

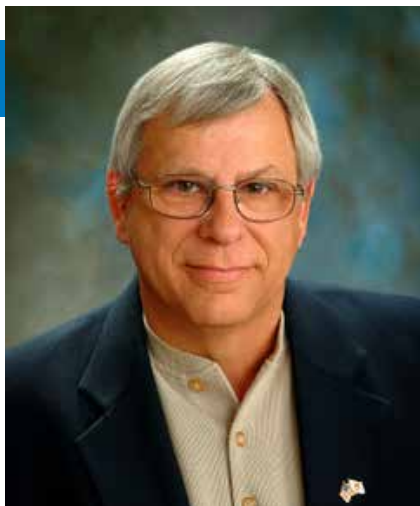
JANUARY 2024

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AWA - AZ Watercolor Association



President's Message



Welcome to the Arizona Watercolor Association!

I hope everyone had a Happy Holiday Season, and celebration of the New Year.

As your new president this year I get to work with a terrific board of directors to start this new year off. It would not be possible for this association to succeed without the work of our volunteers. It falls on all of us to make the Arizona Watercolor Association (AWA) a successful organization. We have several positions open for 2024-25 that we need to fill, including President elect, Treasurer and Program chair. Please consider stepping forward to continue the good works of others. Contact me if you are interested and need more information on the position you might be interested in. Also, we should all be promoting AWA in our community to expand our membership. Flyers are available for your use. This year, 2023-24, AWA will host the Regional Exhibition

of the Western Federation of Watercolor Societies — an opportunity that comes around for us only about every 10 years (read more in this newsletter). Your board of directors, in particular our WFWS chairs (David Amsellem and Tanya Lemma) and their committee members have worked together for many, many hours to make this event a successful one for our Association.

The spring exhibition prospectus is available on the AWA website and we should all be looking to submit our paintings (up to 3) for juror Stan Miller to review for inclusion in the exhibition. See our website for the details for obtaining Signature status in the AWA. There are multiple levels that allow you to sign your paintings with AWA behind your name. This is a significant achievement for our members and is a goal we should all aspire to.

A big thank you to Ruth Philliben for her mentorship and leadership this past year; I hope I can do as well. I know she handled her gavel better than I will.

Ron Peters

President *Keep on laying down that creative water media.*



Next Meeting:

Our Programs start at 4 pm. Social Hour at 3:30 pm.

- ❖ Next Program: **Thursday January 11** At the AAG Building- In Person - 4:00pm
- ❖ **John Erwin** will demo preceding his workshop. You don't want to miss this!

2023 Fall Artists' Exhibition A Big Success! The Spring Show is Ramping up....

By Betsy Aguirre

Happy New Year fellow AWA Artists!

2023's AWA exhibitions were a tremendous success. Because of the eye-catching artwork, teamwork of the exhibition crew and volunteers, and importantly, the cooperation of AWA as an organization overall, these venues want to have us back!

I want to give you all a big thank you for your on-time entries, prompt deliveries and pick-up of the artwork, and the help installing the shows. Your effort made our jobs a lot easier. Members pitched in to design and print brochures, make name tags, acquire awesome awards, and working with you all made the job a lot more fun.

Starting with this upcoming Spring show at the Fountain Hills Community Center, Karen Donmoyer will be the new Director/Chairperson of Exhibitions. I will be backing her up as co-chair until the time we can find someone to assist her.

I hope that all of you received your prospectus for the Spring show, and if not, please check online at <https://azwatercolor.com/spring-2024-exhibition/#!form/Exhibit>

Spring Exhibition Dates to remember are as follows:

<i>Deadline for submittal:</i>	<i>Friday, January 26, 6:00 PM (MST)</i>
<i>Notification of Acceptance:</i>	<i>Week of February 12th</i>
<i>Delivery and Hanging:</i>	<i>Friday, March 1, 10:00 AM - Noon</i>
<i>Reception at F.H. Comm. Center:</i>	<i>Thursday, March 21, 5:30 to 7:30 PM</i>
<i>Pickup:</i>	<i>Monday, April 29, 10 AM - Noon</i>

Personally, it has been very rewarding to organize these exhibitions for the past several years. I look forward to participating in upcoming AWA activities and seeing my friends at AWA meetings!

