

PLEIN AIR

Grand Marais



2017 ARTIST GUIDE

WELCOME!

We are so excited that you are interested in Plein Air Grand Marais 2017. We are immensely lucky to live in such a beautiful, mesmerizing place and we love to share it with Plein Air artists! Who better to capture the beauty and essence of the landscape and spread it around Minnesota and beyond! We hope this packet answers your questions, but if it doesn't, don't hesitate to call our events coordinator, Cara Price at (218) 387-2737 or email at events@grandmaraisartcolony.org

Happy Painting!
-The Art Colony Staff

TIMELINE:

- Invites sent out: January 30
- Jury Open: February 1
- Open Class Registration: February 1 - August 31
- Jury Applications Due: April 9
- Jury Notification: April 28
- Competition: September 8 - 14
- Opening Reception: September 15, 5 - 7pm
- Exhibit Open: September 16 - October 29

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Awards Juror: Kami Mendlik | kamipolzin.com
Take a class with Kami: Composition and Color in the Landscape | September 16 - 17



PLEIN AIR GRAND MARAIS QUICK FACTS:

- Awards Juror | Kami Mendlik | kamipolzin.com
- The boundary of Plein Air Grand Marais is all of Cook County. 3,340 square miles of quaint towns, expansive pine stands, golden pockets of aspen trees, rugged rocky coast and the “inland ocean” that is Lake Superior.
- In 2016 we had around \$30,000 in art sales.
- Plein Air Grand Marais exhibit sees close to 5,000 visitors over the duration of the show.
- 2017 Plein Air Grand Marais will have three different classes for artistic engagement: Invitational, Jury and Open Class. Invitational and Jury Class will be included in the exhibition at the Johnson Heritage Post and be eligible for all juror awards. The Open Class can participate in all competition activities, exhibit in the Art Colony's Gallery Store starting the weekend after Plein Air through the end of the Johnson Heritage Post show AND one Open Class artist will be selected as a 2018 invitational artist.
- Awards: 1st Place: \$1,000, 2nd Place: \$500, 3rd Place: \$250, Sense of Place (sponsored by Outdoor Painters of MN): \$100, Night Paint: \$75, Quick Paint: \$75, and Peoples Choice: \$75.

ABOUT THE GRAND MARAIS ART COLONY:

Since 1947, the Art Colony has offered a creative retreat for the novice to professional artist, to learn from renowned instructors, receive mentored guidance, and engage in critical dialogue within a supportive atmosphere. Artists develop work and find support in a variety of ways, including through artist-in-residencies, classes, conferences, and access to the Art Colony's professional studios (pottery, glass, print, and 2-D). We also invite artists and art appreciators to participate in our annual events including the Grand Marais Arts Festival, Plein Air Grand Marais, and Tour d'Art. Let the Art Colony be your pathway to exploration and inspiration within a pristine landscape, uninterrupted by the bustle of daily life.

DETAILED TIMELINE:

September:

FRIDAY THE 8TH

9 AM – 4 PM

Plein Air Grand Marais starts! Check in at the Art Colony when you arrive to get your canvas or boards stamped between 9 am – 4 pm.

SATURDAY THE 9TH

1:00 – 5:00 PM

Pincushion Mountain Overlook Paintout Join us for this informal paintout to discover and paint a stunning part of the county. Pincushion features expansive views of Lake Superior, the hillside, and Grand Marais. It's a wonderful spot for the public to come say hi and see what Plein Air painting is all about. Pincushion overlook is about 1.5 miles up the Gunflint Trail.

MONDAY THE 11TH

NOON

Artist Talk: TBD.

THURSDAY THE 14TH

4:00 – 5:30 PM

Quick Paint at the Harbor (Check-in TBD) This speedy competition is a joy to watch and participate in. Artists battle the weather, wind, and waves to capture this iconic tombolo. Once the ending horn sounds, please come back to the Art Colony picnic table for a display of work and group picture. Optional dinner at Sydney's custard afterwards.

8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21

FRIDAY THE 15TH:

8:30 – 10:00 AM | Invite and Jury Class: Finished and framed paintings due at the Johnson Heritage Post by 10am. Work should be framed and ready to hang, no framing space available at the gallery. All paperwork must be completed in advance.

