

## ONA 2018 CONVENTION MEDAL

by Henry Nienhuis



The concept artwork for the ONA 2018 convention medal is shown left. It is based on the original artwork submitted by **Greg McEvoy** who described his design as, “The six maple leaves in this braided wreath design represent each of the Six Nations and the intertwining branches reflecting the winding path of the Grand River itself.” After the American Revolutionary War the British Government granted a tract of land (which included the regions of present day Kitchener and Waterloo) to what became the Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy for their allegiance to the crown and compensation for the loss of their territories to the Americans. “With this medal design, I am hoping to capture some of the history and natural beauty of this part of Ontario,” continued McEvoy.

The medal image from the Mississauga Mint should be available in the next issue. The medal is 38mm in diameter. Mintages: 40 .999 Fine Silver, 100 Copper, and 25 Brass (two of which are allocated, leaving twenty-three available for purchase).

### About the Medal Designer



**Gregory Thomas McEvoy** (ONA Member R2205) is from the Rideau River Valley area, south of Ottawa, Ontario. He was raised on a dairy farm (and *Marvel Comics*) always drawing pictures from a very young age. McEvoy moved to Toronto in the 1980s where he became a commercial artist working in a variety of industries and media. He is also a cartoonist, television and movie storyboard artist, designer and author / illustrator of two children’s books (*Alfie’s Long Winter* and *The Ice Cream King*) as well as, hundreds of storyboards for feature films, commercial television, web series, corporate and music videos. As a freelance illustrator and designer for over twenty years, his clients have included many Toronto advertising agencies, film production companies, commercial art studios and publishers.



He became the proud owner of an *Alex Colville Centennial Coin Set* after his family went to *Montreal Expo* in 1967. He also collected the Shell Canada’s *Prime Ministers of Canada Commemorative Medallion Set* around 1970 (complete with the walnut mounting plaque). McEvoy’s very modest collection currently includes a 1959 Canadian silver dollar, several 1973 Mountie quarters and many 1967 Rabbit nickels. He was further inspired after meeting Brent Townshend at a live event following the launch of the Canadian two-dollar coin in 1996 and receiving Marc Shell’s book *Art & Money* as a Christmas gift in 2001.

While visiting relatives in the Kitchener-Waterloo area, over several years, he became increasingly familiar with the region’s history. The history of the *Six Nations of the Grand River (First Nation Profiles. Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. Retrieved 2011-02-07)* is long and fascinating. Visit this website to learn more: <http://fnp-ppn.aandc-aadnc.gc.ca/fnp/Main/index.aspx?lang=eng>.

Right is the obverse image of the ONA 2018 convention medal.

**Artistic history medal available!**

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