



**Call to Artists! Let's "Paint Our Towns!"**  
**4th Annual Our Towns Through Artists' Eyes**  
**A Plein Air Celebration of Yardley, Newtown, Langhorne, Washington**  
**Crossing, and Fallsington**

*Hosted by AOY Art Center*

This spring AOY Art Center is celebrating the Historic Towns of Yardley, Newtown, Langhorne, Washington Crossing and Fallsington in conjunction with Countryside Gallery, Experience Yardley and the Friends of Washington Crossing Park and Historic Fallsington with a Plein Air Open. Plein Air painters, pastelists, etc are invited to participate per the following criteria.

**Key Dates**

- ❖ Canvas or Paper Stamping at AOY Art Center - Wednesday, April 3, 12-2 pm or Thursday, April 4, 10am-noon or by appointment. A link to RSVP for Stamping is below.
- ❖ Plein Air Painting Window - April 8 - May 3
- ❖ Drop off Entries - Monday, May 13, 12-2 pm or 4-7 pm or by appointment
- ❖ Artists Reception - Friday, May 17, 6-8 pm
- ❖ Awards Presentation - Friday, May 17, 7 pm at Artists Reception
- ❖ Exhibition and Sales - May 18 - June 2, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, and 24/7 online
- ❖ Pickup Unsold Works - June 2, 5-7 pm or June 3, 10 am-noon or by appointment

**First Prize - \$500 cash!**

**Who can enter?** This is a regional event so we ask that only artists residing within 35-40 miles of Yardley, PA participate. Registrations are accepted on a first-come basis and artwork will not be juried. Total number of artists participating is limited to 75. Confirmed, registered artists will be notified by email of additional information.

**How?** Register online at <https://aoyartcenter.wildapricot.org/event-5636005>

**Registration Fee?** \$35 for AOY members or \$45 for non-members

**When?** Registrations are being accepted online through April 7

**Canvas or Paper Stamping at AOY Art Center** - Wednesday, April 3, 12-2 pm or Thursday, April 4, 10am-noon or by appointment. All artists must get their canvases or papers stamped on the specified dates at AOY Art Center, 949 Mirror Lake Road, Yardley, PA 19067. This ensures that all entries are done during the specified timeframe. Artists may have as many

canvases or papers stamped as desired. The size of the work should not exceed 36 inches on either edge. Please [RSVP for your stamping](#)

### **Plein Air Painting Window - April 8 - May 3**

Artists agree to paint within the designated painting window of April 8 - May 3 and to focus on the geographic areas of Newtown Borough and Township, Lower Makefield Township, Yardley Borough, Langhorne, Fallsington and Washington Crossing Historic Park (PA side). Work must be done in plein air as much as possible. Suggested locations are listed in the “About Our Towns” section below.

### **Submitting Works for the Exhibition**

Each participating artist will be permitted two framed works for the consideration of the judge. All works must be available for sale. Works are not to exceed 36” on any edge (unframed) and must be framed and wired (with D-rings) for hanging. The following information must be included on the back of each entry: Title, Artist’s Name, Medium and Price. Entries must be delivered to the AOY Art Center on Monday, May 13, 12-2 pm or 4-7 pm or by arrangement prior to that date. Artists will also be required to submit images of their two entries to Entrythingy (link and code will be provided at a later date) so that an online gallery can be generated for increased sales. All entries will be included in the online gallery.

### **Exhibition Dates**

Saturday, May 18 and Sunday, May 19, 12-5 pm and then, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, from May 24 to June 2, 12-5 pm in the AOY Gallery and 24/7 Online at [aoyarts.org](http://aoyarts.org)

### **Awards**

Awards will be presented on Friday, May 17, 7 pm at the Artists Reception. First place is currently a \$500 cash award (this may increase) and other prizes will include gift certificates to local businesses and restaurants.

### **Sales**

AOY will handle all purchase payments and will provide payment to artists within 14 days of the beginning of the month following the sale. AOY retains a 30% commission on all sales.

### **2023 Judge - Joseph Gyurcsak returns!**

**About the Juror:** Mr. Gyurcsak paints a broad range of subject matter including interiors, still life, figure and landscape painting. He has a keen sense for capturing the essence of his subject matter with a bold and candid approach. He exhibits in galleries across the country and his award winning paintings continue to pique the interest of collectors nationwide. “My paintings express a sense of light, atmosphere and mood; they transcend the techniques that were employed to create them and breathe the very light and atmosphere they were painted in. I like to capture the fleeting moments of life; the sublime manifestations of light and color, their aesthetic influences on the subject.”

## About Our Towns

This area is a treasure chest of historical sites evoking the charm of the past, most notably Washington Crossing Historic Park, and features rolling farm vistas, bustling quaint downtowns (recently named in top 10 small towns in Pennsylvania), canals, rivers and lakes as well.

