



# Easel

Spring 2025

***Additional COGAP art on view  
at Salmagundi Club;  
Federal Hall exhibit of 2025  
art will follow***

Twenty-four additional works not from the new collection of artworks will be displayed during the inaugural exhibition at the Salmagundi Club. These works underscore the Service's many contributions to the Nation including its important work in response to illegal migrant interdiction and work in law enforcement.

Following the show at the Salmagundi Club, the 2025 collection will be displayed for two months at Federal Hall National Memorial in Manhattan.

***Three museums to host  
COGAP art exhibits***

Erie Maritime Museum in Erie, Pa., in a year-long exhibition beginning this May, will be hosting a major display of COGAP works. For several months this summer, Ormond Memorial Art Museum in Ormond, Beach, Fla., will display COGAP works. The Upcountry History Museum of Furman University in Greenville, S.C., will host a multiple-month exhibit starting this Fall, featuring paintings of animals in service to the Coast Guard.

***COGAP TO ACCEPT 34 NEW PIECES,  
reception and acceptance set for July 10th***

Thirty-four works of art by 24 artists comprise the 2025 Coast Guard Art Program (COGAP) collection, making this a large collection and one to which many COGAP artists have contributed.

The inaugural exhibition will run from July 1 through July 29, 2025 at the Salmagundi Club in New York City. The annual reception and acceptance ceremony will be held the evening of July 10th there. A senior Coast Guard official will make remarks and accept the 2025 collection. The evening's emcee will be Coast Guard Capt. Jonathan Andrechik, Commanding Officer of Sector New York.

While most new works are based on Coast Guard photos, two works are based on artistic deployment. Artist Debra Keirce of Broadlands, Va., contributed two oil paintings depicting her deployment in 2022 aboard the Cutter Stone. These works show service members in the cutter's

engine room as well as work assignments being given to staff on the cutter's bridge. Keirce is also contributing a third oil painting. This depicts two Coast Guard Band musicians performing at the Salmagundi Club against the backdrop of a painting she did of musicians in 2021.

Three works are based on photos with special permissions. They are works by Stephen Roberson, of Arlington, Va., whose oil painting shows a rescue swimmer workout; John Ward, of Saranac Lake, N.Y., whose acrylic painting depicts a Coast Guard rescue in Kodiak, Alaska, and Absecon, N.J. resident Leon Wescoat, whose oil painting shows the Coast Guard responding to a boat on fire.

Meanwhile, David Ray of Wilmette, Ill., features a Coast Guard auxiliarist in an oil work based on his photos taken during a visit to Green Bay, Wis.

Many works accepted are of Coast Guard search and rescue cases or training. The

## **2025 collection artwork on view over three months at NYC venues**

Service's important work in illegal migrant interdiction, patrols, inspections, and assistance to scientists working on Arctic research are among the many subjects also featured.

As well, multiple submissions by several COGAP artists are in this year's collection. Don Hatcher of Newport, Wash., donated five gouache works: Four show search and rescue cases in diverse locations in the U.S. and the fifth is of senior Coast Guard officials assessing the devastation caused by the collapse of the Key Bridge in Maryland.

Two charcoal works by Todd Groesbeck of Hagerstown, Md., are portraits: One of an aviation maintenance specialist in Kodiak, Alaska and the other of a Coast Guard fireman aboard the Cutter Alex Haley.

Christopher Tupa of Edna, Texas, contributed three ink drawings, each showing different Coast Guard missions. These are cliff operations in California, a search and rescue exercise conducted in Canada, and a third of Cutter Healy crewmembers aiding scientists in Arctic research.

New York City resident Michael Davis contributed two oil paintings: One depicting the Service providing supplies in the Western Pacific after a patrol and the other showing illegal migrant interdiction and repatriation.

Migrant intervention is featured in other works including Tustin, Calif. resident Echo Baker's

oil painting of Cutter Campbell crew holding young Haitians.

Search and rescue cases and training are often subjects in artwork of the new collection. New York City resident Karen Loew, in an oil painting, portrays a Coast Guard rescue swimmer on mission and descending on a helicopter hoist cable. Karen is chair of the COGAP committee at the Salmagundi Club.

Bill Mast of Middlefield, Ohio, in a mixed media artwork, shows a rescue swimmer on way to an imperiled boat. Ken Stetz of Collegeville, Pa., in an oil work, shows Advanced Helicopter Rescue School swimmers in a training drill in Astoria, Ore. Ken was the winner of the 2024 George Gray Award for his work of cutters in a training drill aiding a disabled vessel.

Leendert van der Pool of Brooklyn, N.Y., in an oil painting, depicts the Service rescuing a distressed mariner and his dog. Ocsar Romero of Sacramento, Calif., in an ink work shows a Coast Guard search in Florida after the devastation wrought there by Hurricane Helene.

Maria Bennett Hock of Cary, N.C., in an oil painting, features Cutter James Rankin crew preparing to set the famed Francis Scott Key Memorial Buoy in Maryland's Patapsco River.

Southport, N.C. resident Susanne Corbelletta's painting in oil pictures firefighting training at the U.S. Maritime Administration in Toledo, Ohio. The training enables crew members to rapidly control shipboard fires.

Other works show the Service at work overseas and on patrol.

Amy DiGi of Yorktown Heights, N.Y., in an oil painting shows a joint inspection and boarding of a foreign fishing vessel near the Republic of Palau, deterring illicit fishing and other illicit maritime activities.

Kirk Larsen, Hicksville, N.Y. resident, highlights in an oil painting the work of a Maritime Safety and Security Team in New Orleans patrolling the area to ensure safety for the LIX Superbowl game.

The work of Coast Guard cutters aiding scientific researchers is also highlighted. Bellevue, Wash., resident Charles Fawcett, in an oil work, depicts the Cutter Healy as it departs Seattle and carries scientists aboard to conduct Arctic research.

Works on other and significant topics are also in this collection. Bloomington, Ill. resident James Wall's watercolor trumpets the often overlooked yet vital work of machinery technicians on Coast Guard cutters. In a mixed media work, Thomas Plantz of St. Joseph, Mich., displays the rigors of firearms marksmanhip training.

Priscilla Patterson of Post Falls, Idaho, in a transparent watercolor, shows a Coast Guard Air Station Kodiak crewmember providing water safety instruction to a young and smiling child.

Extolling the morale building that culinary arts specialists often create is Chris Demarest's watercolor painting. It depicts a culinary specialist aboard the Cutter Eagle offering appetizers during an event celebrating the naming a Coast Guard City.