

Made in NW Illinois

SPOTLIGHTING MANUFACTURING IN
CARROLL & JO DAVIESS COUNTIES

RIVER BEND GALLERY



THE GEOFFREY PERSPECTIVE

Geoffrey Mikol's dream growing up was to become a rock star but then he discovered photography. Born with Down Syndrome, Geoffrey found photography to be the ideal means of expressing his creativity. While still in high school he began to exhibit at Chicago art shows and developed a following. The Mikol Family took a trip to Galena in 2015 and fell in love with Main Street. It was at that moment they decided to go all in with Geoffrey, and in 2016 opened River Bend Gallery.

Geoffrey's photography is comprised of both landscape and close-up taken mainly in and around Galena. At first, River Bend Gallery focused on selling simple prints and a few small gift items that they could order and have shipped in, but Geoffrey and his subject matter resonated so well with tourists and locals alike that the gallery was able to quickly expand. By 2019 Geoffrey and River Bend Gallery achieved "Illinois Maker" status by the Illinois Board of Tourism.

Today River Bend Gallery produces about 98% of their product inhouse at their 1,000 square foot production studio where raw materials are transformed into wall art and a full line of gift and collectable items. The gallery has expanded into business-to-business sales for customized products and ecommerce, and it is able to leverage for sale an archive of Geoffrey's works that numbers over 200 distinct images.





An interior view of River Bend Gallery at 112 N Main Street in downtown Galena. The gallery originally opened at 243 N Main.

River Bend Gallery connects with business-owning locals and gift-shopping tourists alike. It remains a small, family-run and staffed business, employing 2-3 additional part-time employees. Popular items include framed prints hand signed by Geoffrey with his signature 'G,' seasonal ornaments, inspire tiles, and slate and barnwood mounts.

The Mikol Family is active in their local business community belonging to the Galena Area Chamber of Commerce and the Galena Downtown Business Association. They also generously support numerous local and national nonprofits, including The Workshop Galena, Special Olympics, GiGi's Playhouse, and the National Down Syndrome Society.

More about River Bend Gallery can be found on their website, Facebook, and Instagram.



Contact Details

River Bend Gallery

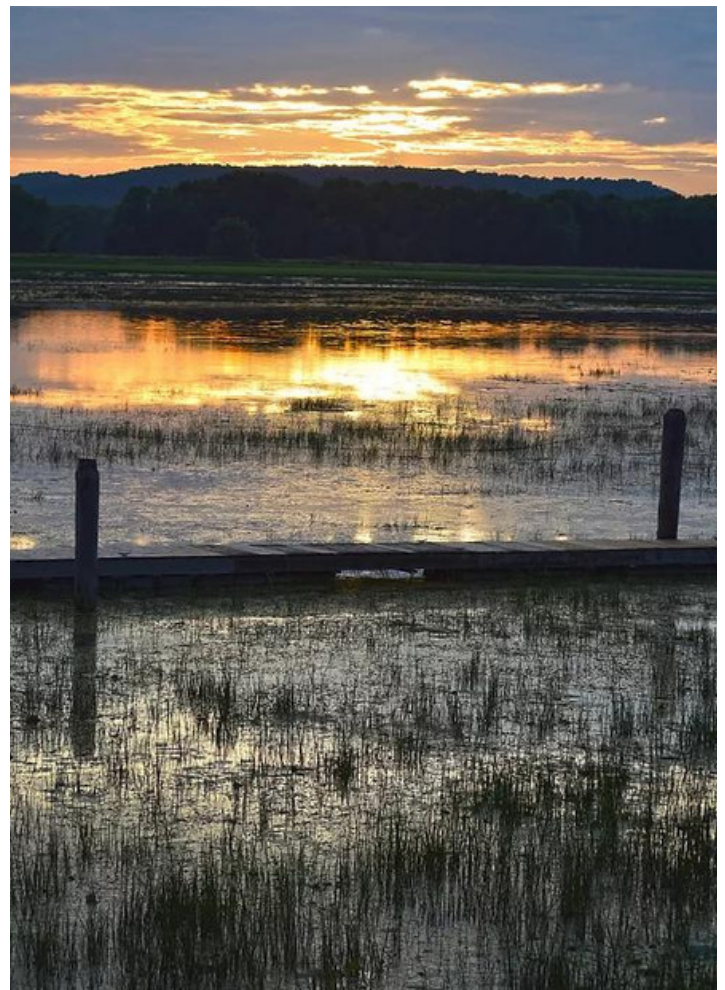
Address: 112 N Main St

Website: www.RiverBendGalleries.com

Telephone #: 815-281-9199

"My pictures are awesome!"

Geoffrey Mikol, Owner Artist



Silent Marsh - Galena, IL
Available framed, mounted or by special order.