

Roger Tory Peterson Institute's 5th Annual Plein Air Festival Artist Information

Good afternoon! We look forward to welcoming you to the Roger Tory Peterson Institute for our Plein Air Festival.

When can I check in?

Please bring your canvases (or other material of your choice) on Friday, September 11th, between 10am and 4pm when you check in. If you would like your canvas(es) stamped later on during the festival, please call Claire or Rachael at 716 665 2473 ext. 236 or 221, respectively, and we can arrange for a time for you to stop by.

How does stamping work?

We will stamp as many canvases as you like, but you may submit only two works to the "Wet Paint" Show & Sale. You will receive your paperwork on Friday when you check in, which you will turn in along with your painting on the following Friday, September 18th.

What is the deadline for turning in artwork?

Please have your painting and paperwork turned in to RTPI no later than Friday, September 18th at 4pm. Any works not turned in by 4pm on Friday will not be accepted for judging or the "Wet Paint" Sale and Show. **Please also bring an easel on which to display your work.**

When is the Closing Reception & Awards Ceremony?

The Closing Reception & Awards Ceremony will be held on Saturday, September 19th from 5-7pm. This event is free to artists, and you may bring one guest.

Are there any rules for artwork dimensions, etc.?

Artworks must be a two-dimensional medium including oils, acrylics, watercolor, gouache, ink, mixed media, and pastels. All paintings must be done "en plein air" outside, in natural lighting during the time frame of the event. Canvases should be no larger than 18"x24" landscape or portrait orientation. Substrates must be free of images prior to stamping, though a solid base coat of paint is allowed.

Works **must be wired for hanging** and framed with an open back to facilitate viewing of the festival stamp on the back. If works on paper are framed, back of frame must be removable to view RTPI Festival Stamp. No unframed gallery wraps will be accepted.

How many works can we submit to the festival for judging and the Wet Paint sale?

Artists may stamp an unlimited number of canvases but will submit **only two pieces** for the Wet Paint Show & Sale.

How does the Wet Paint Sale work?

The Wet Paint Sale will take place Saturday and Sunday, September 19th-20th, 2026. 30% commission on all artwork sold during the Plein Air Festival will be retained by RTPI, with all

event sales handled by RTPI. All proceeds from the registration and art sale will go towards fulfilling the mission of RTPI in the community. Payment to artists for work sold will be mailed within 30 days after the event ends. Any “off the easel” sales during the event agree to donate to RTPI comparable to the event commission.

Any unsold art must be collected by the artist during the following week (September 21st – 25th, 2026). RTPI is not responsible for return shipping.

Is my work eligible for exhibition at RTPI?

All artworks submitted to the festival will be considered for inclusion in a fall exhibition at the Roger Tory Peterson Institute. Selected artists will be contacted by the curator. RTPI will provide artists with a loan agreement for any works on loan.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to us directly:

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rkosinski@rtpi.org / 716.665.2473 x 221