

2021 Artist Guide & Rules

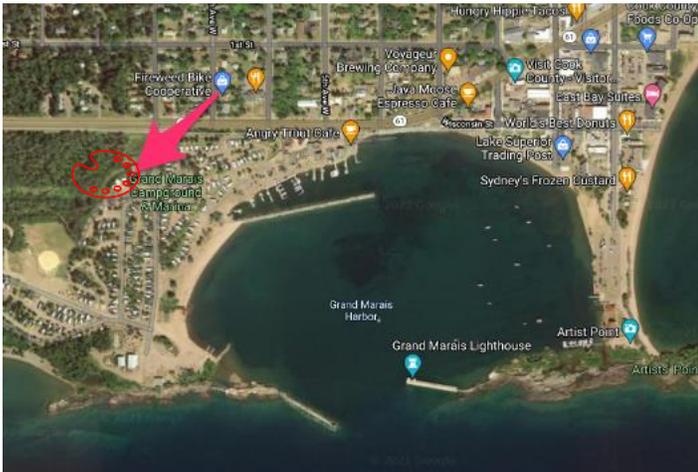
Background

Plein Air Grand Marais has been an annual tradition since 2008, when it was first organized by the Grand Marais Art Colony. In 2018, GMAC passed the torch to Outdoor Painters of Minnesota (OPM), which organizes the event in collaboration with our Competition exhibit host, Johnson Heritage Post Art Gallery (JHP). JHP is operated by the Cook County Historical Society (CCHS). Both OPM and CCHS are charitable nonprofits, and all proceeds of Plein Air Grand Marais are used to reinvest in the future of the event and the respective missions of each organization.

Outdoorpaintersofminnesota.org | Cookcountyhistory.org

Key Dates / Times / Locations

- Headquarters for all artists' activities is at the **Rec Hall at Grand Marais Municipal Campground**. The Rec Hall is across the road from the campground office.



- **Check-In** for all registered artists: 9am-3pm Friday through Wednesday, September 10-14, 2021, at the Rec Hall at Grand Marais Municipal Campground.
- All registered artists receive a neck wallet, daily schedule postcards, maps, and may choose from a selection of art supplies and promotional items from our sponsors.
- **Daily Paint-Outs** will be scheduled, where all registered painters may paint together and the public is invited to watch for them.
- **Artist Social** gatherings will be scheduled, where all registered painters are invited.

- Artists register online for **Mini-Workshops** scheduled Saturday through Wednesday of Competition Week. Each Mini-Workshop lasts about 3 hours and costs \$50. Visit <https://www.outdoorpaintersofminnesota.org/pagm-mini-workshops.html>
- **No Panel Stamping:** Instead, exhibiting Artists are required to submit an “in situ” photo of each painting on location where painted, in Cook County. Example:



A link to the Painting Submission Form will be sent to all registered artists and published on our web site when painting opens on August 1, 2021.

- **Open Class Reception & Exhibit:** 5-7pm, Wednesday at Voyageur Brewing Co., 233 W. Highway 61, Grand Marais. Paintings will be displayed on OPM’s tabletop easels. Painter and art-educator Sandy Pillsbury from Castle Danger, Minnesota is this year’s Open Class juror.
- **Competition Exhibit Preview**, 11:00am – 12:00pm, Thursday at Harbor Park across from JHP. Competition Artists may display and sell paintings off-easel. All sales must go through JHP and are subject to 30% gallery commission.
- **Quick Paint**, open to all registered artists, 3:30–5:00pm, Thursday, September 15 at Artists’ Point. Check in at the East Bay picnic table starting at 2:45pm to receive a number to display for judging afterward on the rocks. First place in the Competition class receives the Birnie Quick Award. First place in the Open Class receives the Art on the Rocks Award.
- **Hootenanny**, 7–10pm, Thursday at the harbor picnic shelter/pavilion at Grand Marais Municipal Campground. Bring an instrument to join our ad-hoc band “The Plain Errors.”
- **Competition Paintings** may be submitted at JHP during open hours (10am-4pm) during Competition Week and **MUST** be submitted no later than Friday, September 17 (8-11am).
- **Final Reception and Awards:** Doors open for VIP sponsors and registered artists starting at 4pm. VIP tickets are offered to sponsors and donors who contribute \$20 or more to either CCHS or OPM to support the event. The Awards Reception is open to the public starting at 5:00pm. Awards will be announced and livestreamed on OPM’s Facebook page starting at 6:00pm.

