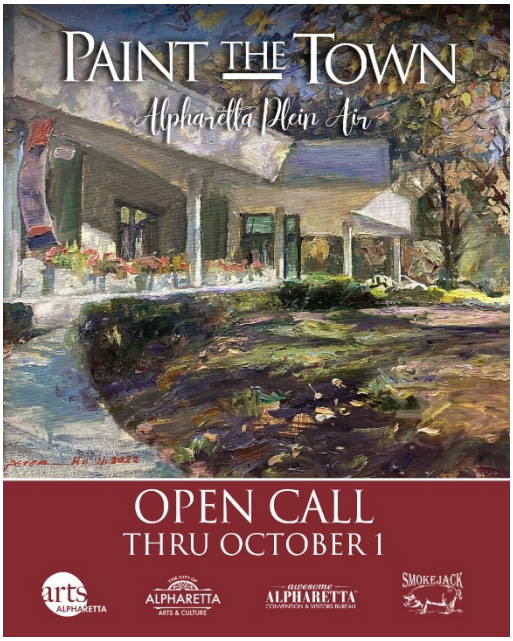

CALL FOR ARTISTS:
PAINT THE TOWN 2026: 5-day *Plein Air* Event

Arts Alpharetta is hosting the 6th annual *plein air* painting competition, ***Paint the Town 2026*** in partnership with the City of Alpharetta and the Alpharetta Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Entrants may register through the website at www.artsalpharetta.org. The entry fee is non-refundable and non-transferrable.

Over $3,000 in cash awards will be given in 3 categories: Professional, Intermediate, and Novice, plus a Quick Draw and Art in the Dark and Quick Draw competitions.

Dates: Tuesday – Saturday, October 20-24, 2026. The event will be held rain or shine. Media should be conducive to painting *en plein air* including (but not limited to) oil, acrylic, watercolor, pastel, gouache and charcoal on varied surfaces. Surfaces must be stamped at the Alpharetta Arts Center prior to sketching/painting.

DEADLINES AND TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Registration **($45)**	Through October 1
Late Registration **($75)**	October 2-10
REALLY LATE Registration **($100)**	October 11-20
Art in the Dark *only* **($35)**	Any evening starting October 20
Quick Draw *only* **($35)**	October 23 AM only
Artists' Welcome and Networking Dinner **($30)**	TBD @ Smoke Jack
Workshop TBD	TBD
5-Day Plein Air Painting Event	October 20-24
Art in the Dark	Any evening, October 20-23, 6PM to sundown
Quick Draw	October 23, 9-11 AM
Quick Draw Judging	October 23, 11:30 AM - Town Green @ City Center
Art Delivery Deadline	October 24, 10:30 AM
Awards Ceremony and Exhibition Reception	October 24, 5-7 PM
Exhibition Dates	October 24 – November 14
Art Removal Deadline	November 16

COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR VISITORS, SPONSORS & RESIDENTS

- A strategic partnership is bringing back this very successful event to the City of Alpharetta.
- A fun public event held almost exclusively outdoors where artists will be present to paint on location, live, for 5 days.
- A tourism "boost" for the City of Alpharetta with new artists (and other art enthusiasts) invited into the community. Many will stay for several days.
- An opportunity to showcase the beauty and variety of picturesque locations located in the City of Alpharetta as well as the importance this community places on the arts.
- An opportunity to see nationally recognized and award-winning *plein air* working on original art *here*.
- Sales of small works will be available, immortalizing your city and expanding your art collection with one-of-a-kind art!
- A spotlight on the Alpharetta Arts Center as a cultural hub serving the region in this and many other events, artist opportunities and community outreach initiatives.
- Support Paint the Town! Contact: artsalpharetta1@gmail.com

