



Dear Applicant:

Enclosed you will find the Stobart Foundation grant application you requested. Please return the completed application along with the following:

- 6 to 10 slides, photographs, prints or digital images of your work.
- A copy of your most recent Federal tax return (1040).
- Recommendation(s) from an affiliated academic institution.
- If not currently enrolled, an explanation of your academic background.
- A resume.
- A statement explaining your commitment to drawing and painting in the traditional teaching methods and drawing and painting “from life” (see application).

Applications are accepted and considered throughout the year and are evaluated on an individual basis. Awards are given annually on May 31<sup>st</sup>. The deadline for applications is the tenth day of May.

Applicants selected by the trustees to receive awards will be required to submit additional information as well as a representative piece of the grantee’s work to be retained by the Stobart Foundation. This piece of work will be part of a collection of work that is ultimately to be used in a traveling exhibition of Stobart Foundation grant recipients and should therefore be an accomplished piece that you feel exemplifies the qualities the Stobart Foundation stands for. Stobart Foundation grants are disbursed to grantees in two installments. The first installment (first half of the grant) will be issued upon receipt of the following from the grantee to the Foundation:

- A signed statement declaring the planned use of grant funds.
- A signed statement declaring the grantees intention of providing the Foundation with an example of their work.
- A signed statement that grantee will submit the two required progress reports. The first report will be information pertaining to the progress of the grantee’s project and the up-to-date use of grant funds. The second will be a final reporting of how grant funds have been utilized with an itemized financial accounting of grant funds.
- Grantee will maintain up-to-date contact information with the Foundation in the calendar year in which a grant has been awarded.

Once the above requirements are satisfied, the Foundation will make the final installment (remaining 1/2 of grant).

Thank you for your request and for your interest in the Stobart Foundation. We look forward to receiving your application. If you need more information, please feel free to contact us by telephone at 978-594-0047.

Sincerely,  
*The Stobart Foundation Trustees*

# The Stobart Foundation

Established in 1988, The Stobart Foundation is a non-profit charitable trust formed by artist John Stobart as a venue through which to inspire, support and strengthen the passion and commitment of artists who paint directly from nature. The time-honored tradition of painting from nature is a vital legacy and has been the basis of some of the world's most treasured masterpieces. The practice of developing artistic talent through classical observation and execution has formed the esteemed ranks of the Barbizon painters, the Impressionists, and today's dedicated plein-air painters. Believing that the life of this community and its continued prominence in the future art world lies with the success of its emerging young artists, the Foundation offers financial assistance to young artists who aspire to establish themselves professionally through the practice of working directly from the subject, whether it be portrait, landscape or still life.

In pursuing his own career, it was the practice of working on-site and directly relating to the model or nature itself and developing the finesse to capture a moment in time on canvas that paved the way for John Stobart's own artistic vision. The artist Stobart has said, "The habit of working regularly on the spot, if kept up throughout a career, will pay immeasurable dividends. For the studio-bound painter, it will be a catharsis which can only result in adding life and vibrancy to future work."

The Foundation realizes the seminal step for an artist to move from student to professional occurs when each individual artist learns to use their passion and sensitivity to shape the technical skills mastered as a student into a mature and independent visual language recognizable as their own. This imperative step is unfortunately most frequently encountered just after leaving the protective environment of the academy, and before the artist has a body of work able to support them in the professional fine art world. During this time of transition, with the least time and energy available to the fledgling artist to give the required focused attention on this important development, many deserving young artists turn to other methods and opportunities in the art world in order to make ends meet. Recognizing this, the Stobart Foundation offers financial support to the qualified artist in the form of the Stobart Foundation Artist Fellowship in order to aid and encourage their development during this very important period.

# John Stobart

## Biographical Information

It was as a young art student that John Stobart first experienced the work of John Constable and Jean Baptiste-Camille Corot. Constable's oil sketches told Stobart that he too could develop simplicity and clarity in his work. Corot's paintings of outdoor subjects and architecture inspired Stobart's art. In these paintings, Stobart also found a quality of light he had never before seen. The work of these artists deeply affected Stobart and prompted him to define his own artistic style.

Rigorous classical studies enabled Stobart to develop his talent and express his artistic style. At sixteen, Stobart began art studies at the College of Arts and Crafts in his hometown of Derby, England. Graduating four years later with high honors, Stobart earned a highly coveted scholarship to England's oldest and most prestigious art academy, the Royal Academy Schools in London. Upon completion of his academic career, Stobart traveled by ship to his father's new home in South Africa. While aboard the *Braemer Castle*, Stobart realized that his artistic future laid in a passion for ships and the sea. Stobart painted *The Braemer Castle* and quickly sold it to the Union Castle Line. Soon, the artist was on a tack that would carry his paintings of modern ships into boardrooms across England and North America.

For ten years, Stobart divided his time between England and Canada to satisfy the demands of his collectors. Then he made a discovery that would draw his talents in a new direction. Stobart learned that artists had recorded only a few nineteenth century American ports and harbors. Newly inspired, he took a six-month sabbatical to learn about this subject. He later began creating the body of work that helps to fill a void in American maritime art history and for which he is best known.

When Stobart had completed just four paintings, he traveled to New York City in search of a gallery that would show these new works. Luckily, his seat on the train was next to a man who held a prominent position in America's art world. This stranger suggested the Kennedy Galleries to Stobart, and Stobart took his advice. When the artist showed his paintings to Margaret Wunderlich at Kennedy Galleries, he immediately received an offer for a one-man show. This and several subsequent shows were all sell-outs.

In the late 1980's Stobart began to focus on his first love of on-site painting, creating a body of work recognizable for its fresh and spontaneous response to the moods and characteristics of nature. His paintings are collected around the world and seen by visitors of the Peabody Essex Museum in Massachusetts, Westervelt-Warner Museum in Alabama, Ventura County Maritime Museum in California and the Portland Museum in Maine. Stobart's effort to bring his artistic ideals to a wider audience has been achieved through his limited-edition prints as well as other means. John Stobart's *WorldScape I & II* PBS television series has enabled him to teach painting to a vast television audience. Stobart has also educated readers through his several books on maritime painting. His deep enjoyment of working in the landscape genre and his belief in the integrity of plein-air painting have led him to establish the Stobart Foundation, whose mission is to support young painters who are influenced by the history and tradition of the open air painters. Through these many efforts, art lovers around the world can appreciate the art and life of the past through the art of today.

 The Stobart Foundation  
Application

It is recommended that each applicant submit for consideration at least six to ten slides, photographs, prints or digital images. In addition, a copy of a recent tax return, a resume and a recommendation from an affiliated school are necessary. If not currently associated with a school, please provide an explanation of your educational history.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security No. \_\_\_\_\_

Last school attended \_\_\_\_\_

Date entered \_\_\_\_\_ Number years attended \_\_\_\_\_

Full time \_\_\_\_\_ Part time \_\_\_\_\_ Certificate \_\_\_\_\_

Degree(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Employment \_\_\_\_\_

Have you previously received Stobart Foundation scholarship funds? \_\_\_\_\_

Please write a statement concerning your commitment to an education in the fine arts, including your future plans. Feel free to use additional sheets of paper if necessary.

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All materials should be submitted to the following address:

**The Stobart Foundation, 18 Washington Square West, Salem, MA 01970 | 978-594-0047**