



Call to Artists! Let's Paint Our Towns!

Our Towns Through Artists' Eyes – A Plein Air Celebration of Yardley, Newtown and Langhorne

Hosted by AOY Art Center

This spring AOY Art Center is celebrating the Historic Towns of Yardley, Newtown and Langhorne in conjunction with Countryside Gallery, Experience Yardley and the Friends of Washington Crossing Park!

Key Dates

Canvas or Paper Stamping at AOY Art Center - Sunday, May 1, May 7- 8 from 12-5 pm. See link to RSVP for Stamping below.

Plein Air Painting Window - May 9-25

Drop off Entries - Thursday, May 26, 10 am-noon

Exhibition and Sales - May 28-June 12

Awards Presentation - Saturday, May 28 at noon

Pickup Unsold Works - June 12, 5-7 pm or June 13, 10 am-noon

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 65. Accepted artists will be notified by email.

How? Register online at <https://www.aoyarts.org/event-4198708>

Registration Fee? \$25 for AOY members or \$35 for non-members

When? Registrations are being accepted online until May 1

Canvas or Paper Stamping at AOY Art Center - Sunday, May 1, May 7- 8 from 12-5 pm. All artists must get their canvases or papers stamped on the specified dates at AOY Art Center, 949 Mirror Lake Rd, 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](#) at AOY Art Center, Sunday, May 1 or May 7 & 8 from 12-5 pm.

Plein Air Painting Window - May 9-25

Artists agree to paint within the designated painting window of May 9-25 and to focus on the geographic areas of Newtown Borough and Township, Lower Makefield Township, Washington Crossing Historic Park (PA side), Langhorne and Yardley Borough. Work must be done en 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 Thursday, May 26 between 10 am and noon 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 28 and then, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, from May 29-June 12, 12-5 pm in the AOY Gallery and 24/7 Online.

Awards

Awards will be presented at noon on Saturday, May 28 on the AOY Art Center grounds. First place is currently a \$500 cash award (this may increase) and other prizes will include gift certificates from 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.

2022 Judge - Neal Hughes

Neal Hughes is a graduate of The Philadelphia College of Art (University of the Arts) and resides in the historic town of Medford, New Jersey.

Neal is a Fellow of the American Society of Marine Artists, a signature member of Oil Painters of America and the National Oil & Acrylic Painters Society, a member of the Salmagundi Club, American Impressionist Society and the Mid Atlantic Plein Air Painters Association.

A former illustrator, Neal has been painting professionally for over 35 years. His work is part of the permanent collection of the New Britain Museum of American Art and he has been accepted into numerous juried exhibitions including the national exhibitions of the American Impressionist Society, Oil Painters of America, American Society of Marine Artists and the Portrait Society of America.



His work has been featured in Plein Air Magazine, Southwest Art, American Artist and American Art Collector magazines.

Recent Awards 2021:

Best of Show – National Oil & Acrylic Painters Society 2021 Fall International Online Exhibition

Award of Excellence – American Impressionist Society National Juried Exhibition

Best Marine Painting Award – Cape Ann Plein Air competition

Best of Show – Paint Grand Traverse competition

Artists Choice Award – Paint Grand Traverse competition

Life on the Farm Award – Plein Air Easton competition

Architectural Award – Paint Annapolis competition

Annapolis Gallery Association Award – Paint Annapolis competition

Best Nocturne Award – Paint Annapolis competition

About Our Towns

Yardley was founded in 1682, Newtown in 1683 and Langhorne in 1730. Both hold a treasure chest of historical sites evoking the charm of the past, most notably Washington Crossing Historic Park. The area has rolling farm vistas, bustling quaint downtowns (recently named in top 10 small towns in Pennsylvania), canals, rivers and lakes.

AOY Art Center is 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.

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 for Newtown and Yardley. ***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 km²) 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
- Washington Crossing Historic Park
- 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

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 began in the 17th century 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)

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 coordinator@aoyarts.org