11:00 AM | Lecture by Juror Kami Mendlik at the Grand Marais Art Colony

1:30 – 2:30 PM | Open Class Painting drop-off at the Grand Marais Art Colony. One piece per artist.

5:00 – 7:00 PM | Opening Reception at the Johnson Heritage Post | Awards will be given during this time. The Preview Party open to Purchase Award Sponsors, Event Sponsors, and artists is from 4 - 5pm.

Questions?

We're here to help! Give us a call at 218-387-2737 or stop by the Art Colony at 120 West 3rd Avenue in Grand Marais.

Ongoing Events:

SEPTEMBER 11 – 13

NOON – 3 PM | RED SUSPENDER INVITATIONAL COMPETITION AND VOTING

The Red Suspender Invitational in a bracketed competition within Plein Air Grand Marais. All Invite Class artists are eligible to participate. The invitational was named after local painting legend, Howard Sivertson, and his daily accessory of choice, red suspenders. All artists are allowed to vote (see next page for details on the Red Suspender).

SEPTEMBER 16 – OCTOBER 29

EXHIBIT & SALE AT THE JOHNSON HERITAGE POST

SEPTEMBER 8 – 14:

- **NIGHT PAINT:** Can be done any night during the week when it is dark (loosely between the hours of 8pm-5am). Not sunset.
- **DAILY LUNCH SOCIAL AND RED SUSPENDER VOTING:** Meet up with other artists, have a spot to enjoy your lunch (Free WiFi Access) and get materials stamped. The Art Colony will provide coffee, tea, and water throughout the week. Vote: 1:00 – 3:00 pm While you enjoy your lunch please make sure to vote for the Red Suspender matchup of the day (select weekdays, TBD). One vote per matchup.

5TH ANNUAL RED SUSPENDER INVITATIONAL:



A single elimination tournament within the Plein Air competition. Winner to be determined by artist votes and receives a pair of red suspenders in honor of local legend and famed suspender wearer, Howard Sivertson.

Who is eligible to participate? Any artist who is a previous award winner from 2006-2016 or artists that have received an invitation to Plein Air. Participants must sign up by calling the Art Colony. Participants must also be registered to participate in the Plein Air Grand Marais event. We have 16 available spots and will create a waitlist once those spots have been filled.

How does it work? This is a fun and friendly competition among artists. On day one participating artists submit one painting to be randomly matched up against another painting. Then the entire Plein Air Grand Marais artist community and Art Colony staff will vote for their favorite in the match-up. Winners advance to the next round and so on. Final round will be determined on Friday, the two paintings will be on display at the painting drop off (at the Johnson Heritage Post) and votes will be placed on site. The winner will be announced at the opening reception.

Do I need to submit a new painting each day if I advance to the next round? No. If you feel that the painting you submitted was your best work of the week, then it can remain in the running against your next opponent. You are also welcome to change your painting before each match up.

Do I need to be present to vote? No, votes may be cast via email or phone call while voting is occurring (between 1-3pm). On Friday, voting must take place in person.

Can I view the paintings without being at the Art Colony? Not always. We attempt to post all photographs of the work as well as the results on Facebook, but the best way to view the work is by coming in and viewing it in person. Plus then you can grab lunch and hang out with the other artists.

Can my Red Suspender Invitational painting be entered into the main competition? Yes, any of the paintings in the Red Suspender Invitational may be submitted to the main exhibit and be eligible for the competition prizes.

Do the paintings need to be framed to be displayed for voting? Yes. All Red Suspender Invitational paintings need to be framed because it is easier to safely hang the paintings and looks more professional for public viewing.

PLACES TO PAINT:

There are numerous beautiful places to paint in Cook County; here is a short list of some of our favorites. We do not require artists to paint in any specific locations however, we strongly encourage you to pick one of these spots at some point during the competition so we can send visitors on a self-guided artist scavenger hunt.

Remember to ask for permission if you want to paint on private land!

Listed in order from the west end of Cook County to the east.

