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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ART LEAGUE OF OCEAN CELEBRATES 3 DAYS
OF PLEIN AIR PAINTING IN OCEAN CITY**

OCEAN CITY, MD — *August 11, 2015* — Cloudy skies on Thursday, Friday and Saturday didn't dampen the spirits or the brushes of the 52 plein air painters who participated in "Artists Paint OC" hosted by the Art League of Ocean City.

The artists, who came from as far away as Indiana, scattered throughout the resort for three days to set up their easels and paint the scenery, harbors and people that caught their creative eyes.

The event culminated on Saturday night with the "Wet Paint Sale" at the Ocean City Center for the Arts where the artists hung the work they had produced during the event, choosing their one best piece for a competition judged by Laura Era of the Troika Gallery in Easton.

Maryland State Senator Jim Mathias awarded first place to artist Ray Ewing of Swan Point, Md., for his painting "Assateague Dunes." Ann Crostic of Baltimore took second place, and Barbara Stepura of White Plains, Md., third. Honorable mentions went to Bruno Baran of Nottingham, Md., Lawrence Rudolech of Hanover, In. and Diana Hurwitz-Specht of Frederick.

On Sunday morning, the sun broke through, and 34 artists painted against the clock for the two-hour "Quick Draw" event downtown. Early morning bike riders and joggers on the boardwalk stopped to watch the artists rapidly paint familiar scenes or take a new and different angle.

After the deadline, Ann Coates of Bishop's Stock Gallery in Snow Hill judged the contest, and Glenn Irwin of the Ocean City Development Corp. awarded first place to Lawrence Rudolech of Hanover, In. Second place went to George Kalwa of Baltimore; third place to Maggii Sarfaty of Easton, and honorable mentions to Laura Howell of St. Michaels and Alison Menke of Silver Spring.

The Art League of Ocean City, The Commander Hotel, Macky's Bayside Bar & Grill, Sello's Italian Oven & Bar, Clarion Resort, Donoway Furniture and Atlantic Planning and the ODCD sponsored the plein air event.

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EDITORS: High resolution photos attached.

CAPTION: The winners, judge and sponsors at the Wet Paint Sale Saturday night at the Ocean City Center for the Arts are (left to right): Rina Thaler, Ray Ewing, Larry Rudolech, Emily Schwab, Jim Mathias, Abby Haught, Laura Era, Ann Crostic, Barbara Stepura, Bruno Baran and Diana Hurwitz-Specht.

CAPTION: Artist Jim Rehak paints at the commercial fishing harbor in West Ocean City on Saturday.