

Rules, Guidelines and Information

Yorktown
PLEIN AIR



April 11

"Join a Brush with History"

Welcome

Join us for Yorktown Plein Air Saturday April 11th, 2026! This event offers artists an opportunity to capture Historic Yorktown and share their talents with the local community. Located along the York River and rich in history, Historic Yorktown offers a wide range of subjects. The format for this event will allow artists several hours to create in the 2D media of their choice and submit it for judging.

Rules & Registration

This is a rain-or-shine event and is open to all 2D mediums except photography. Artwork will be judged and prizes awarded. Artists can register by mail, at the On the Hill Gallery (5308 George Washington Highway, Yorktown, VA) or in person the day of the event. Mailed registration must include a signed registration form and a check or money order for \$30 and arrive before April 8th. If registering in person on the day of the event, bring a signed registration form and fee. You can register in-person prior to the event. The registration fee of \$30 is nonrefundable. Mail your registration to OTHG/YPA event, PO Box 657, Yorktown, VA 23690. Email questions to yorktownartsfoundation@gmail.com.

Artists must -

- Check in with the Yorktown Arts Foundation table (located at the behind the Yorktown Market Days' Go Green & Garden Market along Water Street in the Riverwalk Landing area) at 8 a.m. or later. At check-in, you will receive registration information and have surfaces (canvas, paper, panels, etc.) stamped on the back. Surfaces must be blank with nothing pre-painted or pre-drawn on the surfaces.
- Submit artwork for judging at the Riverwalk Landing area no later than 11:45am. You must include a completed name/title/price label with your submission and supply an easel to display your work.
- Leave no trace while participating, disposing of trash and maintaining clean surroundings.
- Respect private property, asking permission of homeowners and businesses prior to setting up.
- Acknowledge that you cannot sell any artwork on York County or National Park Service property while participating in this event.
- Complete your painting within the event boundaries.
- Submit only original artwork that was created by the registered artist.

Location Guide and Boundary Map

A guide describing Historic Yorktown and surroundings, with photographs, will be posted on the website after March 1st. That guide will help artists not familiar with Yorktown to appreciate the beauty of the area and potential painting locations.

A Boundary Map showing the area open to artists participating in the Yorktown Plein Air event will also be posted on the web site after March 1st.

Timeline

8:00 a.m. or later – Artists check in at the Yorktown Arts Foundation booth at the Yorktown Market Days' Go Green & Garden Market table, have their surfaces (canvas, paper, panels, etc.) stamped and pick up their registration information. The artist must start with nothing pre-painted or pre-drawn on their surfaces.

8:00 a.m. to 11:45 p.m. – Artists capture Historic Yorktown.

11:45 p.m. – Artists return to the area designated for judging, place their artwork on their easel, and display their artwork for judging. Artwork must be framed or matted prior to display for ease of handling.

Noon - 1:00pm – Judging takes place and winners announced.

Recognition

The judge will recognize the efforts of the artists with a first, second, third and honorable mention awards. Participating artists will also be able to participate by voting and recognizing the artwork/artist with an 'Artists Choice' award.

Judge

Bob Oller operates Bob Oller Fine Arts from his home studio in Williamsburg, VA. A graduate of University of Central Florida, Bob is skilled in traditional media as well as digital media. He works with clients to bring their concept to an artistic solution.

Colonial National Historical Park Access

The National Park Service manages the battlefields, monuments and land surrounding Historic Yorktown. Artists painting within these areas will need a pass which is available for purchase from the Visitor Center and available online. Artists can purchase a pass for April 11th ahead of time. The Standard Pass is \$15 with discounts for seniors and military.

[Access pass information and rates here.](#)

Yorktown Market Days' Go Green & Garden Market

The **Yorktown Plein Air** event coincides with the Yorktown Market Days' Go Green & Garden Market. Yorktown Market Days is held weekly along the York River where vendors, local artists, and food trucks attract shoppers to buy seasonal produce, seafood, meats, breads, soaps, candles, honey, gourmet dog treats, and more! NOTE to artists - The market moves to the covered Water Street Parking Terrace during inclement weather.

The Yorktown Arts Foundation mission is to promote an appreciation of the arts in the York County area by providing a venue for art sales by local artists, art education, art outreach and promoting art appreciation and participation in the visual arts.