

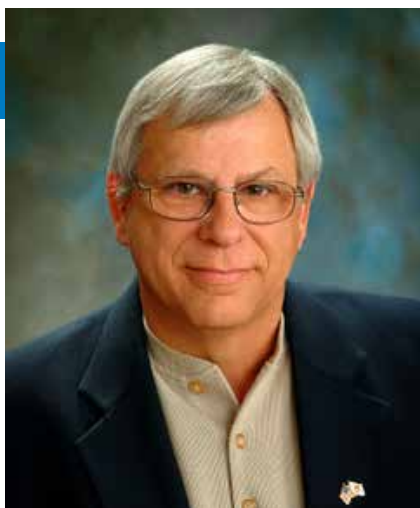
# FEBRUARY 2024

Visit our website: [azwatercolor.com](http://azwatercolor.com)

**f** FOLLOW US:  
AWA - AZ Watercolor Association



## President's Message



As always, welcome to the (AWA) Arizona Watercolor Association!

I hope everyone is enjoying the cool winter weather. Summer will be here all too soon.

Recently I was asked to make a presentation to an international chat group of watercolor artists I belong to about entering paintings into juried exhibitions. You must understand that I am not an expert at this, since after 13 years as an AWA member, I didn't begin entering our juried exhibitions until the fall of 2022. I made this clear to the chat group, but they felt I would be an appropriate presenter *because* I am so new to the process.

In the presentation, I used AWA's most recent spring show prospectus to go over what an artist needs to do to enter an exhibition. I emphasized the importance of reading the prospectus (as our Betsy and Karen have stressed to us over and over). I suggested they review any specific rules issued by the watercolor organization hosting the event and, if they have any questions, ask for help. I remember how many times I called Betsy for help with my first try. She was always very patient with me and answered all my questions on mats, frames, hangers, and how to do the digital images and name the paintings. This may sound like small stuff to those veterans who have done shows for years, but for a newbie it was daunting.

So, if you are just thinking about entering your work in any exhibition — local, regional, or national — don't be afraid to ask questions, as all exhibitions have different requirements. The (mostly) volunteer staff members who direct the shows are there to make it an enjoyable experience. And remember, we are ALL volunteers trying to make your experience a rewarding one. So be courteous and understanding of the rules and those who are there to enforce them and make the process an easy one. The experience is worth the effort.

Good luck and take the step to enter your work the next chance you get. You never know!

**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 February 8** At the AAG Building- In Person - 4:00pm
- ❖ **Annette Smith** will demo preceding her workshop. You don't want to miss this!

# ***AWA Exhibitions: The 2024 Spring Show***

*By Karen Donmoyer and Betsy Aguirre*

The entries for the AWA Spring Exhibition are being processed and artists should be informed of results by email during the week of February 12th. We received so many beautiful submissions and are thankful for the participation of so many talented artists. Good luck to all of you who entered!

The show will be at the Fountain Hills Community Center located at 13001 N. La Montana Drive in Fountain Hills.

Our reception and awards will also be there on Thursday, March 21st from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. We hope you all will attend.

## **Make a note of these significant dates:**

Notification of Acceptance:	Week of February 12th
Delivery and Hanging:	Friday, March 1, 10:00 AM - Noon
Reception at F.H. Comm. Center:	Thursday, March 21, 5:30 to 7:30 PM
Pickup:	Monday, April 29, 10 AM - Noon

---

## ***Exhibition Opportunities for AWA Members***

Our friends at the Louisiana Watercolor Society host their 54th Annual International Exhibition this year with an online show and workshop featuring juror of selection and judge of awards, Kathleen Giles! Submit jpgs of paintings now through February 29th - no mailing of paintings required. Open to all water media artists 18 and older. LEAP with us into 2024!

The contest is open to all watercolor artists across the world. Artists need not be members of LWS to participate, although we certainly welcome all new members! Entries are due February 29 and can be submitted online at <https://louisianawatercolorsociety.org/54th-annual-international-exhibition-prospectus/>.