Congratulations Fall Exhibition Winners!



"Rose"

Best of Show – Sherry Whitney, Rose

Jochumson Award – Karen Donmoyer, Young at Heart

Award of Distinction – Candice Diaz, 49 Ford Stowaways

Mildred (Mickey) Daniels Award – Chereen Tanner, Grandma's Poppies

Award of Merit – Linda Miller, The Journey

Award of Merit – Dyanne Locati, Tree Branches

Member Workshop News

January Member workshop has last minute change

By Karen Gray
AWA Member Workshop Chair

The AWA meeting for January 2024 will be on Thursday, January 11, 2024. Due to an unforeseen circumstance, Barbara Freedman will not be able to do a demo during the meeting and instruct the Member Workshop on the following Saturday.

But we have a great alternative planned! John Erwin will be doing a demo during the Thursday meeting. He will also be conducting the Member Workshop on Saturday, Jan 13, 2024 which will focus on **Pen, Ink and Perspective**. For those who don't know about him - John Erwin is a retired elementary school teacher who has

been painting and sketching for many years. He has exhibited his paintings in many group shows and won many awards including a first place in watercolor at the Arizona State Fair and Best of Show at the Contemporary Watercolorists' of Arizona Spring 2023 show. John teaches painting and sketching at the Arizona Artist's Guild and the Shemer Art Center in Phoenix. John Erwin has gained attention and awards for his watercolor paintings using pen and ink to accentuate the architectural features. One of the important considerations for successfully painting architecture is perspective. John has a simple teaching method for this topic. He accentuates the liveliness of the painting with either soft or vibrant watercolors. His classes and workshops cover a range of subjects and media. He brings a lot of humor and fun to every workshop.

Historically, the third member workshop for the Spring season is held in March. However, since AWA is hosting the Western Federation Society with Stan Miller judging the exhibition, our last AWA member workshop for Spring has been moved to April.

In April, one of AWA's popular artist instructors, **Kim Johnson Nechtman**, will conduct a workshop on painting portraits. Kim has won numerous awards for painting both animals and people. There are still several openings for Kim's workshop.



At the November Workshop:

Colors flowed, and moved, and moved some more!

Karen Gray

Member Workshop Chair

The November member workshop, featuring local artist Yvonne Joyner, was a fun and enriching experience. The title of Yvonne's workshop, "Abstracting the Landscape", perfectly describes all of the activities. The participants began by learning the importance of color balance and design in composition. Yvonne stressed releasing ourselves from our controlling left brain and allowing our creative right brain to take over. Beginning with small panels of watercolor paper, everyone explored the use of pen and ink along with a colorful palette. Then Yvonne demonstrated her process of applying dark and light colors, and then using a wet brush to allow blending. Everyone enjoyed watching an impressionistic landscape evolve. The participants then had the challenge of using her technique to create their own abstract landscape. In conclusion, an abstract floral painting was illustrated, and everyone was encouraged to explore abstraction skills on this subject. All the participants were impressed with Yvonne's skill and creativity. Her relaxed and skillful demonstrations also contributed to a full day of fun and learning.

Thank you to Yvonne Joyner!



Our first project was to play with six squares to unlock our creative juices and get into our "right" brain.



Yvonne's fast moving demos inspired us to paint loose, colorful, flowing images.



Yvonne accented with black ink for contrast.

