

JANUARY 2025

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AWA - AZ Watercolor Association



President's Message



Welcome to the Arizona Watercolor Association!

We are off to the beginning of a New Year.

Your association will start the new year on solid financial footing. With the Western Federation of watercolor event over for another ten years (or thereabouts) we can focus on our spring and fall shows as well as our numerous member workshops this year. Make sure to read your newsletter to stay up on all the upcoming events. WFWS is being held in Lubbock Texas this year and we had great success in the number of members we had accepted into the event. Our spring show prospectus

is available and all of us should be submitting for this event to be displayed at the Shemer Art Center in Phoenix. You help support your association by entering our shows. We have tremendous talent in AWA and we want all our members achieving their signature status. You won't succeed if you don't try.

We had a successful 2024 in obtaining new members, supporting the WFWS exhibit in Phoenix and promoting our own spring and fall shows. Our member workshops were very well attended, and we have a strong cadre of artist instructors for this year. 2025 looks to be an even better year for AWA and we expect to grow in membership. We filled most of our vacant offices for 2025 except president elect. I will be on the lookout for a candidate to fill this position starting at the January meeting. If you haven't been attending our monthly meetings, make a New Years resolution to make it to a couple this year. You will meet some really great people.

And, if you haven't done so, renew your membership in AWA, and recommend to a friend to join our merry group. I'm looking forward to a prosperous and successful New Year. I just hope it won't be as hot as the last one.

Ron Peters

President

Keep on laying down that creative water media.

Did you know that as a member of AWA, you are automatically a member of the Arizona Art Alliance? This group has a wealth of information for artists, including artist opportunities, inspirational stories, and professional tips for artists! Be sure to sign up for their newsletter when you browse the wealth of information at <https://azartalliance.com/>

Next Meeting

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

- ❖ Next Program: **Thursday, January 9.** At the AAG Building- In Person - 4:00pm
- ❖ Marion Droge will be giving us a demonstration at our general meeting.

Exhibition News

Entries Open for Spring Exhibition

By Karen Donmoyer and Betsy Aguirre

Happy New Year fellow AWA artists!

Please consider making one of your New Year's resolutions entering the AWA Spring Exhibition!

You should have already received the eblast announcing that submissions are open. If not, please go to <https://azwatercolor.com/spring-2025-exhibition>.

The details of the Spring Exhibition are as follows:

Wed., Feb. 12, 5 p.m. (MST). Submissions due

Week of Mar. 3

Notice sent out

Fri., Mar. 28

Drop off at Shemer (1-4 p.m.)

Thurs., April 17

Awards Reception at Shemer (5:30-7:30 p.m.)

Thurs., May 15

Pick up artwork from Shemer (3-6 p.m.)

Prior to entering please carefully review the prospectus and also the rules for acceptable entries on the website at <https://azwatercolor.com/acceptable-entries/>.

As always a variety of cash and merchant awards will be presented at the awards reception.

We look forward to seeing your amazing artwork!

Congratulations to the Fall 2024 Exhibition Award Winners



AWARDS

Best of Show	Deb Sullivan
Jochumson Award	Dyanne Locati
Award of Distinction	Sherry Whitney
Mickey Daniels Award	Cindy Welch
President's Award	Yolande McAlevey
Merit Award	Karen Donmoyer
Merit Award	Ray Goodrow

Merchant Awards: Ron Peters, Robin Woodworth, Tanya Lemma, Joy Brinkley-Hill, Marion Droge, Annie Strack and Tal Dvir



Best of Show:
Humilis Harmony #5
By Deb Sullivan

Juror Workshop News

Talented Instructors Lead Workshops in 2025

By Marion Droge



I hope you will join us in April 2025 for our next Juror Workshop when Laurie Goldstein-Warren will be visiting us to jury our member exhibition and give us a three day workshop. Enrollment is available online <https://azwatercolor.com/juror-spring-and-fall-workshops/#!form/JurorWorkshop>

Thursday through Saturday April 10, 11 & 12, 2025.

Click this link to see Laurie Goldstein-Warren's website <https://www.warrenwatercolors.com/>

Laurie's work has been widely exhibited across the United States and has also exhibited in Japan, Turkey, Greece, Canada, England and China. Her work can be seen in Splash 13, 14, 18, 21 and 23. She has also been published several times in Watercolor Artist magazine as well as Art of Watercolour magazine.