- **Plein Air Painting Workshop** with juror David Gilsvik, September 18-19, 2021 at the Grand Marais Art Colony: “Focus on This: Painting in Nature.” Cost is \$250. Call (218) 387-2737 to register.

Exhibit Rules for All Registered Artists (Open Class + Competition)

- Plein Air Grand Marais includes two categories of competitive exhibits: Open Class and Competition. All registered artists in either category pay a nonrefundable \$45 entry fee.
- **All exhibited paintings must be completed on location *en plein air*** in Cook County, Minnesota from August 1, 2021 to September 17, 2021.
- **Paintings must be entirely the artist’s own original, independent work.** Photos may not be used as a reference at any stage of painting completion. Paintings completed or worked on in Mini-Workshops are not eligible for any exhibit or awards.
- **Commission on all painting sales is 30%** for paintings created for PAGM or during Competition Week, including off-the-easel and Open Class sales. Competition painting sales are handled by JHP. Open Class sales are handled by the artist, who is responsible for making a donation to OPM for 30% of the painting’s purchase price. Artists who do not follow protocol may be barred in the future from PAGM.
 - *Off-the-Easel Sales by Competition Artists:* Give your buyer your name, painting title and price for presentation to the cashier at JHP during open hours (10-4).
 - *Sales by Open Class Artists:* You may handle the sale yourself, and then make a donation of 30% of purchase price to OPM using the Donate Now button on our web site.

Main Competition Rules

- Each Competition Artist may submit 4 paintings in the Competition Exhibit at JHP and up to 4 paintings in reserve, to be hung for sale as Competition paintings are sold.
- The Competition Juror may give only one award per artist.
- Due to limited exhibit space, Competition paintings must not be larger than 16x20 not including frame, no wider than 28” framed, and no taller than 24” framed. Please do not submit more than two maximum-sized paintings: due to variable wall space and lengths of hanging rods, adequate space for large paintings cannot be assured. Standard sizes from 11x14 to 14x18 are ideal for this event.
- Each Competition Artist will be assigned a single vertical rod in JHP to display 4 paintings.
- To be eligible for Night Paint award, nocturnes must be painted on location *after* sunset.

- Competition paintings must be submitted electronically at the time they are turned in at JHP. A mobile-friendly submission form prompts you for artist and painting information, a photo of each painting for the online gallery, and an in-situ photo for each painting. In-situ photos are required in lieu of panel stamping and will be shared in a slideshow in the gallery and on OPM's web site.
- The Quick Paint lasts 90 minutes from 3:30–5:00pm on Thursday, September 16. Painters may paint on and around Artists' Point. Paintings are displayed immediately afterward on the rocks at East Bay. The Open Class and Competition jurors will select the winners and award prizes at 5:30pm.
- **The Competition Exhibit** is displayed from September 17 to October 10, 2021. All Competition Artists must inform JHP of painting retrieval plans when the exhibit ends: paintings can be picked up in person, shipped to the artist, or retrieved by a caravan of volunteers. **All paintings must leave the gallery on Sunday at 4pm or Monday at 11am, October 10-11.** Volunteers who help transport paintings back to pickup locations are invited to stay at Sugarloaf Cabins in Schroeder free of charge from October 10-13, 2021. Contact Allison Eklund, Events Director for details.

