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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ART LEAGUE OF OCEAN CITY TO RUN FREE "KIDS PAINT OC" ART CONTEST IN JULY

OCEAN CITY, MD — *June 21, 2024* — In 2023, the Art League of Ocean City began a new program, "Kids Paint OC," to encourage the next generation of plein air artists – artists who paint outdoors to capture iconic local scenes. The event was a success with more than 50 children participating.

In 2024, the Art League is continuing their "Kids Paint OC" program during July and welcomes children to take part. Children ages 6-17 can paint outdoors from July 1-31, 2024, have their work exhibited at the Ocean City Center for the Arts, and be eligible to win cash prizes. There is no charge to participate.

"We encourage every kid in the resort and beyond to get outdoors and paint in July," Kacie Neeb, Art League Kids Paint OC coordinator said. "And we have the supplies and inspiration they need to create their own masterpiece."

Children who register receive a free art kit and a Kids Paint OC t-shirt, while supplies last. Every child who enters will have their artwork displayed during an exclusive art show at the Ocean City Center for the Arts on Sun. Aug. 18, from 12-3 p.m. A panel of judges will select the winners and award \$500 in cash prizes.

Kids Paint OC is made possible by a grant from the Worcester County Arts Council.

Kids Paint OC is part of the annual "Artists Paint OC: A Plein Air Festival" now in its 19th year. In mid-August, more than 50 professional artists will paint

around Ocean City and the surrounding area, culminating in Wet Paint Sales at the Arts Center on 94th St. on Aug. 17th and 18th.

More information about Kids Paint OC and registration is available at <u>ocart.org/kids-paint-oc-a-plein-air-event/</u> or email <u>kacie@artleagueofoceancity.org</u>.

The Art League of Ocean City is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing the visual arts to the community through education, exhibits, scholarship, programs and community art projects. Financial support comes primarily through membership dues from individuals and corporate sponsors.

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EDITORS: Photos attached from Kids Paint OC 2023

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