HOW TO ENTER

- Artist must be at least 18 years of age.
- Application and Entry Fee must be submitted via online portal by October 1, 2026.
- Each applicant must pay the non-refundable and non-transferrable entry fee. This entry fee includes the Quick Draw/Paint competition.
- All information and updates will be posted in the event website https://www.artsalpharetta.org/paint-the-town-2026.html#/
- Artists may enter **ONLY** Art in the Dark portion of the event for a $30 registration fee.
- Artists may enter **ONLY** Quick Draw portion of the event for a $30 registration fee. The Quick Draw event will be held on October 23, 9-11 AM, with judging to follow at the Town Green at City Center.
- Artists will *self-declare* their entry category as follows:
  - Professional - artist who sells artwork as source of income and competes on a regular basis.
  - Intermediate - artist who has competed in Paint the Town (or other plein air competitions) in prior years.
  - Novice - artist who has never participated in a plein air competition prior to Paint the Town 2026.
- **Each artist may submit two (2) paintings for competition, plus two (2) for exhibition and sale. Artworks cannot exceed 40" in dimension including frame. Small works can be submitted for either competition or extra display.**
- Artists who participate in the Quick Draw may submit their piece for competition in the Quick Draw only and for exhibition and sale.
- Alpharetta Arts Center, located at 238 Canton Street, Alpharetta, Georgia 30009, will serve as a hub for artists.
- Event culminates in an Awards Ceremony, Reception, and Exhibition of all entries on Saturday, October 24 from 5 - 7 pm.
- Entries must be delivered gallery ready (framed and wired for hanging) and labeled with appropriate forms to the Alpharetta Arts Center by 10:30 AM on Saturday, October 24. See website for details.
- Arts Alpharetta manages all sales of works, collects and remits sales tax in accordance with Georgia law. Arts Alpharetta retains a commission of 30% on each sale. Payments to artists will be made at the close of the exhibit.
- Each entry should have value and price listed. All entries must have a declared value for insurance purposes. Entries may or may not have a SALE price. Artists may indicate that a piece is not for sale (NFS). Examples: $100/$100 indicates insured value to be $100 and sale price to be $100. $200/NFS indicates an insured value of $200 but the work is Not for Sale.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ENTRANTS

All works to be submitted for the competitions in alignment with the timelines specified. The exhibition will remain on display through November 14. All unsold artwork needs to be collected by November 16. See website for details.

Alpharetta Arts Center is located at 238 Canton Street, Alpharetta, Georgia 30009.

Artists will be allowed to exhibit their work as available for sale. All sales transactions will be conducted by Arts Alpharetta. Arts Alpharetta will collect and remit sales tax in accordance with Georgia tax laws. Artists will be given a tax form to complete and retain for their records regarding sales tax. Arts Alpharetta will retain a **30%** commission on all sales. Artists may indicate that a piece is not for sale (NFS). Proceeds from the event will fund two initiatives: Takeout Art: which supplies *free* art kits for children in our community and the Public Art Fund: supporting the lease of public art in partnership with the City of Alpharetta.

All artworks to be considered in the competition must be completed on site during the dates of the event, October 20-26, 2026. Surfaces will be stamped at registration.

Artwork may be sold during the exhibition. Buyers may retrieve the purchased works after the awards ceremony on October 24 held between 5:00 and 7:00 PM.

All artwork must be retrieved by the artist or new owner on October 16, 2026 between 8:30 am and 8:00 PM.

Reproductions of artworks created or displayed in the Alpharetta Arts Center may be used by the City of Alpharetta Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services Department for future marketing purposes only, without compensation to the artist. Artist's credit will be included in reproductions of artworks.

Entry Fee: a non-refundable and non-transferable Entry Fee must be received/processed before the deadline for entry. Registration may be made to PayPal or by check. Include your artist's number on either PayPal submission or on check. Make checks payable to Arts Alpharetta and mail to:
Arts Alpharetta, 625 Varina Way, Alpharetta, Georgia 30022

TERMS OF ENTRY FOR ENTRANTS

INSURANCE: The Alpharetta Arts Center, as a division of the Alpharetta Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Services, shall insure the work per artist's specifications noted by terms as follows:

The property insurance carrier will provide a $500,000 blanket limit with a $25,000 maximum any single unscheduled item subject to the $5,000 deductible. The City of Alpharetta would pay deductible. Artworks with a value greater than $25,000 require a schedule. The artist must notify the Arts Center by art delivery the value of each work. The Arts Center shall be responsible for the safekeeping of all consigned works.

LIMITED WAIVER AND RELEASE. In consideration of the City of Alpharetta (the City) and Arts Alpharetta providing permission to place and show my artwork (the Work) in the City Arts Center,

Artists hereby assume all responsibility for, and risks and hazards of, placing the Work in the Arts Center. In addition, artists do hereby release the City of Alpharetta and Arts Alpharetta, including all of their respective officials, officers, employees, sponsors, organizers, supervisors, volunteers, participants and all other agents, of any and all claims, demands, rights, causes of action of whatever kind and nature arising by reason of, all known and unknown, foreseen and unforeseen, bodily and personal injuries, damage to property, including without limitation the Work, and the consequences thereof, resulting from placing the Work in the Arts Center. While artists understand that the City of Alpharetta and Arts Alpharetta may carry certain insurance as they deem appropriate to insure their respective interests, artists acknowledge that he or she should not rely on such insurance and should provide such insurance or other security he or she deems appropriate to protect his or her interests.