---

The Georgia Watercolor Society is accepting submissions for its 45th National Juried Exhibition. All paintings must be original work using WATER-SOLUBLE MEDIA, and completed after January 1, 2022.

Deadline: February 11, 2024. Details: [www.georgiawatercolorsociety.com](http://www.georgiawatercolorsociety.com)

---

# Member Workshop News

## EXCITING WORKSHOPS FOR 2024

*By Karen Gray  
AWA Member Workshop Chair*

There are exciting member workshops that are filling up fast for Spring 2024.

In February, Annette Smith will conduct her workshop on portraiture using her award-winning style. Annette's portraits have a loose painterly style. Since Annette's workshop on Feb 10 is sold out, contact Karen Gray to be placed on the wait list.

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 Netchman, 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.

Lastly, in November 2024, the AWA member workshop will feature Melanie Harman as the artist instructor. While Melanie has demonstrated talent in capturing various subjects in watercolor, she is also known for her outstanding collage work. Her workshop will utilize gel printed paper collage to embellish our artwork.

We all look forward to advancing our artistic skills through participation in these enriching workshops!

You can find the registration opportunities for 2024 on the AWA website under Member Workshops. You will be able to complete the registration online with your credit card.





# ***At the January Workshop:***

## ***It's about Pen, Ink, and Perspective..***

Karen Gray  
Member Workshop Chair

The January member workshop, featuring local artist John Erwin, was a fun and enriching experience. The title of John's workshop, "Pen, Ink, and Perspective," perfectly describes all of the activities. The participants began by free drawing images of charming and distinctive buildings. Then ink micron pens were used to outline and anchor the image. This was followed by applying a wet into wet underpainting. After drying, Tombow markers were used to enhance the shadows and special features of the painting. The underpainting enhanced the structural images and helped to pull it all together. In conclusion, John illustrated his process of using India ink and a razor blade to draw a European themed landscape onto a paper covered with a colorful underpainting. Ink and a razor blade were used to illustrate their usefulness for various other subjects. All the participants were impressed with John's skill and creativity. His relaxed and humorous demonstrations contributed to a full day of fun and learning.

**Thank you to John Erwin!**



John demonstrates his "perspective finder tool" that he hand made to quickly sketch man made structures.

# Artist-to-Artist HINTS AND HACKS

Remember you saw it here first...

## ***John Erwin's Easy Peasy Perspective Machine!***

By Janice Wittwer

*Editor's note: This intriguing piece of equipment was shown to our club by John Erwin during his demo that featured perspective. He made it from scratch, and here are the instructions brought to you by popular demand.*



How to construct a perspective machine

### **Materials needed:**

1. A wooden paint stick or a wooden ruler
2. Two pieces of mat board the same size as the wooden paint stick or wooden ruler
3. A piece of mat board or cardboard that will fit between the ends of the paint stick or ruler
4. Two brads or paper clips (brads work best)

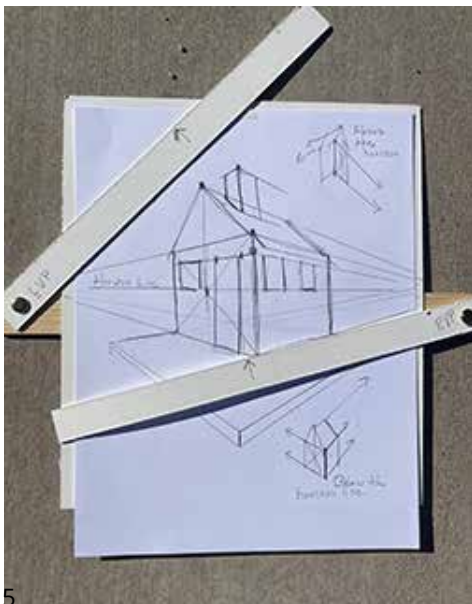
### **Directions:**

Drill or punch a hole at the end of the wooden paint stick or ruler, not too close to the ends.

