

Plein Air Paintout Terms and Conditions 2026

General Information

What is the Arts By The Pond Plein Air Paint Out?

This is a one-day plein air (outdoor) painting event for artists of all skill levels. Join us to capture the scenic beauty of Hillsburgh in either a competitive or non-competitive environment.

When and where does the event take place?

The event takes place on **September 19** from **12 p.m. to 5 p.m.** at the Hillsburgh Library (9 Station Street, Hillsburgh, ON).

What is the cost to participate?

Competitive Entry (eligible for prizes) costs \$30. The Non-Competitive Painting Session (for fun only) is completely free.

Who can participate?

The event is open to everyone, regardless of skill level. Beginners, hobbyists, and professionals are all welcome. Participants under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian who will authorize their participation.

What are the key rules for this year?

All artwork must be original and created entirely on-site during the allotted event time. You remain fully responsible for your materials, personal comfort, and safety throughout the day.

Registration and Event Day

Do I need to pre-register?

We highly encourage pre-registration to secure your spot. We will accept walk-ins on the day of the event depending on availability.

How can I register?

You can register online in advance or sign up onsite on the day of the event. We recommend arriving early to confirm your spot and complete the sign-in process.

What do I need to do upon arrival?

Check in at the registration table and have your painting surfaces stamped for eligibility. Only stamped surfaces qualify for judging.

What is the event schedule for September 19?

- **12 p.m.:** Registration and event open
- **1 p.m.:** Painting begins

- **3 p.m.:** Submit completed artwork for judging (one entry per participant)
- **Before 5 p.m.:** Winners announced and artwork displayed

Important Note: You cannot set up or do preliminary sketching before the official 1 p.m. start time. You may walk around the venue to scout locations, but nothing more.

Is parking available?

Limited parking is available at the library. You can find additional street parking and overflow parking nearby. Look for signs directing you to suitable spots.

Materials and Equipment

What supplies should I bring?

Bring your own painting supplies, such as easels, brushes, paints, and canvas. We also recommend outdoor essentials like sunscreen, a hat, and an umbrella for sun or rain protection. You may bring optional personal comfort items like chairs, mats, or water bottles.

Are there restrictions on painting materials or size?

Artwork must not exceed 12" x 16" in any orientation unless event organizers pre-approve a larger size. You must dispose of dirty brush water at designated cleaning stations, not in public wash areas.

Where can participants paint?

Artists can paint anywhere on the Hillsburgh Library grounds.

Competition Details

What prizes are available?

- **1st Place:** \$150
- **2nd Place:** \$125
- **3rd Place:** \$100
- **Honourable Mention:** \$75
- **People's Choice Award:** \$75

What is the judging process?

Submit one completed artwork at the registration desk by 3 p.m. with your official verification card. Judges will evaluate pieces based on originality, technique, and interpretation of the surroundings. We will announce the winners before 5 p.m.

How does the People's Choice Award work?

Visitors cast their votes at the main tent by placing ballots in a designated voting box. We will announce the winner alongside the other awards before 5 p.m.

On-Site Facilities and Policies

What facilities are available on-site?

The venue provides washrooms and drinking water. A café and licensed bar offer beverages and snacks. You will also find designated cleaning stations for brushes and painting tools.

What happens if it rains?

The event proceeds rain or shine. Bring weather-resistant supplies or a small tent or umbrella to stay protected.

Are there rules for cleaning up?

Yes. You must clean all painting materials at the provided cleaning stations. Do not use the library sinks or handwash stations. You must adhere to all venue rules, including the proper disposal of materials, to ensure a safe and clean environment for everyone.

Terms and Conditions

By participating in the event, you agree to abide by all rules, guidelines, and venue policies. Violations could result in disqualification or removal. A full copy of the terms is available at registration. For more questions, contact the event organizers. We look forward to seeing you at the Arts By The Pond Plein Air Paint Out!