Schroeder:

- + River - Caribou River – An often forgotten river, follow the gentle hike to the base of a grand waterfall with the perfect swimming hole. Between the Cook County & Lake County line in Schroeder.
- + Lake Superior - Sugarloaf Cove – private Lake Superior Cove restoration project, was once a log collection harbor before shipping across the great lakes. 9096 Highway 61 - Milepost 73 on HWY 61, about 6 miles south of Schroeder.
- + River - Cross River - beautiful waterfall with incredibly easy access in 'downtown' Schroeder.
- + Lake Superior - Father Baragas Cross – at the mouth of the Cross River, quiet & private.

Tofte:

- +River & Lake Superior - Temperance River. Tall narrow canyons, swimming holes and waterfalls with Lake Superior lakeshore access. 7620 West Hwy 61- entrance to the park is 1 mile north of the town of Schroeder on HWY 61.
- + Lake Superior - Bluefin Bay – Quiet natural harbor with a sailboat, fish house, shoreline access. 7192 W HWY 61
- + View - Carlton Peak – a 4.8mile hike with an outstanding view from the top. From Hwy 61, go north on the Sawbill Trail (Co. Rd. 2) for 2 miles to the parking area on the east/right.
- + Lake - Kelso Loop – get a taste the BWCA by doing all or a section of the Kelso Loop. Lillie pad section at the start of the Kelso River is incredible! Insider tip: Sawbill Outfitters rents canoes & equipment if desired. North on the Sawbill Trail (Co. Rd. 2) for 24 miles, road leads right to outfitters.
- + Woods - Honeymoon Trail – a winding dirt road connecting the Sawbill Trail (Tofte) to the Caribou Trail (Lutsen). Travel under a tunnel of trees over the road, exceptionally picturesque. North on the Sawbill Trail (Co. Rd. 2) for 10 miles, take a right on to the Honeymoon Trail (Forest Rd 164).
- +Woods - The Grade – an abandoned railroad track turned into a backroad 'highway', connecting the Sawbill, Caribou & Gunflint Trails. Numerous lakes and forest areas to explore. North on the Sawbill Trail (Co. Rd. 2) for 20 miles, take a right on to The Grade (Forest Rd 165).

Lutsen:

- + River - Poplar River. At the mouth, Lutsen Resort (see below). Midway up, the river twists between "fantasy holes" on Superior National Golf Course, rated the most beautiful golf course in Minnesota.
- + Lake Superior - Lutsen Resort- a historic lodge on Lake Superior with a classic covered bridge, cobblestone beach and where the mouth of the Poplar River meets Lake Superior. 5700 Hwy 61.
- +View - Lutsen Mountains – take a Gondola ride to the top of Moose Mountain for endless views of both Lake Superior and an endless sea of trees. Also, continue past gondola parking lot for a short hike to the Poplar River waterfalls. Turn off HWY 61 at Ski Hill Road, road ends at the gondola parking lot.
- + View - Caribou Trail – White Sky Rock, a short and steep hike with a drop dead eagle eye view of Caribou Lake and Lake Superior. Insider tip: hike toward Lake Agnes and find a magical wooden staircase nestled among ferns & cedar trees. North on the Caribou Trail (Co. Rd. 4), park at Caribou Lake Boat Launch – 6 miles up from HWY 61.
- + River - Cascade River – A dramatic series of waterfalls give this river its namesake. Great exposure, lots of traffic & easy access. 8 miles northeast of Lutsen on HWY 61 heading toward Grand Marais.

PLACES TO PAINT CONTINUED:

Grand Marais:

- + Lake Superior - Cutface Creek Wayside – cobblestone beach, distant views of Grand Marais. 5 miles west of Grand Marais on HWY 61
- + Lake Superior - Artists' Point (Quick Paint location) - light house access, rocky shoreline, panoramic view of Grand Marais & harbor. The path begins at the Coast Guard Station in parking lot where Broadway Ave. ends.
- + Lake Superior - Harbor Park – downtown Grand Marais, located in front of the Johnson Heritage Post. 115 W. Wisconsin St.
- + Lake Superior - Tourist Park – boat launch, shoreline access, marina, fish house.
- + View - Pincushion Mountain – Best view of Grand Marais, artists' point and Lake Superior. Gunflint Trail 2 miles to Pincushion Drive, turn right.
- + Lake Superior - Croftville Road – countless picturesque fish shacks. 2 miles east of Grand Marais, turn off Hwy 61.