Place the narrow mat pieces on the ruler or stick and push the brad through the mat board and guide it into the previously drilled hole. Open up to secure the brad connecting the strip of mat board to the Wooden stick.

Place the larger mat board on top of the stick and tape it to the ruler or paint stick. The mat board should be shorter than the distance between the two brads.

Make sure the smaller mat pieces attached to the brads are on top.



Make sure the two thin mat pieces can move freely across the larger mat piece.

Your two brads will be your vanishing points. (Or close to your vanishing points.)

Use the upper side of the thin mat arm pieces to draw your lines down to the vanishing points.

Place a sheet of drawing paper on the large mat board and move the arms on top of your paper to indicate the correct perspective line leading to the vanishing points. (tape your drawing paper to the large mat board so it does not move as you draw.)

Practice drawing a house using perspective machine. You can make a larger machine by using a yard stick to attach the brads and longer thin mat board pieces.

Remember the horizon line is the straight line you can draw between the two brads. Your drawn objects can be below or above the horizon line.



# *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) *Latah Creek October*  
Stan Miller



(Left) *Mandevilla*  
Kathleen Giles

# Western Federation News

By Tanya Lemma

## AWA's Western Federations of Watercolor Societies #49 ~ 2024

Join us as we host the Western State's Watercolor Artists here in Phoenix!

**Thursday, April 18th** is a Welcome, Delegates Reception from 5-7PM. AWA members are welcome. Please join us to meet and socialize with artists from the Western USA!

Bring your partner, family, and friends on **Saturday, April 20th** for AWA's GALA Awards Ceremony, Dinner, and Dance. Ticket information will be available soon!

Western Federation of Watercolor Societies #49 Art Exhibit runs **March 1st to April 28th** in the Found:RE Phoenix Hotel Gallery. This gallery is part of special art events here in Phoenix: Art Detour in March and First & Third Friday Art Walks in March and April. Our juror chose eighty-one paintings out of 875 entries from ten western societies!

Juror Stan Miller declared, *"This show is every bit as high in quality and caliber as any of the National Watercolor Shows!"*

Found:RE Phoenix Hotel, 1100 N. Central Ave.

You can take the Light Rail to the hotel!

## A GEM OF WISDOM FROM STAN MILLER:

Mark Twain said, "First learn the truth, then dilute it at your leisure." In painting the human subject, I encourage my students to first learn to draw—to paint the subject as it appears. Once they can accomplish the craft, I then encourage them to interpret. In my own work, I like to seek the soul of my subject by painting the eyes, nose and mouth accurately—with minimal distortions. As I move away from the features into the hair and background, I move toward more abstraction, attempting to communicate the mood through shape, color and energized strokes of paint. In the end, I'm trying to communicate and express what I'm feeling and seeing, as the model's soul.

## Please support these SPONSORS!

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.



### AWA Board Members

President: Ron Peters  
 1st VP Programs: Sherry Whitney  
 2nd VP Exhibitions: Karen Donmoyer  
 3rd VP Membership: Tanya Lemma  
 Recording Secretary: Christine Oliver  
 Treasurer: Marilyn Burrows  
 WFWS Delegate: David Amsellem  
 WFWS Alternate: Tanya Lemma  
 Director Juror Workshops: Marion Droge  
 Director Member Workshops: Karen Gray

### AWA Committee Chairs

Parliamentarian: Candice Diaz  
 Scholarship Chair: Dyanne Locati  
 Scholarship Co-chair: Carole Matthews  
 Webmaster: David Amsellem  
 Webmaster Assistant: Rupali Holmes  
 Honor Society: Christine Oliver  
 Honoree: Sherry Kimmel  
 Newsletter Editor/Publisher/Publicity: Janice Wittwer  
 Social Media: Mona Houle  
 E-Blast Publisher: Rupali Holmes

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](mailto:janwittwer@icloud.com).

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