In October 2025 we are looking forward to having Lian Quan Zhen come to teach a three-day workshop and jury our AWA Fall Members Exhibition.

Enrollment will be available online soon. Please check AWA the website for details <https://azwatercolor.com/>

Lian Quan Zhen is a sought-after watercolor and Chinese painting artist and teacher in the US and abroad.

Lian Quan Zhen website <https://www.lianspainting.com/>

Member Workshop News

EXCITING MEMBER WORKSHOPS FOR 2025

By Karen Gray
AWA Member Workshop Chair

There are still openings for the AWA member workshops coming in the 2025 spring season. The workshops can be found on the AWA website and are available for registration. Members should take note that there has been a change to the schedule regarding the artist instructor for the March workshop. David Amsellem will now offer a portrait workshop. Sherry Kimmel's collage workshop has been rescheduled for Jan 2026.

In January, Marion Droge will conduct her workshop titled "Reflective Surfaces". Marion has shown her mastery of painting metallic reflective surfaces in a previous workshop. She is an excellent instructor as well as an award-winning artist. The workshop is coming soon on Jan 11. Hurry to secure one of the remaining open positions.



In February, Grace Haverty will hold her workshop titled "Flowers Free and Loose". Grace is a nationally recognized signature watercolor artist. Her work has been represented numerous times in both regional organizations, such as the Western Federation of Watercolor Societies, and in national exhibitions.

In March, David Amsellem will have his workshop "Top Tips for Portrait Painting". David is an award-winning portrait artist with a contemporary style. His workshops are well paced and informative.

Later in November, 2025, our last member workshop for the year will be conducted by Cindy Welch. She will once again illustrate her talent in painting a fabulous still-life. Cindy's workshop is not available on the website yet, but will be coming soon.

You can find the registration opportunities for the 2025 workshops on the AWA website under Member Workshops. You will be able to complete the registration conveniently online with your credit card.





Western Federation of Watercolor Societies

The Gallery is online for your inspiration!! Check out the AWA artists and others who will be in the show in 2025!

<https://wtws.org/50th-anniversary-gallery/>

Welcome New Members!

Mary Beth Cornelius
Craig Wright
Jennifer Chandler
DK Vesco
Wayne Magee
Sharon Elliott

Greeters Needed!

Would you like to greet members and help check in for the AWA meetings? I am looking for assistants to help. It's easy! Arrive 1/2 hr before the meeting starts (at social time) and greet members, help with sign in and nametags. Please contact me if you can help with one or several meetings!

~Tanya Lemma, Membership

It's Time To Renew Your Membership!

Don't miss out on exhibitions, demonstrations, and connections with your art community!!

<https://azwatercolor.com/join-renew/>

You will need to ask for a new password. It's safe and secure. Please contact Tanya if you have any difficulties.

membership@azwatercolor.com

New Signature Awards 2024

*By Christine Oliver
Honor Society*

Congratulations to our AWA members who have achieved a new signature status following the Fall Show of 2024. Please congratulate these members for their excellent work. Their certificates will be awarded at the January meeting.

Gold Signature Status requiring 16 points is awarded to: Melanie Harman; John Irwin; Sherry Whitney and Candice Diaz.

Silver Signature Status requiring 10 points is awarded to: Jordon Kirk and Sandra Neuman Wilderman.

Signature Status requiring 6 points is awarded to Micha King; Ron Peters; Annie Strack; Rupali Holmes; Denise Duval; James Allison.

If you would like to learn more about acquiring Signature Status points, please visit the AWA website and go to Join/Renew and scroll down to AWA Rules/Bylaws.

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	AWA Committee Chairs
President: Ron Peters	Parliamentarian: Candice Diaz
1st VP Programs: Donna England	Scholarship Chair: Dyanne Locati
2nd VP Exhibitions: Karen Donmoyer	Scholarship Co-chair: Carole Matthews
3rd VP Membership: Tanya Lemma	Webmaster: Rupali Holmes
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Treasurer: Karla Milinovich	Honor Society: Christine Oliver
WFWS Delegate: David Amsellem	Honoree: Sherry Kimmel
WFWS Alternate: Tanya Lemma	Newsletter Editor/Publisher/Publicity: Janice Wittwer
Director Juror Workshops: Marion Droge	Social Media: Mona Houle
Director Member Workshops: Karen Gray	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.

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