

# Northport Plein Air event attracts 50 artists

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Over the weekend, nearly 50 talented artists flocked to Northport for the Gene Rantz Memorial Plein Air Paint Out, hosted by the Northport Art Association (NAA).

The event, founded by the late master plein air and fine artist Gene Rantz in 2013, continued to attract artists until 2021 when he passed away.

This year's Northport Plein Air has been hailed as the best in its history, drawing a remarkable array of talent and showcasing the beauty of the Northport community.

### Gene Rantz Plein Air Winners:

The top honors for this year's Plein Air event go to Mary Guntzviller, whose captivating painting titled "Idyll Goats" secured first place. Following closely were Kat Dakota's piece "Exhale," earning second place, and Robin Sorquist's artwork "Light in the Darkness" taking the third spot.

### Special Awards:

Mark Mehaffey's stunning piece "East into the Sun" earned the prestigious Best of Show award, while Debra Howard's artwork "Aghostowa Marina" was honored with the Golden Hour award.

### Honorable mentions:

Recognitions also went to Neil Walling for "Serenity," Judith Tummino for "Country Road," Sandy Ackerman for "Golden Hour," Martha Elchert for "Northport Reflections" and Stephanie Moran for "Bethany

Lutheran Church."

The event featured a diverse group of artists, each showcasing their unique artistic perspectives. The list of artists includes Sandra Ackerman, Lynn Anderson, Taylor Blue, Judith Brunko, Kurt Bullock, Mary Ann Challa, Kat Dakota, Carolyn Damstra, Martha Elchert, Tracy Goll, Bonnie Gonzales, Mary Guntzviller, Susan Harrison, Debra Howard, Logan Hudson, Michelle Jahraus, Victoria Jendretzke, Kathleen Kalinowski, Judy Kelly, Jessica Kovan, Dolores Ladd, Brant MacLean, Tami Maisal, Dan Malski, Kim Kwaz McKerracher, Mark Mehaffey, Justin Millard, Stefanie Moran, Sue Quinlan, Barbara Reich, Stephanie Schlatter, Deborah Schlosser, Robin Sorquist Michael Tavares, Paul Tibedeau, Judith Tummino, Barb Valentine, Adam VanHouten, Jennifer Vaughn, Neil Walling, David Westerfield, Pamela Wilburn, Tom Woodruff, Cynthia Yates, Lisa Yontz, and Angela Zybell.

The Plein Air exhibit runs through Aug. 4 at the NAA.

The group will host an Animal Lovers Art Exhibit Saturday, August 12 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. featuring artwork of pets, domestic and wildlife in paintings, photographs, sculptures and more.

This event is the same day as the Northport Dog Parade.



David Westerfield paints in a field north of Northport during the Gene Rantz Plein Air contest hosted by the Northport Arts Association. Enterprise photo by Brian Freiberger



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JULY 29, 2023

3PM - 5PM

Vehicle Registration: Noon - 4pm

Award Presentation: 5pm

CASH PRIZES AWARDED  
IN FIVE CATEGORIES



FOOD,  
DRINKS,  
MUSIC  
AND FUN!

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PRE-REGISTER

