



ART at the PORT

Summer Boardwalk Exhibition

HOW TO MAKE YOUR ART AT THE PORT ENTRY STAND OUT

Tips to help you create a winning entry

START NOW. Sometimes ideas for a painting come in a rush and you can immediately visualize exactly what you want to paint. Other times some mulling over is required. Art Panels will be available on March 3 at Wright's. If you'd like to get a head start, here is everything you need to know to plan a great Art at the Port entry for 2021.

THEME

The theme this year is WILD ABOUT THE OREGON COAST. How do you interpret that? What does that mean? The possibilities are nearly endless. From a simple sea shell to the grandeur of a seascape, from a kid on the beach to a town or port landscape. What does it mean to you? Make a list of things that come to your mind and choose the one you would most like to paint.

PANEL SIZE and ORIENTATION:

- 16" x 24" panel. Art may be horizontal (landscape orientation) or vertical (portrait orientation).
- Panels are 3/4" thick, best quality plywood and are pre-primed and ready to paint.

MEDIA AND SEALING:

- **All standard media are acceptable and have proved to withstand the elements, as long as the artwork is well sealed with a clear, nonyellowing, spray sealer that is labeled for exterior use.**
- In addition to the painted surface, be sure to seal the 3/4" edges. Unsealed edges may allow water inside the panel and water can cause the panel swell and separate.

Good Media Choices:

- ◇ Acrylic—Dries fast and is self sealing so less clear acrylic sealer is needed.
- ◇ Oil — Plan to get it finished early so it will be dry enough to be sealed. Rustoleum crystal clear enamel gloss for exterior use is a locally available choice for oil paintings.
- ◇ Watercolor — Paint on your usual watercolor paper, glue it to the panel, punch out the hanging holes and seal well with clear acrylic spray.
- ◇ Other options include ink, pencil, charcoal, photographs and glued on ceramics or other objects—all sealed with clear acrylic.

PIGMENT CHOICES:

It is not necessary to purchase the most expensive paints. To keep your painting from fading, it is a good idea to use pigments that are considered lightfast and are not fugitive. In general inorganic pigments are more reliably resistant to fading than organic ones. You can Google organic/inorganic pigments if you'd like to become an expert.

- Here are some “fugitive” pigments to avoid for outdoor display:
 - ◇ These numbers are usually found on your paint tubes: PB27, PG8, PR48, PR83, PR112, PR170, PR177, PO13, PO16, PO64, PO73, PV14, PY40, PY55.
 - ◇ Dye based products such as ecoline/ph martin radiant/fountain pen inks etc. as well as additives in all types of paint to make them **"fluorescent", "neon" or "opera" colors.**
 - ◇ Rare pigments, such as Daniel Smith's Primatek Mayan colors, Rhodonite, Sicklerite. Natural and antiquity colors, such as Malachite, Azurite, Vivianite, Sodalite, NB1 natural Indigo Blue, NR9 Rose Madder (root plant), NBr8 (Van Dyke Brown, literally a dirt-brown).
- Some colors are only fugitive in very specific conditions, such as repeatedly prolonged hot sun, while in their diluted form. Some pigments fade due to environmental factors, such as humidity, PH/acidity levels, chemical reactions and heat.
- Lightfast paint ratings conforming to standards set by ASTM International (originally ASTM, or American Society for Testing and Materials) are often printed on paint tubes. **ASTM lightfast paint ratings are indicated as I (excellent), II (good) or III (poor). Holbein uses asterisks to rate pigments with **** being absolutely permanent and * being a pigment you should avoid...*** should hold up well.**
- Google your paint manufacturer for pigment information if it is not included on your tube or container.
- If pigment considerations give you a headache and you are not a Google whiz, just paint your panel and hope it doesn't fade too much—or send us an email specifying your media and a list of your paint brands and color names for evaluation.

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

- All the basics of creating a good painting apply.
- Good contrast will help your painting look great from a distance.
- Paint the 3/4" edges of the panel. This is not required, but will make your painting more attractive and professional looking. Painting the edges serves as a frame. You may choose to paint the edges all one color or wrap your painting around the edges. Painting on the back side of the panel is not recommended—sealing it is.
- Do not attach a frame to the outside edges of the panel or in any way extend the panel beyond the original dimensions. You may paint a frame on the front surface of the panel or attach anything you like to the front of the panel as long as it does not extend more than one inch forward from the surface.
- Panels are hung using small holes near each corner— plan your painting accordingly and do not fill in the holes. Panels with blocked hanging holes will not be accepted. Some artists have expressed concern about being able to sell a painting with these holes. Rest easy, quite a number of Art at the Port paintings were sold in 2020, holes included—if anything, the holes seem to add charm and desirability to these paintings that buyers can choose to hang either indoors or on a porch or patio.

Any questions about creating your Art at the Port entry? Email: artatport@charter.net

More information and Art at the Port Photos at artattheport.com