

PROSPECTUS & EVENT INFORMATION



We are super excited to announce that Outdoor Painters Society has accepted an invitation from Galveston Historical Foundation for plein air painters to participate as “Victorian Artist Participants” in downtown Galveston’s annual holiday event, **DICKENS on the STRAND**.

EVENT DESCRIPTION: This annual 2-day holiday festival hosted by Galveston Historical Foundation takes place on December 2nd and 3rd from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday & Noon to 6pm on Sunday. Dickens on The Strand will offer ticketed guests access to live entertainment, art & craft vendors, food, and dedicated entrance and exit.

THE PAINT OUT AND “WET PAINT SALE”: Saturday and Sunday, December 2nd and 3rd. Painters will transform skills into the mid 1800’s, set up their plein air easels within the “Dickens on the Strand event perimeter and paint live action street scenes, buildings and decorations, or do quick portraits of the costumed Dickens visitors....a sort of an all-day “Quick Draw.”

All paintings will be displayed for sale in the OPS **Painters Village tent** space on tables or on your easel. The event volunteers, vendors, and participating artists all contribute to the theme of the festival by dressing in Victorian-style costumes. (Refer to costume suggestions later in this prospectus).

REGISTRATION & PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS:

Open to all members of Outdoor Painters Society. No fee to participate, but artists **must register by Nov.15, 2023** deadline and **agree to the following rules** including but not limited to:

Participate in Festival: Requirements of your time is a minimum of 3-hour shifts in the Painters Village Tent on Saturday and Sunday & help where needed with set up or knock down.
Festival hours: 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM Saturday & Sunday Noon to 6:00 pm Artists should be prepared to paint & interact with festival attendees.

Victorian-style costumes are required during Festival on Saturday & Sunday. Event organizers require the vendors (& artists) to decorate 21st century devices in garland to camouflage and make a festive look, so give thought to **decoration for your easel** – a simple garland to wrap around your easel legs and your gear pack.

DISPLAY Tent space for OPS **“Painters Village”** will be situated near a sales kiosk. The OPS booth will be a pop-up style canopy.

OFF THE EASEL “STREET SALES” PROHIBITED. Paintings for sale must be on display with our price labels in the OPS Painters Village tent. **All sales transactions must be processed through Galveston Historic Foundation’s sales kiosk.** Vendor participation fees are waived in exchange for revenue share of sales with GHF. (65% to artist, 35% to GHF).

PRICING AND SIZE REQUIREMENTS: Limit the size of your canvases or boards to something that would be easy for them to carry home; we suggest 6x8 & up. You want to be proud of your paintings, and charge a reasonable amount for them. We suggest a minimum of \$100 and up.

Lighting and Electricity: Artists are to bring battery operated "nocturne easel lights" for painting after sundown till 9pm. Artists must also provide battery-operated clip-on lights for their table easels to illuminate the paintings. The booth electricity is for festival lighting and charging devices. |

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Lodging: GHF will offer special Dickens \$89 room rate at a partner hotel, to be named later. For ‘on your own’ lodging in 77550 and 77551 zip codes. The third zip for Galveston 77554 is pretty far out west and can be a 20-30 minute drive back and forth

Parking: Complementary parking in the GHF lot, 1 block from one of the festival entrances.

Also, we suggest you bring a supply of 10X10 or larger pizza boxes for buyers to transport their wet painting if unframed.

Family & friends attending? Tickets available <https://www.galvestonhistory.org/events/dickens-on-the-strand/tickets> Guests in Victorian attire will receive a limited-edition commemorative keepsake.

COSTUMES ARE REQUIRED by all participants!

COSTUME SUGGESTIONS: Choose a Charles Dickens era period costume that is comfortable, workable and believable. **The bare minimum costume would be a vintage artist smock and a beret.** The maximum would be up to your own creativity of proper attire for the Charles Dickens period. Any Civil War reenactments or Pioneer Village costumes would be appropriate; think Civil War through Steam punk through Victorian era costuming. **Inexpensive costumes can be found in Amazon.**

The weather in Galveston that first weekend in December can be 90 degrees and high humidity one day with 50 degrees and sharp north winds the next. Be able to layer and adapt.

