

Tips and Tricks and Success Strategies:

Taking the photo

- Your digital camera should be 7 megapixels at the minimum. (Most of them on the market today are in the 12 megapixel range.)
- Set the camera's resolution to the highest setting, i.e. 3000x3000.
- Photograph your painting BEFORE you frame it.
- Take the picture in natural light – NO FLASH.
- The painting surface should be parallel with your camera (not tipped or leaning against a wall) and square it in the camera lens.
- For best results, shoot outdoors and in the shade, with your painting flat on the ground.

Importing and preparation for editing

- Most cameras come with some basic photo editing software but are generally not robust enough to make the adjustments needed for submitting jpgs to SAWG shows.
- Generally, the photo editing programs you can download for free are designed for storing and sharing photos on line, or for creating web albums. Actual editing capability is limited.
- Take several shots of your painting so that you can compare and choose the one you think is best.
- Once your images are uploaded, choose the 1 or 2 you will keep and then eliminate the others.
- Name and save your images.

Editing to specifications

- Once you choose the image to be edited, save a copy to your desktop and leave the original in place. Work only with the copy and preserve the original.
- The standard size for image submissions for all SAWG shows is a maximum of 6 inches on the longest side or 1800 pixels. The resolution is to be 300 dpi for evaluation by a juror or for publicity purposes.