

# Link Gallery hosting Plein Air Festival show

**D**oor Community Auditorium, in collaboration with the Peninsula School of Art, is hosting an exhibit of the work of 18 artists who participated in the 2008 Door County Plein Air Festival in the auditorium's Link Gallery.

Celebrating the Peninsula's beauty, 40 artists in a variety of artistic media set up easels in locales throughout Door County. Painting in hay fields and flower patches, on beaches and in parks, the artists utilized the natural light to work *en plein aire*, translated as "in the plain air."

The concept of *plein air* originated with French artists in the mid-1800s, at a time when portable box easels allowed artists to move outdoors. Claude Monet, Camille Pissarro and Pierre-Auguste Renoir were among the first *plein air* artists. Their tradition of painting in natural light evolved into Impressionism.

The Peninsula School of Art sponsored the first Door County Plein Air Festival in 2007 and held the event again this July. Festival events included a week-long *plein air* experience throughout Door County for art-



**'ONE LAST STOP IN EPHRAIM'** by James Richards, the Artist's Choice award winner.

ists and spectators; an evening with the artists; trolley tour and picnic; a gala and auction of just-created art; a quick-paint competition; and an opening reception and

one hour before performances. For more information, call 868-2728 or go to [www.dcauditorium.com](http://www.dcauditorium.com).

exhibit at the art school. The community was invited to participate in the activities, and artists' paintings were available for purchase.

Although a majority of the artists who attended the festival were from the Midwest, they also traveled from Oregon, Idaho, Arizona, Pennsylvania, Georgia and Tennessee.

After the exhibit at the school's Guenzel Gallery, a select number of the paintings were relocated to the Link Gallery. The exhibited artists are Scott Anderson, Bridget Ausbin, Lori Beringer, Christina Body, Bonnita Budysz, Mary Ann Davis, Richard Dziak, Anne Ibur, Shelby Keefe, Tom Maakestad, Kathleen Newman, James Richards, Linda Richichi, Neil Sherman, Jeff Swaluk, Rodrica Tilley, Jack Wahl and Brett Weaver.

The exhibit continues through Sept. 3 in the Link Gallery at at Door Community Auditorium, 3924 State 42, Fish Creek. The gallery is open during DCA box office hours: 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. weekend show days and one hour before performances. For more information, call 868-2728 or go to [www.dcauditorium.com](http://www.dcauditorium.com).