More Gender Specific Suggestions:

Men: Top Hats, Bowlers, Berets/Tams for men along with long coats with tails, loose shirts and suspenders for men, vests, sleeve garters, pocket watch fobs and chains, spats, nickers with long socks. Have fun growing that handlebar mustache for added flavor!

Women: Long skirts, capes, smocks, corsets, aprons, boots that looked like high top shoes, bonnets, feathered hats, suffragist, fortune teller. The costume can be simple as a long black skirt with elastic waist and pockets, blouse with puffy sleeves, broach at neck, belt and or apron. Shawls for cool mornings. Or dress like a man in trousers.

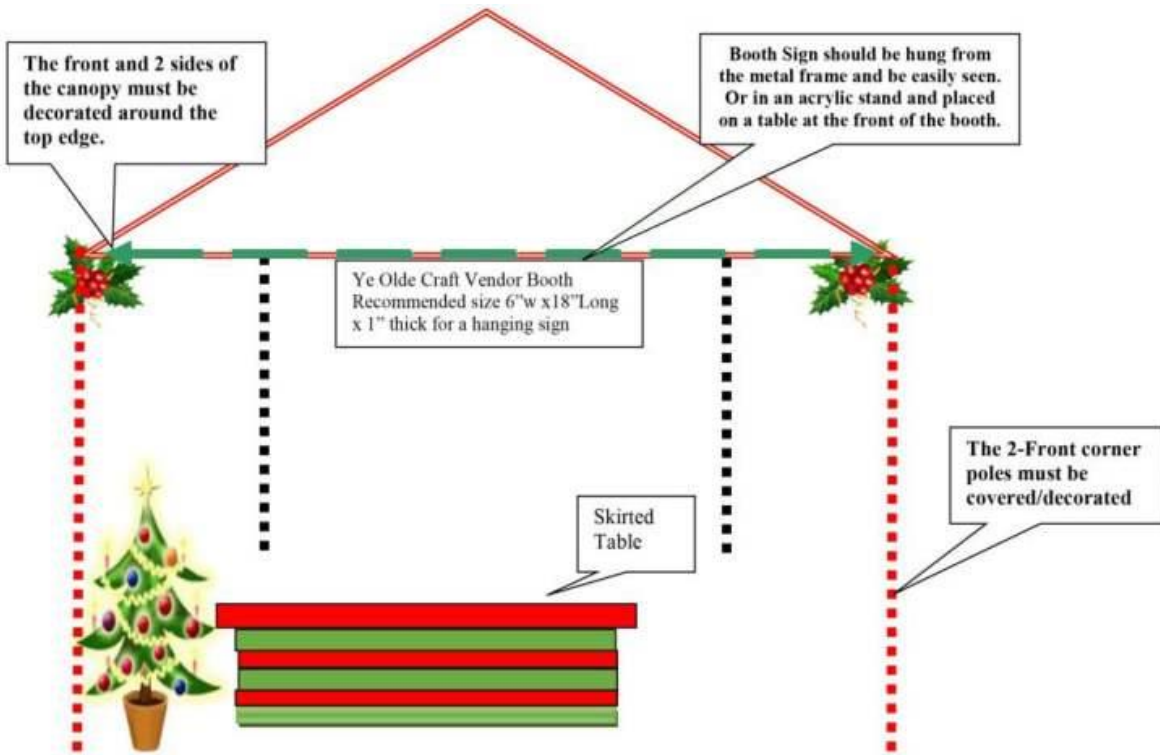
For additional costume inspiration, Google “Charles Dickens Costumes”. We’re sure your creativity will guide you to some pretty great costume ideas for wearing both days of the event.

FESTIVAL HOURS | The festival is open on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Vendors **MUST** stay open during these hours unless otherwise specified.

VENDOR LOAD IN & LOAD OUT | Load-in begins on Friday, December 1st at 12 Noon. Vendors **MUST** be completely set up and festival-ready for inspection by 9 a.m. on Saturday and by 11 a.m. on Sunday. Load-out begins immediately following festival closure on Sunday at 6:00 pm.

ARTISTS MUST BE AT THE OPS TENT PROMPTLY AT 6:00 PM SUNDAY TO PICK UP UNSOLD ART, FRAMING & DISPLAY SUPPLIES

Below is an example of our Painters Village booth space:



Note: For questions, contact Outdorpainterssociety@gmail.com

DO NOT CONTACT Galveston Historic Foundation!