



THE ART OF THE PORTRAIT[®]

NATIONAL PORTRAIT & FIGURATIVE ARTISTS' CONFERENCE

MAY
8-11
2025

Thursday, May 8, 2025

4:30p-7:30p

THE FACE-OFF

Michael Bergt, Ali Cavanaugh, Michelle Dunaway, Ruth Fitton, Rose Frantzen, Quang Ho, Jeffrey Larson, Huihan Liu, Kevin Macpherson, Dominique Medici, Paul Newton, Timothy Rees, Mario Robinson, Oliver Sin, Daniel Sprick, Adrienne Stein, Louise Weir, and Shane Wolf

Observe eighteen featured artists, in groups of 3, demonstrate in a variety of mediums including oil, watercolor, charcoal, egg tempera and clay.

The completed paintings will be part of a silent auction held on Friday, for in-person attendees, at 6:30pm benefiting the scholarship program.

Friday, May 9, 2025

8:45a-9:00a

A WELCOME BY MICHAEL SHANE NEAL, CHAIR

A grand welcome to our 27th anniversary, *The Art of the Portrait*.

9:00a-9:45a

KEYS TO UNDERSTANDING: THE MOUTH, NOSE, AND EYES - with Robert Liberace, Alicia N. Ponzio and Dan Thompson

Join these three expert artists as they each describe a different facial feature, sharing their unique approaches to capturing a sense of mastery.

9:45a-10:30a

Break

10:00a-12:30p

BRINGING YOUR CREATIVE VISION TO LIFE – Michelle Dunaway

Watch as Michelle Dunaway completes the final touches on a complex studio painting, while presenting a comprehensive overview of her process—starting from creating life studies and gathering field references, to developing the larger studio work step by step.

12:30p-2:00p

Lunch Break

2:00p-4:00p

DUAL VISIONS: A PORTRAIT DEMONSTRATION IN COLOR AND STRUCTURE – Quang Ho and Kevin Macpherson

Witness the power of contrasting artistic approaches in this portrait demonstration by two accomplished artists. One will focus on a system of color, and the other will concentrate on seeing the entire structure. As they work side by side, you will see how these two distinct methods complement each other.

6:00p-7:00p

6 x 9: Limited Size, Unlimited Talent – A Mystery Art Sale

Sale starts at 6:00p

Please Note: The camera view will be of different angles in the room but not up close of the panel boards. Please visit our [Instagram page](#) to view live video of the panel boards.

Saturday, May 10, 2025

9:00a-10:00a

ANATOMY ESSENTIALS: HOW THE HEAD CONNECTS TO THE NECK, AND MORE – Shane Wolf

Join Shane Wolf as he breaks down key anatomical points on the skull, neck, shoulder girdle and upper ribcage to help explain capturing head angles and how the head properly connects to its support structures.

10:00a-10:30a

Break

10:30a-12:30p

MASTERING ALLA PRIMA: EXPLORING THE UPPER TORSO AND MOVEMENT – Huihan Liu (Moderator Oliver Sin)

In this engaging demonstration, Huihan will share his process and thoughts as he discusses key visual elements such as design, composition placement, and focal points, focusing specifically on the figure's upper torso and movement.

12:30p-2:00p

Lunch Break

2:00p-4:30p

CAPTURING YOUTH: THE ART OF PAINTING THE CHILDS'S PORTRAIT – Timothy Rees and Adrienne Stein

Watch as Tim and Adrienne delve into the complex yet rewarding process of painting a child's portrait. From capturing the fleeting expressions and delicate features to the playful essence of youth, the artists will navigate the challenges of maintaining the likeness and accuracy while preserving the subject's innocence and energy.

8:00p

GALA BANQUET and AWARDS PROGRAM

- The Future Generation Award
- Signature Status Awards
- The International Awards
- Excellence in Fine Art Education – James Gurney
- Gold Medal - George Carlson

Sunday, May 11, 2025

9:00a-12:00p

WHICH WAY TO GO? – Rose Frantzen and Scott Burdick (Moderator: Quang Ho)

Don't miss this dynamic duo, although they have different approaches, one radiates structure and precision, while the other bursts with movement and emotion— you will see that creativity can flourish through multiple paths.

Virtual Tuition: \$495

For only \$100 more, you can add 90 days of **unlimited re-watch on demand** of all the programs. This add-on is available to purchase on the [2025 Virtual Conference Registration page](#). A recording link will be emailed to you approximately 2-3 weeks after the conference.

Please note that the virtual conference is for livestream observation only. The Zoom webinar chat will not be monitored on-site for questions to faculty artists.

Cancellation Policy: If your plans change, please notify the Portrait Society in writing before February 15, 2025 to receive a full refund. After February 15, 2025, you will receive an educational credit for your tuition less a \$100 cancellation fee. Your educational credit may be applied to future conference or membership dues to be used within two years.