

KEITH SANDVIG
Professional Artist/Illustrator
Clive, Iowa

Keith Sandvig is a 1970 graduate of Iowa State University receiving his BS in Advertising Design/Illustration. Since 1985, as a professional artist, he has been commissioned to produce more than 100 original drawings and limited edition art prints for his clients located throughout the continental United States. His original drawings, paintings, and limited edition art prints are displayed in corporate and private collections throughout the continental United States, Hawaii, the Caribbean, and Western Europe. In 2004, Keith was commissioned to produce a 19 foot high by 119 ft wide “wall of fame” sports mural for a prestigious Midwestern University commemorating their All American athletes. He has impressed audiences with his collage drawings/paintings that represent a multitude of characters and scenes, combined to create one cohesive impression. Keith works to make each element of an illustration stand on its own, yet remain essential to the final piece. His collage style lends itself very nicely to producing works of art commemorating the personal and business lives of retiring corporate officers, university head coaches and athletic directors. Keith has been commissioned nationwide to produce over a dozen of these commemorative illustrations.

Through the years, Keith has received many awards, including the prestigious Johann Strauss Gold Medal from the Austria Tourism Department. Sandvig received the award for an art print titled “Vienna, Prelude to Austria.” He created a limited edition series of 5 prints titled, “Children of the World.” Former President George H.W. Bush displayed the series’ first three prints while in office. Another Sandvig print titled “A Preferred Pilgrimage, Egypt/Israel” hangs in President Jimmy Carter’s public library in Atlanta, Georgia. The print was presented to President Carter as well as to Menachem Begin, and the family of Anwar Al Sadat because of President Carter’s Middle East Camp David agreement in 1978.

Keith builds several layers of lead pencil in order to create the precise detail while adding depth to achieve a rich tonal drawing. For those compositions where color is added, in the same manner, he applies several layers of transparent, colored inks combined with a gel medium to build the rich colors he is able to obtain in his paintings. To add additional depth to his multimedia paintings, Keith often finishes the process with pastels and/or colored pencils. Sandvig is nationally known for his style of creating his art with only a portion of the final drawing in color to give the art a dramatic appearance. A scanning process Keith developed over 25 years ago reproduces the fine pencil drawing/painting for exact reproduction. Sandvig has also been commissioned to create large, life size pieces in charcoal.

The Artist prides himself on his precise realism and attention to detail. He strives to tell stories through his original works of art, and he remarked, “With precision and personality, a work of art can be likened to that of an engaging novel with multiple chapters of excitement and intrigue.” The artist has been known to hide non-controversial elements in his drawings as little surprises for the viewer when they find them.

Sandvig resides and works from his studio in Clive, Iowa.