Listed below are possible locations to consider. Some may be obvious, others not. Many of these locations are among the top pages viewed on the Visit Bucks County website. ***Painters are expected to respect private property and, if painting street scenes, to ensure pedestrians have sufficient room to pass safely.***

### **Yardley Borough, Lower Makefield Township and Washington Crossing Historic Park**

Yardley was founded by William Yardley, who emigrated to America in July 1682 with his family. He made an agreement with William Penn, before leaving England, to buy 500 acres (2.0 km<sup>2</sup>) for ten pounds. A survey was completed in October 1682, and the area William Yardley settled was called "Prospect Farm." It was located just outside the present Yardley Borough. A nephew, Thomas Yardley, came to America in 1704 to settle the estate and never returned to England. He opened a ferry line which started operating in 1710.

- Patterson Farm/AOY Art Center located on the 250 acre historic Patterson Farm just off the I-295 and Route 332 exit, easily accessible to the region. The Center and Gallery operate out of the 1837 Janney House.
- Washington Crossing Historic Park (PA side)
- Delaware Canal State Park (several access points between Ferry Road and Washington Crossing Historic Park)
- Five Mile Woods
- 911 Memorial Garden of Reflection
- Continental Tavern
- Lake Afton/Old Library
- Street Scenes of Yardley
- The Gathering Place <https://gatherplace.org/>

### **Newtown Borough and Newtown Township**

Newtown was founded by William Penn in 1684. Newtown was one of several towns that Penn had organized around Philadelphia to provide country homes for city residents and to support farming communities. It was the county seat of Bucks County from 1726 until 1813, when it was replaced by a more central Doylestown. After his December 26, 1776 morning march to Trenton, and before the Battle of Princeton, General George Washington made his headquarters in Newtown. Newtown was incorporated on April 16, 1838 and has been enlarged three times since. In 1969 Newtown's entire central business district was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. This designation was largely due to Newtown's historic clock tower. Newtown is enhanced by unique boutiques, colleges, cuisine, a climate for industry, Pennsylvania's most popular state park (Tyler State Park) and a Heritage Walk that traces the very steps of George Washington.

- Tyler State Park
- The Bird in Hand (Edward Hicks House) c.1686
- The Court Inn (The Half Moon Inn) c.1757
- Newtown Hardware House c.1869
- Rose Bank Winery

- Crossing Vineyards
- The Temperance House
- Newtown Theater

### **Langhorne**

Langhorne is used for Langhorne Borough but it is also used broadly to describe the majority of surrounding Middletown Township. Langhorne was founded in 1730 at the intersection of older [Lenni-Lenape](#) paths. The earliest established settlers (three Dutch and two British) arrived in the early 18th century. One of the area's first notable residents was Joseph Richardson, who established a store and inn in the 1730s. The road from Bristol grew into a very important transportation center between Trenton and Philadelphia in the later 18th century and 19th centuries, with trade and travelers contributing to the economic growth of the area. Langhorne eventually became the stagecoach transportation hub of Bucks County, transporting people between Trenton and Philadelphia.

- Core Creek Park
- Historic Langhorne Borough Main Street (historic buildings and pocket parks)

### **Historic Fallsington**

Historic Fallsington, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of this historic village since 1953. Over nearly seven decades they have worked in close harmony with their neighbors to balance the interests and needs of the community with the vital task of caring for the 6 historic buildings and thousands of unique artifacts entrusted to their care. Listed as an [Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places](#), they are proud of the long and varied history of the historic village and its people.

Some information about their historic buildings is [noted below and highlighted on the map](#):

1. Gillingham Store/HFI Office & Information Center, c1910: This Italianate-style building functioned as a general store and post office for many years. Today it is the location of the Museum Shop and office of Historic Fallsington, Inc. and the Fallsington Antique and Craft Shop.
2. Burges-Lippincott house, 1808-1824: Boasting one of the most beautiful doorways in Bucks County, this house was built for the Lippincott family. In 1829, Dr. Henry Lippincott moved back into his family home and for the next 38 years tended to the medical needs of the village residents and nearby farming families.
3. Gambrel Roof house, 1728-1789 (Private): Originally built as a meetinghouse by the Falls Friend Meeting until they sold the property in 1789. Over the centuries, the building served as a boarding school, country store, library, dental office, and rental property.
4. Schoolmaster's house, 1758 (Private): A stone residence built by the Falls Friends Meeting for its schoolmaster.
5. Stagecoach Tavern, c1760s: This stone house was first licensed as a tavern in 1799 and served the community as such until 1920. It then served as a post office, lodge hall, and hardware store until acquired by HFI in 1967.
6. Moon-Williamson log house, 1767-1780s: This is one of the oldest log houses still standing on its original foundation as built for a well-known "joiner" and chair maker, Samuel Moon and his family. In the 1870s the house was "Victorianized" by Miss Mary Williamson for use during her summers in the village.

This Plein Air event is sponsored by AOY Art Center, 949 Mirror Lake Road in Yardley, PA. Proceeds will benefit the art center's mission of arts education and supporting local artists.

**Questions**

Please contact Bette Sovinee at [director@aoyarts.org](mailto:director@aoyarts.org)