

Quilt Garden's Tour Paint Out, August 8 & 9, 2009, Elkhart County, Indiana

Elkhart County Convention and Visitor's Bureau, is teaming up with Sycamore Fine Arts in the Old Bag Factory to host our first annual, county-wide, Quilt Gardens Tour Paint Out. The tour follows the Heritage Trail, which has many beautiful sites along the way.

Location: Elkhart County, Indiana.

Dates: Saturday & Sunday, August 8 & 9, 2009.

Check in: Sycamore Fine Arts at the Old Bag Factory

1100 Chicago Ave.

Goshen, IN 46528

574-533-8900

www.sycamorefinearts.com

www.oldbagfactory.com

Schedule of Events:

Saturday, August 8:

Check in beginning at 7:30a.m. (Canvas or other support must be stamped to be entered into the Plein Air competition)

Painting throughout the county at different Quilt Garden locations, or where ever artists choose to set up. Maps to the Quilt Garden Locations will be provided.

7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Wine and Cheese Reception for plein-air artists and the public at Sycamore Fine Arts in the Old Bag Factory. This will also be a reception for the opening of Sycamore Fine Arts new special exhibit: *Fur, Fins and Feathers*. The exhibit will be made up of art work from three accomplished artists whose subject matter will consist of wild and/or domestic animal life. The artists are: British graphite artist Mike Sibley, and Indiana artists: sculptor Valerie Schafer and painter/printmaker Bruce Langton. (Mike Sibley will also be conducting a Drawing Workshop during this weekend. Visit www.sycamorefinearts.com or www.sibleyfineart.com for more information on this rare opportunity.)

Sunday, August 9:

Check in beginning at 8:00 a.m. for new artists, (others can go directly to where ever they plan to paint)

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 pm. Judging and award presentation for the Plein Air Competition, only entries that were stamped at check in, and were painted without the use of electronic aids, at the quilt garden locations will be accepted. See more information below.

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Art sale at the Old Bag Factory, for artists that painted during the paint out. Artists can also bring other work to sell. If the weather permits, this will be outside, otherwise it will be moved into OBF. Artist will keep 100% from the sales of any work sold during the sale. Artists need to bring their own easels to display work and tags for prices.

Additional information or items of interest:

Please visit any of the following websites to get a feel for the area and the sponsoring parties:

www.sycamorefinearts.com

www.quiltgardenstour.com

www.amishcountry.org

<http://www.amishcountry.org/events/Plein.Air.Paint.Out?date=2009-08-08>

www.oldbagfactory.com

Das Dutchman Essenhaus is one of the businesses helping to provide food for this event. Please visit their website for additional special activities that will be taking place before and during the weekend there. www.essenhaus.com

Additional Information for the Plein Air Competition

Awards will be:

\$300: First Place

\$200: Second Place

\$100: Third Place

\$50: Gift Certificate to Sycamore Fine Arts for Honorable Mention.

Ron Monsma has agreed to judge the work. Professor Monsma is head of the Drawing and Painting Department at Indiana University South Bend. He also is an award winning pastel and oil painter, with many years of experience doing plein air painting.

Supports (canvas, paper...) must be stamped on the back, prior to being painted on. There will be no exceptions to this rule. This will be done during registration.

We request that artists enter only one painting for the competition, due to the short amount of time for the judging.

Please do not sign or frame the piece you are entering. We will provide a number for each painting.

Please have some type of support ready for your entry to be propped on.

Remember this is only for work done during the weekend without the help of any modern equipment. As plein air painters it is important that we honor the tradition we are trying to advance.

Accommodations:

There are many wonderful hotels and other places to stay scattered around the county. Please visit www.amishcountry.org for a list of those places. If you mention that you are an artist participating in the Quilt Garden's Paint-Out some of the places hopefully will be giving discounts, but we have also made arrangements, with two hotels in the county that are willing to give artists a significant discount. Both of the following hotels have set aside a block of rooms that they will hold up until 30 days prior to the event. Regardless of where you decide to stay, please make your reservations as early as possible, because there are a lot of tourists that come for the tour and other events this time of year.

With the hotels below, please notify them that you are a painter for the Quilt Garden's Tour Paint Out and give them the code that is listed, when making your reservations, to receive the discount. Also, please note that these rates are only for artists and guests staying in their room, not other members of the public.

Promotional code: ***B018 Quilt***

Elkhart Red Roof: \$39.99 (1 King or 2 Double Beds, no breakfast)

2902 Cassopolis St.

Elkhart, IN 46514

(574) 262-3691

i0018@redroof.com

Promotional code: ***Paint Out***

Best Western: \$45 (Any room configuration, frig/micro & full hot breakfast included)

900 Lincoln Way East

Goshen, IN 46526

(574) 533-0408

info@bwgoshen.com

Other items of interest:

~There are 16 quilt garden locations in all, each with a unique setting and surrounding landscape.

~Maps to the different locations will be provided at check in. Bathroom facilities should be available at all of the locations.

~The Elkhart County Visitors Bureau did a wonderful job of promoting the tours last year and they are doing even more promotion this year. Advertising for the tour is being done in publications such as Midwest Living Magazine and through other venues. A special ad just for this event will be placed in the July issue of Lakes Magazine which is distributed to over 2100 high income lake residents in Northern Indiana and Southern Michigan, also in Marion and Hamilton counties in the center of Indiana. The paint out is scheduled to take place during one of the peek weeks of the tour, so there should be ample opportunity to interact with the public. If you would rather paint at a more remote location, we can give you tips of other great areas around the county, but of

course we are hoping many artists will paint at the quilt garden sites so the public has a chance to understand just what it is that we do!

~There are many locations that provide shelter in case of bad weather, so you can still paint and get out of the rain.

~The idea for the paint out came from Sycamore Fine Arts owner Diane Overmyer who has been involved with Indiana Plein Air Painters for several years. Diane's gallery represents artists working in many different mediums, and it is her desire to really be able to help artists to have a fun and profitable weekend.

Things to bring:

easel

painting supports

medium

umbrella, or large rimmed hat for protection from the sun

sun block

rain gear

water bottle/cooler with snacks (many of the locations have food venues available also.)

camera

bug spray

trash bags

rug or mat to stand on in case of rain, if you plan to paint in a grassy area

easels or other supports for the art sale

To register please print, fill in the following information and mail by July 8 to:
Sycamore Fine Arts, 1100 Chicago Ave. Suite #7, Goshen, IN 46528

<p><u>Quilt Garden's Tour Paint Out, August 8 & 9, 2009, Elkhart County, Indiana</u></p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p> <p>Phone: _____</p> <p>Medium: _____</p> <p>Which days you plan to participate: _____</p> <p>Are you hoping to participate in the plein-air competition? _____</p> <p>I plan / do plan not to attend the artist's reception on Saturday, Aug. 8.</p> <p>Number of people who will be attending the reception? _____</p>

Any other questions please email Diane at diane@oldbagfactory.com or call the gallery at 574-533-8900.

We look forward to having a great weekend together!

Diane Overmyer
Sycamore Fine Arts
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