



Brown County Art Colony Weekend 2026

Calling all art enthusiasts to join in on the fun! Art Colony Weekend is a perfect opportunity to experience the fall splendor of Brown County. Learn more about the Midwest Art Colony artists, enjoy live music while viewing a beautifully curated historic collection, and attend an auction filled with award-winning art to purchase. There are a variety of events over three days from which to choose.

FRIDAY / SEPTEMBER 11

Gallery Hop

5 – 7 pm
Town of Nashville

Begin the weekend celebration by touring participating galleries in the village of Nashville. The Art Guild will showcase a new Founders Exhibition along with striking artwork by its current artist members. Live painting by Art Guild Members in the Guild galleries, music & refreshments. The Brown County Craft Guild, Hoosier Artist Gallery & Spears Gallery will also offer unique and exquisite items for sale. Free & Open to the public.

A Founders Exhibition - Frederick W. Rigley Exhibition Opening

11 am – 7 pm
Brown County Art Guild

The Brown County Art Guild proudly presents the Founders Exhibition: Frederick W. Rigley, honoring one of the Guild's founding artists and an important figure in the development of Brown County's artistic legacy. Drawn from private collections, this exhibition brings together a rare selection of paintings that reflect Rigley's deep appreciation for the landscapes, light, and character of southern Indiana.

SATURDAY / SEPTEMBER 12

Great Outdoor Art Contest

7 am – 4 pm
T.C. Steele State Historic Site

The oldest plein air painting competition in Indiana celebrates its 38th year! Gates open at 7 am for artists to have their canvases stamped and then off to work. The artwork will be judged at 2 pm with award announcements beginning at 3:30 pm. A separate admission fee applies for those observing throughout the day or attending the awards ceremony. Details can be found at: <https://www.indianamuseum.org/event/great-outdoor-art-contest/>

Community Paint Together

12 – 4 pm
Village Green, Main & Jefferson

The Artist Associates of Brown County proudly presents the opportunity for everyone to take up a brush – young and old, novice and experienced. Families are welcome. The canvas will await those who want to make their mark on this year's masterpiece. A creation like no other, the project aims to encourage the imaginative spirit and hidden talent within all of us.

Guild Speaker Series

Rick Kelley
Brown County Art History/Q&A

1 – 2:30 pm
Brown County Inn

As part of the 2026 Art Colony Weekend and in conjunction with the Art Colony Auction Preview, join us for a fascinating journey into the history of one of America's most celebrated art colonies.

Brown County historian and resident Rick Kelley will share his deep knowledge of the Brown County Art Colony and the remarkable artists who came to these hills seeking inspiration, community, and a place to call home. Through engaging stories, personal insights, and historical anecdotes, Rick brings the past to life, revealing the people, places, and events that shaped Brown County's rich artistic legacy. Rick will invite audience members to ask questions and share in the conversation.

The auction is also available for preview, 10am-1pm.

ALL EVENTS: free and open to the public

SEPTEMBER 11-13, 2026

ART COLONY WEEKEND

a Guild Tradition

SATURDAY / SEPTEMBER 12

Brown County Art Gallery

Open 10 am – 5 pm

One Artist Drive, Nashville IN 47448

Limited Seating

Enjoy the exhibition, Theodore Clement Steele: Indiana's Master Impressionist from Munich to Brown County and at 2:00pm view the live play, "Selma and the Painter" featuring Broadway actress Jill Tasker as TC Steele's wife Selma Steele. It is a tale of Selma's life in Brown County with T.C. and the history of the House of the Singing Winds.

SUNDAY / SEPTEMBER 13

Brown County Art Colony Auction

11 am – 1 pm Art auction preview

1 – 4:30 pm Art auction

Brown County Inn

Looking for that special piece to finish an arrangement or round out your collection? Art auctions remind us that the value of art is not just in its price, but in the stories, history, and emotions it embodies. Join us for a dynamic afternoon and watch buyers compete for pieces. The works of Midwest Art Colony artists will be featured along with award-winning artists of today. Their endurability remains, regardless of the era in which they were painted.



BROWN COUNTY

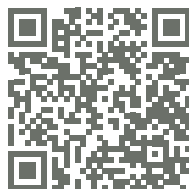
Art Guild

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MORE INFO!

Scan the QR code to access additional information.