Gunflint Trail:

- + Woods - George Washington Memorial Pines – old growth pine forest. Drive north on the Gunflint Trail, Cty Rd 12, about 8 miles to parking on the west side of the road.
- + View - Berglund Dairy – ASK FOR PERMISSION. The view from this local working dairy farm will make you wish you were a farmer, rolling grassy fields, cows and Lake Superior views. Pick up great unpasteurized milk and other locally produced treats. Drive north on the Gunflint Trail about 5 miles, turn on to Cty Rd 55, then Cty Rd 56 – follow signs to 140 Cty Rd. 56
- + Woods - Hedstrom's Lumber Mill – industrial beauty, not far away is a bridge that crosses the Devil's Track River. Drive north on the Gunflint Trail about 5 miles, 1504 Gunflint Trail.
- + Lake - Hungry Jack Outfitters – mid-trail outfitters will set you up to venture into the BWCA for a day trip with endless inspirational fodder. 29 miles to Hungry Jack Road (Cty Rd 21), just before Trail Center Lodge. Turn right on Hungry Jack Road, and go 1/3 mile to a fork in the road.
- + Woods - Forest regrowth - End of the Gunflint Trail, the post Ham Lake fire regrowth is breathtaking. Insiders tip: dusk or dawn is a best time to find a moose grazing in one of the ponds on the Gunflint.

Hovland:

- + River - Brule River & Naniboujou Lodge – Naniboujou Lodge, a work of art in its own right, has access to a lovely cobblestone beach at the mouth of the Brule River. Hike up the Brule River to Devil's Kettle waterfall in Judge Magney State Park. 15 miles east of Grand Marais on Hwy 61.
- + Lake Superior - Chicago Bay & Horseshoe Bay – classic fish houses, old buildings and Lake Superior landscapes. In the heart of 'downtown' Hovland.

Grand Portage:

- + Lake Superior - Grand Portage Lodge – part of the Grand Portage Ojibwe Reservation, the lodge is surrounded by a natural harbor with a distant view of the Isle Royal and access to the Isle Royal ferry dock. Approximately 30 miles northeast of Grand Marais, just off Hwy 61.
- + Lake Superior - National Monument – historic voyager & fur-trading post set right on Lake Superior. The historic site is ½ to 1 mile south of the west and east exits from Hwy 61 in the village of Grand Portage.
- + Lake Superior, View - Susie Islands – Outstanding overlook of the islands can be found from the road.
- + View - Mount Josephine. This rugged trail climbs 700 feet to the summit of Mount Josephine with spectacular views of Grand Portage Bay to the southwest, and Wausaugoning Bay, the Susie Islands, and Isle Royale National Park to the east.
- + River - Pigeon River – Walk to the High Falls for incredible waterfalls and wave to Canada along the way. The park entrance is on the west side of the highway, just before you come to the U.S. Customs Station on the US/Canada border.

RULES:

Competition:

- + Artwork Validation - All paintings and drawings must be validated with the 2017 stamp before the work is eligible for the competition. Painting surfaces can be stamped at the Art Colony office between 9am-4pm beginning Friday, September 8 through Thursday, September 14. Stamps will also be available at all paint outs. There is a special stamp for Quick Paint, please make sure to check in with a staff member at Quick Paint before heading out to your spot.
- + Night Paint can be done any night during the competition when it is dark (loosley between 8:00 pm and 5:00 am), not sunset.
- + Competition Area – Anywhere in Cook County, from the Canadian Border to the Caribou River in Schroeder.
- + Be visible – While we do not require artists to paint in any specific locations, we do strongly encourage choosing one of our suggested painting locations so we can guide visitors to seek you out.
- + Pincushion Mountain Overlook paintout – This year we will host a paintout at Pincushion in Grand Marais on Saturday, September 9, from 1-4pm. Staff will be available to stamp materials. This is not a required event but participation is encouraged as the public is invited to watch. + Come prepared – Small town charm is part of what makes Grand Marais endearing, that said there are limited art supplies available here, so come prepared with all the materials you will need to create and exhibit. Art Materials: paints, solvents, brushes, pastels, pencils, canvas, paper, easels –the kitchen sink. Exhibition materials: frames, glass, hooks, wire, mattes, or any other items you might need.
- + Open class artists must pay a registration fee of \$25, and if Waitlisted artists are accepted into the main competition, the \$40 registration fee needs to be paid. These fees help cover the costs of the event.
- + The Art Colony retains 40% commission on all work sold from September 8 - October 29.
- + ARTISTS MUST PAINT OVERWHELMINGLY on location. No photographs or mechanical support may be used at any time in the completion of competition paintings.

