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2024 Central MN Paint-Out

OPM's Local Host/Organizer is Charlene Ridlon

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Friday-6-8pm Iron Street Distillery: Dinner/Artist Social with Nocturne painting in the area

Iron Street Distillery, [539 East Saint Germain St., St. Cloud, MN 56304](#)-Located in East St. Cloud (very close to where we will be painting at Munsinger Gardens on Saturday)

Iron Street is a new and local distillery, located in an updated, but historical building. The distillery is producing vodka and gin while outsourcing whiskey, Rum, Bourbon and Rye. They also have an amazing selection of mocktails. We have seating reserved for the time frame. They have some food options-Pizza and locally constructed Charcuterie, you are also able to bring in your own food, or have it delivered to the facility.

Val's Rapid serve is just a few blocks away-this historic burger joint will satisfy your every greasy burger joint burger craving. It's been around since the 60's. Otherwise there are a number of sit down and fast casual restaurants across the river in downtown St. Cloud. MCDugout, The White Horse, The Pickled Loon, The Boil, Mexican Village—all within a few blocks on West. St. Germain.

Nocturne painting can be completed anywhere along East or West St. Germain or Downtown St. Cloud areas. If you paint on East St. Germain, stay close to the distillery and train station areas. West St. Germain and the downtown area should be somewhat lively. There are some really interestingly lit streetscapes, restaurants and buildings all around the downtown area. Iron Street Distillery is unique on its own, and the (very small) train station is nearby. The Granite Trio is on East St. Germain in front of an old Herberger's building. It's been recently lit and is considered a historical art installation that started an arts movement in the area in the late 70's. The sculptor is Anthony (Tony) Caponi, of Caponi Sculpture park.

Saturday Workshop – Munsinger Gardens, [1515 Riverside Dr SE, St Cloud, MN 56304](#) – 10am-1pm, paint-out 1-4pm

This beautiful garden was created by the WPA in the early 30's! It is a vast and amazing flower garden of annuals, and perennials and is a different place to visit EVERY Day. Clemens Gardens are the upper level gardens and we have been asked to not paint in this area (similar

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to Como conservatory—they don't want folks tripping over artists) We do have permission to paint in the lower gardens located from the river to the street. The lower gardens have many more shade options anyway! Parking can be tricky on a busy visitor's day (which is why I selected a morning paint at this location). Plan to park and walk a few blocks. Parking is all on-street around the park. The park is located along the Mississippi River-with the buildings of St. Cloud State University right across the river. Lots of scenic opportunities for all levels.

<https://www.munsingerclemens.com/the-gardens/munsinger-gardens/>

Picnic Lunch Spot Riverside Park-directly across from Munsinger Gardens to the South. Lots of picnic tables, with running water and restrooms.

Sunday 10am–2pm – Quarry Park Nature Preserve, [1802 Co Rd 137, Waite Park, MN 56387](#)

<https://www.stearnscountymn.gov/396/Quarry-Park-Nature-Preserve>

\$10 daily parking pass will be required to park in the park. This is enforced, particularly during the time we will be there. There is a pay station on site to purchase your pass. An annual pass can be purchased on line. The paths in the park are pebble rock. You will need to hike some to get into the quarries.

The park features 19 different quarry areas with scenic overlooks. It is well shaded by trees etc.

There is also a grassy/meadow area where deer can be seen playing in the early morning hours and at sunset.

There are 2 public swimming holes, picnic areas and vault/outhouse style restrooms throughout the park. No running water available in the park, carry in your own drinking water.

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/21c8d4d924044dadb787a3ba54940ef1>

Lunch suggestion, if painters want to eat out before meeting at Paramount:

White Horse: 809 W St Germain St, St Cloud, MN 56301

Sunday Afternoon—Paramount Art Center, [913 W St Germain St, St Cloud, MN 56301](#)

2:00pm-4:00pm set up and framing before reception, 4:00-6:00pm Public Reception. Metered parking is monitored in the down town area, even on weekends. Parking in ramps on evenings and weekends is free. There is a ramp directly behind the Paramount (North Side) and a door that artists can enter from the parking ramp side—this will most likely be our entry area for the day as well, until the art show, then front doors would be opened for public—although locals are used to the ramp and back entrance. Painters display what you worked on over the weekend on OPM's tabletop easels—4-6pm Paramount Lobby. Sales are optional and handled by artists, no commission.

Hotels. Block discount pricing is available at the Kelly Inn and at the Hilton/Garden Inn.

All of the hotels listed are decent, similar in price and in decent areas. The room block pricing will give attendees a lower than market rate price at the hotel.

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Close to downtown/Munsinger Gardens

Best Western Plus/Kelly Inn-\$139 (room block pricing)
320-253-0606

Courtyard by Marriott
320-654-1661

GrandStay hotel & Suites
855-455-7893

Campgrounds: St. Cloud Campground and RV Park-Has tent and RV sites, communal restrooms and showers, one room cabins to rent. Located about 20 minutes outside of town-closest to Munsinger Gardens.

Closer to Quarry Park

Hilton/Garden Inn \$169 Single/179 Double (room block pricing)
320-640-7990

Quality Inn and Suites 320-251-1500

Residence Inn \$159 Single/320-640-0200