

PJ's (Plein Janes/Joes) LAA Plein Air Painters – May 2025

Happy spring. We're excited about another season of painting outdoors. All are welcomed to join us – LAA members and guests. PJ's is free and is for all levels of painters, sketchers, photographers. We try to vary the locations, have available restrooms, get permissions if needed. We will paint on Wednesdays from 9:00–12:00 unless otherwise specified, but you are encouraged to come and go according to your own needs. Most stay till noon; if you'd like to bring your sack lunch, feel free.

As always, **you** need to determine if weather conditions are suitable for you to paint. We usually will not announce any cancellations for weather, though we may formally cancel if it's a major weather event. We hope to see you soon.

May 7: Davidson Mesa Trail /Harper Lake

N McCaslin at Washington Ave., Louisville (about ½ mile south of S. Boulder Rd.)



There are 2 parking lots – on the west side and east side of McCaslin. This is a busy place so if you want to paint mountains at Davidson Mesa, you may need to park on the east side and walk through the tunnel that connects to the west side.

The mountains will be covered in snow. Harper is a small, pretty lake with panoramic mountain views looking west. Sometimes there are small boats on the water. Restroom available, but not much shade around the lake, so an umbrella could help. A row of trees on the west end of the lake can provide shade if you want to paint mountain views from the lake. At the Davidson Mesa Trail side, there is a dog park, views of Boulder below and the Baseline power plant stacks.

May 14: South Boulder Creek Trailhead West. On HWY 93 –

You can easily MapQuest. (This is NOT the South Boulder Creek Trailhead by Eldorado.)

Coming from Boulder - Located 1 mile south of Greenbriar Ave. stoplight intersection on Hwy 93 (Broadway), on the right (west) side of 93. If coming from Marshall Rd., turn north on 93 and go ½ mile. Look for sign set back a bit from the road on the west side of 93. Park in designated parking area. This spot has 2 shaded picnic tables, restrooms, panoramic views of the mountains and open space between road and mountains. In Spring there are wild iris blooming.

A short walk on the main trail takes you to a different vantage point for the mountains, and there's a grove of large cottonwood trees there. Near the parking lot is a small pond currently full of weeds and scum, but you can use your artistic license to make it prettier. Sometimes there are horses, cows, and there are always birds. South Boulder Creek West Trail passes by tall and mixed grass prairie as it meanders west along South Boulder Creek. Its terminus is near the south end of the Mesa Trail.



May 21: Brunner Farmhouse in Broomfield – 640 Main St, Broomfield

The Brunner Farmhouse is located on the northeast corner of Midway Boulevard and Main Street in Broomfield. It is surrounded by “the Field,” a designated open space area. It has lovely flower gardens, open space to capture clouds, and a historic home used for events. There is shade, a bathroom, patio. Let's bring a sack lunch to have on the patio. Hopefully the iris and peonies will be blooming.



May 28: Japanese Shrine in Kanemoto Park in Longmont –

1152 S. Pratt Parkway. I found it best to travel S. Pratt Parkway and Missouri St.

The park is by the elementary school. There are bathrooms, shade and interesting areas to see.

Kanemoto Park showcases the Tower of Compassion, a structure built in the style of a traditional Japanese temple, 5-story Pagoda. It was donated to the people of Longmont.



June 4: Coal Creek Trail – at Dutch Creek area

From Buena Vista take S. Hoover Street; stay on it till it turns into Chestnut through the Dutch Creek neighborhood. Parking is in the neighborhood. **House across the street from the trail is 279 Chestnut St. This may help if you are using GPS.** Some have painted there before. It backs up to the Coal Creek golf course, has a nice trail, small bridge, mountain views, rushing water. Lots of shade. Cows in the pasture. No bathrooms except at the Community Park which is just a block away.



June 11: Train cars, old Louisville historic buildings. You will have many choices.

There are to 2 train cars and ore cart that welcome people on Pine Street. The Old Mill on Front Street, Moxie Breads building at corner of Main and Pine; Zucca's Restaurant on Main Street, History Museum on Main, and 720 Restaurant on Front St. I will have a write-up on the history of these buildings. Let's meet in the parking lot of Mountain Appliance (which is across from the train cars) on Hwy 42 and Pine. You can also paint the main street decked out with flowers, umbrellas, deck seating.

People then can group according to what they want to paint. At 11:30, let's meet at the Steinbaugh Pavilion across from the library on Front Street to have lunch together.



June 18: Sandstone Ranch Park – 3001 CO-119, Longmont 80504 – Take 287 or 119 to Longmont. Where 119 and 287 intersect, head east on 119 (Ken Pratt Blvd.) past the intersection of Weld County Road 1. A half mile past WCR1, look for ball fields and King Chevrolet. Turn right there and drive past a large parking lot, then continue to the Visitors' Center where you'll find a smaller parking lot. You may need to park in the upper parking lot. Carpool if you can. The ranch features shade trees, old buildings, mountain views, and beautiful SW rock formations. There is shade around the farmhouse, porta pottys,



June 25: Wonderland Lake, Boulder

More information to come. We are still researching the best place to park etc.