Exhibit:

- + Artwork MUST be framed, wired, and ready to hang to be included in the exhibition. Maximum size for artwork, including frame is 30” in any direction, NO EXCEPTIONS.
- + An Artwork Registration Form (provided at check-in or picked up at the Art Colony Office during the week) must be completed and attached to all artwork in advance of submission.
- + A commission of 40% will be retained from all sales during the competition and exhibition. A commission check will be mailed to the artists within 30 days after the exhibition has closed on October 29.
- + Artwork must be framed and properly wired to hang (no wire exposed above the frame).
- + A total of four paintings per artist will be accepted into the exhibit. Two paintings in main competition category, one quick paint painting, and one night painting.
- + Up to two paintings may be held in reserve storage to replace sold artwork at no additional cost. These paintings are not eligible for competition prizes.
- + Paintings made during Art Colony Plein Air classes between the dates of September 8 - 15 cannot be submitted to the juried competition.
- + Once hung, artwork MAY NOT be moved by artists, doing so will result in immediate disqualification from the competition and removal of paintings from exhibit. Please consult Events Coordinator if there are questions about painting placement.
- + All exhibit art must be for sale and remain in the exhibit until the end of the show or until purchased.
- + Awards – Judging results by Kami Mendlik will be announced during the Opening Reception on Friday, September 15.
- + Competition Awards: 1st: \$1,000, 2nd: \$500, 3rd: \$250, \$75 each for Night Paint, Quick Paint, and People’s Choice.
- + There are numerous Purchase Award Sponsors who attend the preview reception from 4 - 5pm on Friday, September 15.
- + Insurance – Insurance for artwork is the artists’ responsibility. GMAC assumes no responsibility for theft, damage, or liability during or after the competition and exhibition.

Artwork Pick-up & Shipping:

- + Unsold Artwork must be picked up at the Johnson Heritage Post between 10am-4pm on Monday or Tuesday, November 14 or 15 unless prior shipping arrangements have been made.
- + Shipping – Your artwork may be shipped to you at your expense. Please provide packing materials, boxes and shipping instructions upon painting drop-off. Often artists will arrange for a prepaid UPS or FedEx label. Artwork sized shipping boxes are very hard to find in Grand Marais, please come prepared! We do not have a FedEx or UPS center, but can ship via pick-up through them.
- + Many places will not let you schedule a pick-up this far in advance, Art Colony staff can do this once the show is done; please still provide boxes, packing materials and a label.
- + The Art Colony will have a shipping package for sale for \$20 per two paintings and \$5 for each additional painting after two. This includes boxes, bubble wrap, packing tape, and handling. THIS \$20+ FEE DOES NOT INCLUDE SHIPPING COSTS.
- + If you do not provide packing materials, this \$20+ packaging fee will be applied to your shipping fees.
- + If you provide your own boxes & bubble wrap, a \$10 handling charge will be added to all artwork that is to be shipped.
- + YOUR PIECES WILL BE PACKED UP AND SHIPPED THE FASTEST IF YOU PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Boxes large enough to ship your paintings wrapped in bubble wrap. Frame boxes may be left to store your art, but will not be used as the sole shipping box.
- Bubble wrap
- Prepaid shipping label

Artwork Pick - up Address:
Johnson Heritage Post
115 West Wisconsin Street
P.O. Box 35
Grand Marais, Minnesota 55604

LODGING PARTNERS:

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A creative space for artists, adventurers, everyone!
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OPEL'S LAKESIDE CABINS

New Hillside House, east of Grand Marais overlooking Lake Superior
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PINCUSHION TRAILS INN

Artful views; art on the walls; the artists' residence!
218-387-2009 | pincushiontrailsinn.com

SPIRIT HAVEN

Art Colony co-founder Byron Bradley's idyllic retreat at Lake Superior's edge
218-370-1024 | vrbo.com/924651#

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Spectacular views with the Lake Superior lodging gem
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