEDIUMS: Watercolor, acrylics, mixed media, Genesis paints, oil pastels.

For a complete list of the Submission Rules, please visit the OPA website.

BUSINESS MEETING

While attending the 2018 National Exhibition be sure to attend the Annual Business Meeting. This meeting is open to all current OPA members and includes a review of OPA's financial position as well as a recap of recent accomplishments and an insight into upcoming plans and events. The meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 3 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at the Steamboat Grand.

AMAZONSMILE

Members are reminded that they may make contributions to Oil Painters of America without depleting their funds. If you shop online with Amazon all you need do is revise your shopping site to Amazon Smile and OPA will receive 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products, at no additional charge to you. To participate in this website (operated by Amazon) visit: <https://smile.amazon.com>.



HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2018 DUES?

If you have not paid your membership dues for 2018 this will be the **last issue** of the *Brushstrokes* you will receive. To check to find if you have paid for this year please follow these steps:

Go to the OPA website: oilpaintersofamerica.com

Go to Member Service Menu

Go to Member Log In

Enter Primary E-mail address + Password

Click Enter

Go to My Information Menu

Go to Edit/View Info (middle of page)

Review Membership Info (middle of page) Join Date and check your Expire Date

PAINTING OUR FUTURE NEWS BRIEFS AND SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Suzie Baker OPA was the featured artist in the Artist Profile of the December/January 2017/2018 issue of *Plein Air Magazine* in the article "Paint What Makes you Say WHOA!"

Jane Hunt is starting 2018 well by winning the Artist's Choice Award in the Gateway Art Competition and being named a Finalist, in the International ARC Salon Competition.

Kari Rajkumar recently received the Bowles Award for Portrait Excellence in the 11th Biennial National

Art Exhibition for her oil portrait titled, "Aaronaut". This same painting was also chosen as a finalist in *The Artist's Magazine's* 34th Annual Art Competition. Kari's award-winning piece, along with 2 of her other most recent oil paintings, were on display as part of the 11th Biennial NAE at the Visual Art Center, in Punta Gorda, FL.

William Suys, Jr. OPA is pleased to have been invited to participate in the upcoming Olmsted Plein Air Invitational in April and the Forgotten Coast Plein Air Invitational in May.

Annie Walker is delighted to announce that "A Friend's Gift" was one of the 10 winners of *The Artists Magazine* Over 60 Competition. "White on White" was a finalist in the ARC Salon Still Life division. "They Flew Away" was awarded Third Place Still Life in *The Artist's Magazine* Annual competition. "Fear Not Little Bird" was a finalist in The Richeson 75 Animals, Birds and Wildlife Competition and was awarded a Merit Award in the NO-APS On-Line Competition.

IN MEMORIAM

With deep sympathy to family and friends, we note the passing of:

Arden Vincent of Nipomo, California, an OPA member since 2007 and wife of OPA Signature Member Henry Richards,

Michelle Walters of Scottsdale, Arizona, an OPA member since 2007,

William Whitaker OPAM of Provo, Utah, an OPA member since 2007.

If you are participating in the 2018 National Exhibition and Wet Paint Competition, hosting an OPA Great Paint Out, or just want to announce that you are a proud member of OPA, what better way than to wear an OPA apron, cap or sweatshirt or transport your coffee in an OPA mug? Visit the OPA website to view these items, as well as many more. Look for the "Resources" menu on the OPA website and go to "Online Store".



Apron
\$25.00



Cap
\$15.00



Sweatshirt
\$25.00



Travel Mug
\$25.00

DATES TO REMEMBER

Now-June 22 - Accepting entries for the 2018 Western Regional Exhibition
Canvas size not to exceed 720 square inches, Juror of Awards: Mike Desatnick OPA

April 23-August 24 - Accepting entries for the 2018 Eastern Regional
Canvas size not to exceed 960 square inches, Juror of Awards: Kathy Anderson OPAM

September-November - 13th Annual Great Paint Outs held throughout the United States, Canada & Mexico
For more information, visit: www.oilpaintersofamerica.com and go to "Paints Outs" under the "Education & Events" menu. Currently accepting applications to host.

September 1 – Deadline for submission for 2018 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 2018 Shirl Smithson Memorial Scholarships.

NATIONAL EXHIBITION

Twenty-seventh Annual National Juried Exhibition & Convention
Steamboat Art Museum in Steamboat Springs, Colorado

Convention: May 29-June 3, Wet Paint Competition: May 29-May 31, Exhibition: June 1-September 3, 2018
Exhibition Juror of Awards: Craig Tennant OPAM, Wet Paint Juror of Awards: Richard Galusha OPA

REGIONAL EXHIBITIONS

June 22 - September 1 - Salon Show - Crooked Tree Arts Center in Traverse City, Michigan

September 7-October 6 - Western Regional Exhibition - Mary Williams Fine Arts, Boulder Colorado

October 28-November 25 - Eastern Regional Exhibition - McBride Gallery, Annapolis, Maryland

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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General Office Tel and Fax: 815-356-5987
Web: www.oilpaintersofamerica.com

