



For Immediate Release – **November 2011 Plein Air Painting Demos by the PAPJC**
Date: **Oct. 31, 2011**

In conjunction with their juried art show, **the Plein Air Painters of the Jersey Coast (The PAPJC)** will be demonstrating plein air painting at the Middletown Arts Center, 36 Church St., Middletown, NJ 07748, during November 2011. Several of these demos are designed for children in grades 5 through 8. Demonstrations for adults and families are also offered in this series. All demonstrations are free and open to the public. For details and to pre-register, call the Middletown Arts Center at 732-706-4100.

A Demonstrated Guide to Plein-Air Painting

As a feature of its annual members show in November, the Plein Air Painters of the Jersey Coast (The PAPJC) will conduct two one-hour demonstrations for children at the Middletown Arts Center at 36 Church St., Middletown, NJ. These are part of a larger series of demos designed for different age groups. The full series schedule is as follows:

- Friday 11/4, 4-5 pm – Candace Petersen and Catherine Love, demo for grades 5-8 (1 hour)
- Saturday 11/5, 1-3 pm - Rae O'Shea, demo for adults (2 hours)
- Saturday 11/12, 1-3 pm - Marge Levine, demo for adults (2 hours)
- Friday 11/18, 4-5 pm - Marge Levine, demo for grades 5-8 (1 hour)
- Monday 11/21, 7-8 pm - Judy Stach, demo for families, all ages (1 hour)

The demos for middle school children will present, in step-by-step fashion, precisely what is involved when artists go outside – “en plein air” – to paint the landscape. The artist conducting the demonstration will arrive in full outdoor painting gear and explain the reasons for the specific garments and accessories. While setting up an easel, preparing painting palette and readying other equipment, the artist will explain the purpose and need for each item.

Following the set-up, the artist will take the audience through the key stages of planning and executing an on-site painting, illustrating each step in an abbreviated fashion. Stages to be covered include: set-up, identifying what to paint, simplifying the composition to its essentials, choosing values and colors, illustrating how to paint a scene quickly, and overcoming common challenges when painting outdoors.

Handouts summarizing the demo will be provided to attendees.

The idea for the demonstration was inspired by the number of children who routinely approach PAPJC artists when they spot them painting on location in various Monmouth County towns, beaches, parks and other public areas. Many are captivated by the idea of an artist painting outdoors, and ask questions as they watch the artist at work. The goal of the demonstration is to interest children in the concept of the outdoors as a vast and varied studio in which to create art.

There is no charge for attending, but the limitations of the instruction space at Middletown Arts Center necessitate advance registration. Demonstrations for adults and for families are also planned. For more information or to pre-register, call 732-706-4100.