Juror Workshop News

Stan Miller and Kathleen Giles: Two masters to learn from

By Marion Droge

Stan Miller

<https://stanmiller.net/>

Workshop SOLD OUT – waitlist only

Spring 2024, March 14-16 (Thursday-Saturday 9am-4pm)

Arizona Artist Guild Building

Kathleen Giles

<https://www.kgilesstudio.com/>

Workshop Enrollment Now Open at <https://azwatercolor.com/>

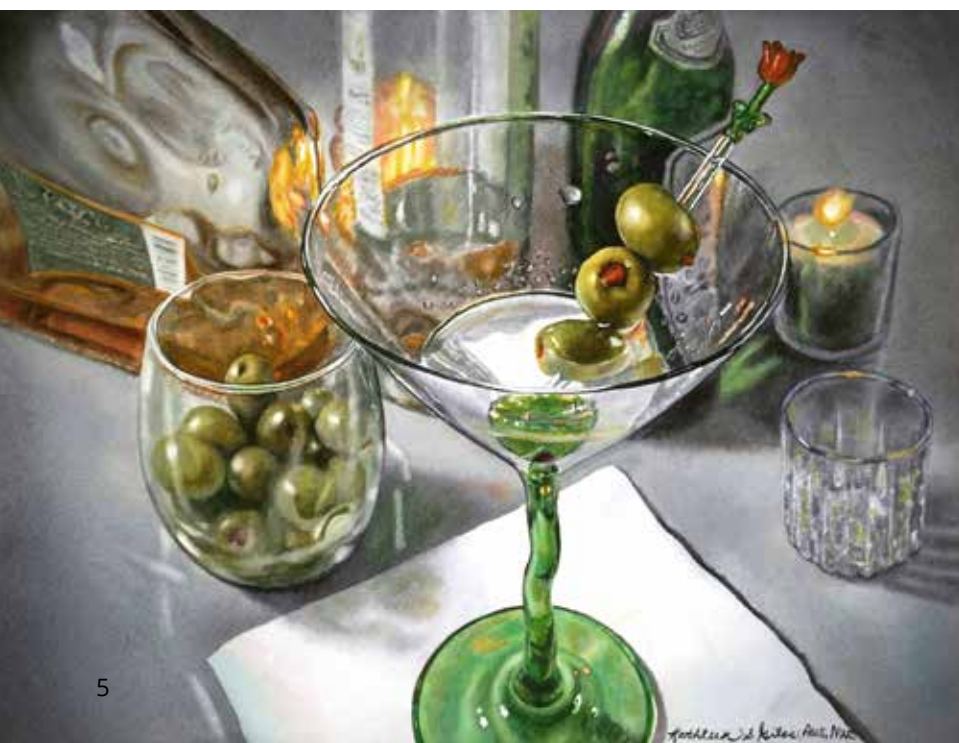
Fall 2024, October 10-12 (Thursday-Saturday 9am-4pm)

Arizona Artist Guild Building

Kathleen Giles is a 2023 Arc Salon winning artist. Her painting “Tears for Ukraine” will be featured in a live auction at Sotheby’s, NYC, in July. The artist is signature member of the American Watercolor Society, the National Watercolor Society, American Women Artists, the Transparent Watercolor Society, the Pennsylvania Watercolor Society, the Niagara Frontier Watercolor Society, a member of the Watercolor USA Honor Society and an elected member of the Allied Artists of America and a member of the International Guild of Realism.



(Above) *Life is Reflections of Youth*



(Left) *Dirty Martini*

Western Federation News

By Tanya Lemma

Western Federation of Watercolor Societies #49

FoundRE Hotel, Phoenix

AWA is honored to be members of the WFWS and has the opportunity to host this year. Mark your calendars! We hope all of you will plan to attend! It's a rare occasion to connect with artists from other states. Make new art friends and find inspiration!

3/1 to 4/28 WFWS 49 Exhibition

3/1/2023 WFED Opening Night of Exhibition with PHX Art Walk

3/1 - 3/31 **Art Detour** Phoenix

3/15/2023 PHX Art Walk

Friday 4/5 PHX Art Walk

Thursday 4/18 WELCOME RECEPTION 5-7 PM

All AWA Members are invited! Come meet artists and delegates from ten western state societies!

