



# SUSQUEHANNA SUMMER SOLSTICE FEST

**June 16 - 22, 2025**  
**FRENCH AZILUM, PA**

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GREETINGS,

We hope you are well. Our committee is setting up the 4th Annual Susquehanna Summer Solstice Fest (SSSF) (dates above) at the French Azilum (FA) Historic Site between Wyalusing and Towanda, PA.

The SSSF has had three successful years and we're looking ahead to another great one this June. While new suggestions from previous attendees are being implemented this year, the basic event is the same: a week-long paint out along the beautiful Susquehanna River and surrounding towns culminating with a weekend show of art, concerts, dance and presentations.

We anticipate continuing prize monies around \$4000, including some new categories. One of the changes you'll see is the plein-air awards ceremony on Friday afternoon, rather than Sunday. We implemented this change last year, so the public can see the award winners sooner and have a longer period for the art to be on display and sold. There will be on-site painting with special awards at French Azilum with a Quick Draw event on Sunday- as we did last year.

The entry fee for plein-air artists is \$50. As in previous years ( the fee is non-refundable in case you cancel), and artist registration is non-juried, however it is limited to the first 30 applicants. We are partnering again with the Bradford County Regional Arts Council (BRAC) in Towanda. Please make your checks payable to the BCRAC with SSSF in the memo. Mail it with the attached entry form to: Bradford County Regional Arts Council, Susquehanna Summer Solstice Fest, 601 Main St. Towanda, PA 18848.

The SSSF will be offering lodging nearby (for participating artists and musicians only) in the homes and cottages of our committee members and generous friends and supporters. Please indicate on the admission form whether or not you require housing. Camping is also available at FA.

We have the same website and Facebook page for 2025. Please visit [www.susquehannasolstice.com](http://www.susquehannasolstice.com) and follow us at [www.facebook.com/susquehannasolsticefest](https://www.facebook.com/susquehannasolsticefest) for the latest updates.

Attached is a schedule of 2025 plein-air events. (Please note: there may be some minor changes before June, but the basic itinerary is set.)

Any questions? Call or email Brooks, Rich or Brian: Brooks: (570) 637-0514  
- [brooksem@icloud.com](mailto:brooksem@icloud.com) Rich: (607) 754-0535 - [henry.artist1@gmail.com](mailto:henry.artist1@gmail.com) Brian: (570) 721-0055  
- [zingologyjazz@gmail.com](mailto:zingologyjazz@gmail.com)

We look forward to meeting you again at our beautiful historic site this coming summer!

REGARDS,

SSSF Plein Air Committee Members:

Brian Keeler

Abbie Stevens

Rich Henry

George Van Hook

Maggie Martin

Brooks Eldredge-Martin



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## SCHEDULE 2025

### MONDAY, JUNE 16

8:30 am Arrive at French Azilum (FA). Proceed to the Pavilion Gallery

9:00 am Mandatory orientation and panel stamping. Don't miss this as we have important basics to cover! 10:30 am Paint anywhere at FA or in the region (within 35 miles).

9:30am - Meet the Juror - Steve Sliwinski will offer his ideas, thoughts and inspirations for your consideration

4:00 pm Paint in downtown Wyalusing, PA. Stay for a nocturne painting.

### TUESDAY, JUNE 17

Daytime Paint anywhere in the region.

4pm Bring in two or three pieces to display on your easel (work need not be plein air)

5pm Meet-and-Greet at Grovedale Winery in Wyalusing. Schmooze, meet the SF committee, fellow artists, patrons, and community members. Wine and refreshments served.

7 pm Special talk on our regional and national art history by Jan Lokuta.

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18

Al day Paint Troy, PA: Set up around town and capture the beauty of historic architecture or nearby landscapes. There will be awards for paintings of Troy.

### THURSDAY, JUNE 19

Morning Paint anywhere in the region.

### FRIDAY, JUNE 20

Daytime Paint anywhere in the region.

12:00 pm Bring your framed work into the FA Pavilion Gallery and hang your work (up to five pieces). Each artist will have a designated panel.

2:00 pm Judging

3:30 pm Awards ceremony and juror's commentary. Evening music starts at FA. (If you paint the figure, consider working from performers.)

### SATURDAY, JUNE 21

French Azilum Day- This is the time to set up on the grounds or surrounding area to paint the historic site. (We will have a (second) awards ceremony on Sunday for the Best FA Depiction and for the Quick Draw, possibly other awards too.)

10:00 am Children's mural with Jan Lokuta

11:00 am Landscape painting demo

Our esteemed Juror for 2025 is Steve Sliwinski of Troy, PA. Steve is long-time educator, jeweler and active artist working in several media including watercolor, acrylic and pastel. And Steve has worked en plein air from our region's landscapes as well as in Maine. So Steve has an affinity for the process of outdoor painting, which makes him well-suited for our fest.

SUNDAY, JUNE 22

French Azilum Day Part Two

10:00 am - 12:00 pm Quick draw event

12:00- Display your quick draw piece in the gallery- designate it on the label as QD.

1 pm- Oil portrait demo from a model- by SSSF artistic director and founder, Brian Keeler..

4:00 pm -Final awards ceremony

5:00 pm Pick up unsold work. Farewell!  
his home.

**JUNE 16-22, 2025**

susquehannasolstice.com

**4TH ANNUAL**

**SUSQUEHANNA SUMMER SOLSTICE FEST**

# PLEIN-AIR FESTIVAL APPLICATION

**FRENCH AZILUM, PA**

A beautiful historic site perched along the Susquehanna River between Wyalusing and Towanda in Bradford County, PA.

Take your inspiration directly from the charming landscapes and towns lying within 30 miles of French Azilum!

SUSQUEHANNA



**SUMMER SOLSTICE FEST**

**CELEBRATE THE SUMMER SOLSTICE** along the the Susquehanna River with a multimedia art and music festival featuring plein-air painting, Americana concerts, dance, presentations, outdoor activities and more!

Artists are invited to participate in the plein-air portion of the festival, lasting 7 days from Monday June 16 to Sunday June 22, with the opportunity to paint local landscapes, interact with fellow artists and locals, and display and sell their work in a final show. **Note:** A 30% commission to SSSF is reserved from all show sales.

**FESTIVAL APPLICATION** Opens January 31, 2025

**Do you require housing?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Eligibility** Any artist over 18 may apply. Applications are non-juried but open only to the first 30 applicants.

**Fee** \$50 (non-refundable)

**Application Deadline** May 31, 2025. Please apply before 5/1/25 for inclusion in festival print marketing.

**Submit applications to:** Bradford County Regional Arts Council, 601 Main St, Towanda, PA 18848

For questions regarding payment, contact the BCRAC office at [info@bcrac.org](mailto:info@bcrac.org) or (570) 268-2787.

**Artist's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Medium:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Oils

Watercolor

Acrylic

Pastel

**Website:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Method:**

Cash  Check  PayPal

**\*Please make checks payable to the Bradford County Regional Arts Council**