

**POTOMAC VALLEY WATERCOLORISTS**  
**Plein Air Painting Trip, Shepherdstown, WV**  
**May 16, 17, 18, 2017**

*Please let us know of your plans to attend this event by April 21, 2017, so that we may put final details in place. Thank you.*

The Travel Committee of PVW is planning a painting trip to historic Shepherdstown, West Virginia on May 16 to May 18, 2017. Shepherdstown is a picturesque town located along the Potomac River just inside WVA. Approximately 80 miles from Alexandria VA, and a bit closer from northern points in the Washington, DC metro area, Shepherdstown can be reached by Interstate 270 or via Leesburg, VA and Charles Town, WVA. The town and its outskirts are full of interesting venues to paint. Shepherdstown was chartered in 1762, and played important roles in both the Revolutionary War and the Civil War at nearby Antietam. It is also located just across the river from the C & O National Historic Park.

The town of Shepherdstown has an active main street of redbrick nineteenth century and earlier architecture, as well as Shepherd University, a growing academic institution that provides many cultural opportunities for residents and visitors. Each July the town hosts the renowned Annual Contemporary American Theater Festival, attended by people from around the world. The Shepherdstown Visitors Center has been generous in welcoming our group.

Subjects for painting are found around every corner of the town from a spectrum of American architectural styles, to unique, public alleys behind residential structures located between major streets (there is also a water race that runs under a block of historic townhouses), to natural scenery accessible along the Potomac River, and to rural farms and open-field landscapes.

**Schedule**

PVW members will arrive on Tuesday, May 16, and check into their respective accommodations (suggestions below) and familiarize themselves with the town. A meeting of the group will be held early that evening to discuss all-day painting the next day.

The owner of the popular The Bridge Gallery in Shepherdstown has offered to provide a group gathering at the gallery which will be an excellent opportunity for members to learn about this gallery and its mission to promote artists of the mid-Atlantic area. In addition, an exhibition of works by approximately twenty-five (25) regional artists will be hung in the gallery during our visit. These works will have been part of a larger exhibition currently hung in the Washington County Fine Arts Museum in nearby Hagerstown, MD. This annual exhibition is open to all regional artists who would like to apply to the "Cumberland Valley Artists and Photographers Exhibition," another possible exhibition opportunity that may interest PVW members. \*If members have never visited the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts Museum in Hagerstown, we highly recommend that you do so. It is a regional art gem in architecture, setting, and collections. Founded in 1929, the classical museum building sets within a beautiful city park and its wide-ranging permanent collection was given by the Singer family. The museum promotes plein air events.



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Please contact **Mak Dehejia**, a member of the PVW Travel Committee, [mdehejia@gmail.com](mailto:mdehejia@gmail.com), by **April 21, 2017** if you wish to participate in this Plein Air trip, along with information regarding your accommodations.

\*Participation in painting and travel opportunities organized by the Potomac Valley Watercolorists is undertaken at the participant's own expense and risk. The Potomac Valley Watercolorists is not responsible for any economic losses or personal injury experienced in connection with this trip.