

# SWA Small Works National Competition Prospectus

Show Dates: May 2 – 26, 2018

## About SouthWest Artists, Inc. (SWA)

SWA was founded in 1945 and is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. This juried competition is a project of SWA. The exhibition will be hosted by its Mena Art Gallery in the heart of the Ouachita Mountains and National Forest of Arkansas, an area of 1.5 million acres, and haven for Plein Air painters and tourists.

Our goal is to assemble the finest display of 2 dimensional paintings with the highest quality in workmanship, color, value, composition, style and diversity.

**Eligibility** - Eligible artist locations, provinces and territories including all of the United States, Canada and their possessions. International entries also accepted. Artists must be 18 years of age or older.

## Awards

Best in Show: \$500.

Arkansas Artist Award of Merit: \$100 – Awarded to an Arkansas artist with the most outstanding work.

Animal Art Award: \$100 - 2 Honorable Mentions

Landscape Merit Award: \$100 - 2 Honorable Mentions

Figure Merit Award: \$100 - 2 Honorable Mentions

Still Life Merit Award: \$100 - 2 Honorable Mentions

Abstract Merit Award: \$100 - 2 Honorable Mentions

Peoples Choice: \$25 - Selection will be made from votes received during the opening reception.

NOTE: If possible, more awards may be added.

**Judge** - The awarding judge is Bill Strain, a professional, long established member of the national art community, educator and retired, multi-gallery owner.

**Liabilities and Responsibilities** - SouthWest Artists, Inc. and/or the Mena Art Gallery will not be responsible for loss or damage of any art work, no matter what the cause. By submitting art work to this exhibition, each artist agrees to this statement. Art work is not insured by SWA/Mena Art Gallery during

shipment and exhibition. Adequate insurance is recommended and the sole responsibility of the artist.

### Specifications for paintings

- All entries must be the original work of the artist created after May 1, 2014 and done without the supervision of an instructor; mechanical copy aides; or computer programs.
- No replicas of any portion of another artist's published or copyrighted work may be included.
- No photographs or over-painted photographs.
- Nude subjects must be conservative, not revealing more than one might see in a bikini.
- Image size must be no larger than 18" in any direction, including frame. It must be ready to hang with wire (no saw tooth hangers). It is recommended that paintings requiring glazing be under acrylic glazing (i.e. Plexiglas), although glass is also accepted. SWA assumes no responsibility for breakage or static damage. Pastel artists should provide sufficient spacing between image and glazing to avoid static charge, using acrylic glazing at their own risk.
- No digital images or any form of print or reproductions will be accepted.
- Gallery wrap is acceptable preferring borders with the painting extending around the sides.
- All work must be for sale and reflect the artist's current pricing structure.
- Acceptable work must be two dimensional only. Mediums are not restricted.

**Advisory** - The SWA exhibition committee and/or the jurors reserve the right to eliminate any paintings that fail to comply with the listed criteria before the exhibition's opening. Artists may not substitute another work, change the sale price from what was shown on the entry form or withdraw accepted works before the close of the exhibition. SWA and the Mena Art Gallery reserve the right to refuse any work they deem unacceptable for their venue. No refund applies.

Dates for submission of electronic entries are: February 1 – March 15, 2018. (No printed photo or slide entries will be accepted.) Digital Images should be a minimum of 1920 pixels at the smallest dimension. They may be a maximum of 5 MB in size.

To submit your electronic application and images, go to: <https://www.smarterentry.com/CallForEntry/SWA>. It may be necessary to register with SmarterEntry.com, if not already a member. Registration is free of charge.

The artist retains copyright to his/her image(s). However, accepted images will become part of SWA archives and may be used for this or future SWA event promotion. Member info and images are also retained in the Smarter Entry files for quick entry in future SWA shows, or other.

**Jurying Fees** - The jurying fee for electronic entries is as follows: \$20 per entry. Additional entries: \$15.

**Signature Membership** status may be earned by member artists after they have been accepted into three SWA National Exhibitions or have won Awards in two SWA National Exhibitions. Signature Status may also be earned by artists who have won three or more awards in SWA Regional Exhibitions (i.e. Ouachita Expressions Show, SWA Photography Show). To retain status, membership must remain current. Although SWA may make contact, it is the responsibility of the artist to make the request after qualifications have been met. Qualifying artists may request a Signature Membership application by calling the gallery or by email.

**Sales Expenses** - A 30% donation to SWA is expected for all paintings sold. Please take this into consideration when setting your price. All work that is submitted must be for sale. No NFS paintings.

**Delivery and Return of Accepted Work** - Artists pay for shipping and insurance both ways. We recommend artists make arrangements to insure their work for its full value. Paintings accepted by the jurors should be sent to arrive between April 17, 2018 and April 27, 2018 to the following:

SouthWest Artists, Inc.  
c/o Mena Art Gallery  
607 Mena Street  
Mena, AR 71953

Paintings shipped to this exhibition must include a prepaid, return shipping labels containing the carriers bar code so that unsold paintings can be returned at the end of the exhibition. Carriers reimburse for unused labels. No painting will be accepted without the proper, prepaid return label.

**Delivery for Local Artists** - Delivery of uncrated paintings is between April 24 and May 2, 2018 to the address above.

Hand delivered work must be picked up between May 28 and June 9, 2018. Paintings remaining after June 30 may become the property of SouthWest Artist, Inc. unless other arrangements are made in advance.

**Notification of Results** - Letters of acceptance and shipping instructions, will be sent after all juroring is completed to all artists who have entered. Accepted artists release SWA from all liability with respect to loss or damage to the artist's works of art. Insurance is recommended.

Submitting a work of art to this exhibition shall constitute an agreement on the part of the artist to comply fully with the conditions and terms set forth in this Prospectus. No fee refunds will be made on

unaccepted entries. The results of the jurying will be final.

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SWA Small Works National Competition and the Mena Art Gallery  
are divisions of:

SouthWest Artists, Inc.,  
607 Mena Street, Mena, Arkansas.  
Phone: 479-394-3880  
Email: [email@menaartgallery.org](mailto:email@menaartgallery.org)

Questions and request to join our mailing list may be addressed to:

Show Chairman, Barbara Lewis  
Email: [barakafs@gmail.com](mailto:barakafs@gmail.com)