Open Class Rules

- Open Class artists may submit one painting to be juried by a pop-up exhibit and reception at Voyageur Brewing Co. on Wednesday, September 15 from 5–7pm. Bring your painting, framed or otherwise display-ready, to Voyageur Brewing between 4:30-5:00pm for placement on a tabletop easel provided by OPM. **TIP: Bring a clip-on book light to illuminate the painting.** The Best in Show award winner of the Open Class is invited to participate in the Competition Class the following year as an Invitational Artist. A special prize of fine art supplies is donated by our sponsor, Wet Paint and its supplier Richeson Art Materials.
- Due to limited exhibit space, Open Class paintings should not be larger than 12x16 not including frame. Larger paintings could be unstable on tabletop easels and cause crowded display space on tables in our reception area.
- Paintings may be offered for sale at the Voyageur exhibit. Sales are handled by the artist, who is responsible for paying 30% of the purchase price to OPM. All painting sales during the reception or in Grand Marais during the event are subject to commission.
- The Open Class exhibit at Voyageurs is a pop-up show: Artists take unsold paintings home with them at the end of the reception.
- Open Class artists may participate in the Quick Paint on Thursday. The Quick Paint is a timed, 90-minute event with a horn announcing when to start and stop. All painters register for the Quick Paint at the East Bay picnic table near the paved parking lot at Artist Point. Participating artists receive a number on a 3x5 card on a popsicle stick to tape onto the back of the painting panel or easel facing outward so the juror can identify it. After the "stop" horn blows, all painters bring their paintings for display and photo-op to the

rocks on the shore of East Bay. The Open Class award is sponsored by Joy & Co., an art supply and gift store in Grand Marais. The winning painting also may be displayed in JHP for the final reception on Friday. All painting sales at JHP are subject to 30% gallery commission.

Frequently Asked Questions

- ***I am arriving late; can I still participate?*** If you have paid your registration fee, you may participate in your category of the event subject to deadlines and requirements for turning in paintings. The deadline to turn in Open Class paintings is 4-5pm at Voyageur Brewing Co. on Wednesday, and the deadline to turn in Competition paintings is 8-11am on Friday. If you cannot participate in the exhibit, please let us know so we can avoid extra work creating name tags and labels. If you're a Competition painter and can't come after all, please let us know because we might have a waiting list. Email allison@outdoorpaintersofminnesota.org with questions or to report a change in your registration or participation.
- ***Can I change my Mini-Workshop registration?*** Registrations may be changed by canceling a registration and registering for a different one, before the cancellation deadline of Friday, September 10. Contact allison@outdoorpaintersofminnesota.org about any change in workshop registration. Please note that PayPal refunds are subject to \$5 fee.
- ***Do I have to frame my paintings?*** All Competition paintings exhibited must be finished for gallery display and securely wired for hanging. Gallery-wrap paintings are acceptable if sides are finished and the painting is securely wired for hanging. Open Class paintings will be displayed on tabletop easels, but paintings still should be framed or finished for formal display and ready for wall hanging in case the painting is sold.

2021 Award Categories and Prizes

PAGM prizes are subject to change and may include cash and/or fine art materials. Special thanks are extended to our sponsors:

Joy & Co.	Wet Paint Art Materials	Richeson Art Materials	Lakeside Studios Fine Linen Panels
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Quick Paint

Competition Class:

First Place \$200 – Birnie Quick Award

Second Place \$150

Open Class: \$100 – Art on the Rocks Award (two \$50 gift certificates) sponsored by Joy & Co

Open Class Exhibit

Juror: Sandi Pillsbury, Grand Marais, Minnesota

First Place \$150

Second Place \$100

Sponsored by Wet Paint and Richeson Art Materials

Competition Class Exhibit

Juror: David Gilsvik

Grand Prize for Best Body of Work: \$1,000 and a future exhibit opportunity at JHP

Paintings of Exceptional Merit (POEM): 5 including Night Paint at juror's discretion

Best Sense of Place: \$250

Beauty of Oil: \$250

Beauty of Watermedia: \$250

Beauty of Pastel: \$250

Historic Site in Cook County: \$250 awarded and selected by CCHS

Honorable Mentions: Juror's discretion