

WHAT IS USK?

Urban Sketchers (USk) is a global community of sketchers dedicated to the practice of on-location drawing. USk is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in the state of Washington that supports and represents grassroots communities of sketchers. USk share their love for the places where they live and travel-one drawing at a time.

The seven Route 66 USk Chapters are chartered members of this international network of approximately 600 chapters. USk chapters follow the USk manifesto and help promote its mission to raise the artistic, storytelling, and educational value of on-location drawing, promoting its practice and connecting people worldwide who draw on location where they live and travel. USk chapters are led by chapter administrators who organize sketching activities and educational events and provide leadership to their community of sketchers.

WHAT IS AN URBAN SKETCH?

An urban sketch is a drawing created on location in any environment, whether indoors or out, in urban, rural or natural settings. It is considered an urban sketch as long as a sketcher has captured the essence of the moment and place on location from direct observation. For some that can be a quick sketch of a scene, with a short caption of what's going on, and for others it's a piece that can take a considerable amount of time to complete.

Urban sketchers utilize various media to convey the story of their surroundings, the places they live, and their travel destinations. While there is some overlap between plein-air and urban sketching, the former tends to prioritize the aesthetic outcome of the finished piece, whereas the latter's primary goal is on storytelling, witnessing, and documentation.

HOW CAN ONE BECOME AN URBAN SKETCHER?

Visit usk's website (urbansketchers.org): as an urban sketcher, you will become a member of a global network dedicated to connecting the world, one sketch at a time. You can join an existing chapter, establish a new chapter if one is not nearby, or sketch independently. There are numerous avenues to becoming a sketcher!

MANIFESTO

- 1.) We draw on location, indoors or out, capturing what we see from direct observation.
- 2.) Our drawings tell the story of our surroundings, the places we live, and where we travel.
- 3.) Our drawings are a record of time and place.
- 4.) We are truthful to the scenes we witness.
- 5.) We use any kind of media and cherish our individual styles.
- 6.) We support each other and draw together.
- 7.) We share our drawings online.
- 8.) We show the world, one drawing at a time.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
ON CONTRIBUTING YOUR
ROUTE 66 SKETCHES IN
THE CENTENNIAL EXHIBITS,
CONTACT:

Urbansketcherstulsa@gmail.com

URBAN SKETCHERS ROUTE 66 CENTENNIAL EXHIBITS

Sketching at sites along the "Mother Road" is popular with members of the seven Urban Sketchers (USk) chapters located in cities along Route 66, including Chicago, St Louis, Springfield, MO, Oklahoma City, Tulsa, Albuquerque/Santa Fe and Los Angeles.



Cornelia Art Building
1800 W. Cornelia Avenue
October 16, 2026 (5-9 p.m.)
October 17, 2026 (12-4 p.m.)



Edmond History Museum
431 S Blvd., Edmond
September 1 - October 31, 2026
(10 a.m.-5 p.m. M-F/ 1 p.m.-4 p.m.
Saturday)

122 E. Main Street, Norman
December 11 – February 12, 2027
(10 a.m.–4 p.m. T-Sat)



Park Central Library
128 Park Central Square
August 1 - 31, 2026
(10 a.m.- 6 p.m. M-Sa. Closed
Sunday)



McKeon Creativity Center
Tulsa Community College
Downtown Campus
910 South Boston Avenue
August 4 - 25, 2026
(8 a.m.- 5 p.m. M-F)

