

Centre Market, Wheeling - Oct. 1st

Wheeling's Historic Centre Market is a mix of shops and quality dining. Built in 1853, it is older than the state itself. The upper market house, the oldest in the country, was originally an open air market. From a hub of commerce in its early days, to a hub of culture a century later, as the home of Artworks Around Town.

Shows of local and regional artist's are held on a bimonthly basis along with educational opportunities for the public in the arts.

The Ohio Valley Plein Air's exhibit, awards ceremony is held in Artworks Gallery where the artist's and event sponsors are recognized.

(views from the 2022 exhibit)



My thoughts from 2022 and beyond

In our second year, twenty-eight artists registered to participate, plus over 60 students from the Marshall Count School Art Classes. I have continued to work with Marshall County Art Teachers and the Assistant Superintendent throughout the past year with the teachers planning a "Those that Teach, Can" show at Artworks Around Town in June. Artworks Around Town's member were again involved for which I am thankful. Faculty and staff at Bethany College made us very welcome, as well as the staff at Grave Creek Mound Museum. Our Art Judge and critic was impressed by the quality and variety of work completed. And the public responded by voting for their favorites as they viewed the month long show. We were able to award \$2,600 in prize money to individual artists. I would like to see that increase to \$3,000 in 2023 by giving out additional awards.

One of the off shoots of this project is that I had the opportunity to lead a Plein Air Workshop at the WVAEA conference at Davis & Elkins College. Working with teachers from the middle school level to the college level was both challenging and exciting. Many expressed a desire to participate in this years paint out. There is a growing enthusiasm for outdoor "en plein air" painting

Thank you to all who participated, donated, gave time, other resources and otherwise made this a great first event.

2022 Sponsors

Wheeling National Heritage Area Corp.
Wheeling/Ohio Co. Convention and Visitors Bureau
Moundsville City Council
Gary Dietz Insurance Agency
Artworks Around Town
R&V Embroidery
Judson's Art Outfitters
And two anonymous donors

OHIO VALLEY PLEIN AIR



PAINT OUT

Four days of outdoor painting
in the Ohio Valley region of
Wild and Wonderful West Virginia

Sept. 27th through
Oct. 1st, 2023.

Registration Fee - \$40
\$50 after 7/29/23

Hosted by
Artworks Around Town
2200 Market Street
Wheeling, WV 26003
(304) 233-7540

Sandscrest Mansion - Sept. 28th

The Sands family came from the Isle of Wight to Maryland in 1771. As active members of the Church of England, the Sands family became involved in the Episcopal Church. Devoted to continuing the family's commitment to the church, Harry S. Sands and his wife, Helen Turner Sands, wanted their beautiful and beloved home—Sandscrest— to be used by the Church to benefit all.

The Sandscrest Foundation, Inc., dedicated to preserving and maintaining this singular wish operates Sandscrest as a not-for-profit conference and spiritual retreat center.

This year, the foundation has graciously invited us to draw and paint on their property that includes 286 acres of rolling fields, a mansion, barns and other buildings, a pond, creeks and wooded areas, with the suggestion that at least one painting from the property could be a purchase award. Below are some of the views from which to paint!



Moundsville, WV - Sept. 29th

Moundsville is a small town nestled in the northern panhandle of scenic West Virginia. Moundsville is rich in heritage and history. Deriving its name from the many Adena Indian burial mounds constructed more than 2000 years ago, Moundsville is home to the largest conical burial mound in North America. It is also home to the original state penitentiary, a gothic-style prison that operated from 1876 to 1995.

It was a cool and breezy day last year with artists scattered out over the area, plus a group of 60+Marshall County school students, painting at Grand Vue. Below is some of activity.



Artist at Grand Vue



Students first time Plein Air painting



Students painting



Fog in the Valley looking from Grand Vue



Fence Row Grand Vue



Artist painting at Grand Vue



Even a bridge can be beautiful

Oglebay Park - Sept. 30th

In 1926, Earl W. Oglebay (of Oglebay, Norton, and Company) deeded his estate, Waddington Farms, to the city of Wheeling for the express purpose of public recreation.

Several Waddington Farms buildings, including the Mansion Museum and the greenhouse, remain in use today. Others have been rebuilt in the style of the original structures. Placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979.

The rain almost washed us out last year. But in the true spirit of “en plein air” painting, several artists braved the wet weather.

Below are a few of last years artists.



Rachael painting the green house



Sheltering under the porch



Last years beginner, back for a second go!



Puddle Hopping at Oglebay