Friday 4/19 Delegates Board Meeting

PHX Art Walk

Saturday 4/20 Gala Dinner and Dance/ Awards Presentation

All AWA Members are invited!

Ticket information will be available soon.

Sunday 4/28 WFWS 49 Exhibition Closes

Monday 4/29 WFWS Take Down and Prepare for Shipping To Delegates

Congratulations to our members who were accepted into the Western Federation of Watercolor Societies #49 Exhibition!

David Amsellem ~ "No Worries Mom!"

Tal Dvir ~ "Sunday Afternoon Repose"

Kim Johnson ~ "First Beach Day"

Tanya Lemma ~ "Water Lilies"

Dyanne Locati ~ "Journey in Time"

Spencer Mackay ~ "Leo Carillo Cove"

Lauralee Stenzel ~ "Sunlit Lanterns II"

Teri Wilson-Williams ~ "Waiting to Go Home"

Del Decil Scholarship News

By Chairman Dyanne Locati

Full time Art Major students can apply for scholarships that are offered by AAG, AWA and the Arizona Clay Association. The deadline for an application is February 18, 2024. The Scholarship selection committee consisting of - AWA chairs: Tess Mosko Scherer and Melanie Mead with selections made by Heidi Dauphin, Dyanne Locati, Mary Beth Burgeson, Laura Cohen-Hogan, Ann Osgood and David L. Bradley. The committee will meet at 10:00am, the AAG building, Feb 25, 2024 to select the scholarship awards.

Award Ceremony, reception, and presentation will be at AAG, April 16, 2024 – Time: 6:30 to 9:00pm. Then, the Clay Association will have a presentation for the clay student recipient, April 20th. There will be no presentation at our AWA meeting. People are invited to attend the AAG ceremony to greet our AWA – Del Decil scholarship winners.

The Student Scholarship Show will be online. AAG will have the presentation on their website and AWA will connect our website to that event. Please go to the website to see the artwork that the students are creating at this time.

Visit the AAG website for all the current information regarding the scholarship application process and more information about the selection jurors.

Artist-to-Artist HINTS AND HACKS

Another way to test color choices

By Janice Wittwer
Editor

Hey fellow artists, I was working on a portrait and really struggled with the background color, as well as her hoodie color. This was a portrait of a child and her face was so delicate I didn't want to overpower her facial tones.

So here's what I did:

I bought a sheet of 90lb Arches cold press paper and cut it to letter size. (my work was on 140lb cold press)

I took a photo of the unfinished work and sized it to letter size

I printed the art onto two sheets of 90lb paper in my letter tray.

I experimented with the two colors I thought would work best, and chose one. To me the best color was obvious:

The pink I was contemplating was too much. Blue cooled down her face.

I liked the fact that the paint interaction was identical to what would happen on 140lb paper. Mylar does not behave that way as the paint sits on top.



Finished art: *Kooper's Birthday Bliss*

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Our sponsors provide us with FREE magazines and thousands of dollars in gift cards, paint, and art videos. In return, some of the sponsors ask for our email addresses to send us their product information, discount offers and specials. Our information will not be shared elsewhere.

We want you to know that AWA will be providing emails to these art companies in return for their wonderful awards. What a great way for us as artists to find out about the newest and best products available!

If you do not want to receive these emails, you can unsubscribe when you receive them.



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 Honoree: Sherry Kimmel
 Newsletter Editor / Publisher: Janice Wittwer
 Social Media: Mona Houle
 E-Blast Publisher: Rupali Holmes

Welcome New Members!

This month we welcome:

Carolyn Zbavitel
 Diane Harrison
 John Krenik
 Bobbi Brown

Our membership is invited to contact the editor with ideas and articles for this newsletter.
 Please contact the editor, Janice Wittwer at: janwittwer@icloud.com.

News for the newsletter will be due by the 20th, for publication by the 1st of the following month.