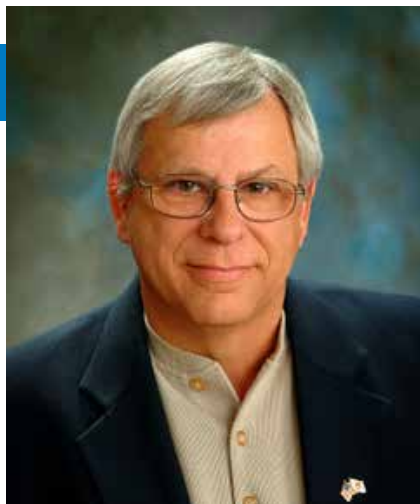


SEPTEMBER 2026

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AWA - AZ Watercolor Association



President's Message

Welcome to the Arizona Watercolor Association!

Celebrating 66 Years (1960–2026)

Welcome back after a (still) hot summer. I hope you all had time to catch up on your painting and were successful in getting a painting in the fall show. Our fall exhibition is fast approaching and I'm sure it will be a great one. I am looking forward to the workshop in October with Carl Purcell and hope some of you will be taking it with me. Its sure to be a good one. The 65-year publication was printed this summer and some of you have already received your copies. Barb Freedman and I will have copies available at the September

meeting to hand out to the artists that were part of the publication. For those of you that did not enter but would like a copy of the book, they will be available for purchase at \$20 a copy. All proceeds go to the scholarship fund.

I continue to recruit volunteers for our many committee and board positions. Positions are available and we are in need for some of our members who have never held a volunteer position with AWA to consider stepping up to assist your association, and I stress YOUR. Just corner me or any board member and we can point you in the right direction. We are successful only because of our volunteers. Most of the positions only require a few hours a week and attendance at the board meetings. We only have 7 board meetings a year, and all of us miss one once in a-while. If you would like AWA to continue to grow and provide workshops and programs and student scholarships, we need your help. Elections for 2027 board positions will be in November as we don't have a meeting in December, so interested members should talk to a board member (list is in your newsletter) for help.

Also, a reminder to keep working towards your signature status with AWA by entering our Fall and Spring shows. See your by-laws for requirements. Our AWA member artists keep successfully being juried into local, regional and national exhibitions. As they say "you can't win if you don't play."

Remember, take time out of your busy life to help your association. VOLUNTEER! Have a great summer.

Ron Peters

President

Arizona Watercolor Association

Keep exploring and creating with water media.

Next Meeting

Our Programs start at 4 pm.

Social Time at 3:30 pm.

Next Program: **Thursday, Sept. 10.**

At the AAG Building- In Person - 4:00pm

The program features Western Fed. and Arizona Art Alliance. See page 6.

Exhibition News

Fall Exhibition is at Surprise City Hall

By Karen Donmoyer and Betsy Aguirre

Juror Carl Purcell has completed the jurying process and congratulations are in order for the following 40 artists on their acceptance into AWA's 2026 Fall Members' Exhibition:

Katia Andreeva, Mary Beth Cornelius, Candice Diaz, Karen Donmoyer, Marion Droge, Tal Dvir, Diane Eide, John Erwin, Ray Goodrow, Karen Gray, Kimberly Harris, Grace Haverty, Joy Brinkley-Hill, Rupali Holmes, Simone Huskey, Kristi James, Kim Johnson, Keota Joy Kinney, Tanya Lemma, Caroline Linscoff, Dyanne Locati, Sandy Martin, Trish Mayberry, Yolande McAlevey, Clarice Mcilvain, Christine Oliver, Ron Peters, Elizabeth Pfeiffer, Linda Pullinsi, Jeanne Ramsay, Pam Root, Montie Slavin, Chris Sommerfelt, Lauralee Stenzel, Jane Underhill, Holly Weisel, Cindy Welch, Sherry Whitney, Teri Wilson-Williams, and Robin Woodworth.

The venue for this show is Surprise City Hall located at 16000 N. Civic Center Plaza, Surprise, (623) 222-1000. The show will run from September 21, through December 11, 2026. Surprise City Hall is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. but please be aware they may be closed for government holidays.

An awards reception will be held at the venue on Tuesday, November 10th from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. All members, as well as their family and friends are welcome. If you would like to help with the reception please contact Karen Donmoyer at awaexhibits@gmail.com.

A special thanks to Karen Gray for carefully entering each artist's entry details into a spreadsheet and Rupali Holmes for overseeing website entries and processing each image. With 53 entrants entering 130 paintings their contributions were significant and are much appreciated.

Scholarship News

*By Dyanne Locati
Scholarship Chair*

Each AWA meeting brings the opportunity to win items that have been donated to the Scholarship raffle. All the money received from the raffle goes to very deserving students.

AWA will join with AAG, Arizona Clay and new this year the Arizona Scottsdale Artists league. Our organization will be giving two \$1,000. Scholarships in 2027. Art Major Students are eligible to apply for one of the scholarships from September 15th to February 14, 2027. AWA scholarships are given to any student working with water media.

Our September AWA meeting will feature a painting that was donated by one of our members. There is the opportunity to put your name on a silent auction bid for a beautifully framed painting. The silent auction is set at \$5.00 intervals for each additional entry. Be the name at the end of the list to receive this donated piece.

You can also buy donated slightly used books or purchase a ticket for the raffle. Arizona Art Supply generously gives us \$25. gift certificate for a raffle item. With a \$1.00 raffle ticket you might win that certificate! Bring your dollars to our very informative meetings and look for the raffle table to see what you can win. All donations will support Art Major Students that receive our scholarships.

Western Federation of Watercolor Societies

WFWS #52 is in Newberg, Oregon

Western Federation of Watercolor Societies will host the 52nd Annual Exhibition in OREGON in 2027! As an AWA member, you are automatically qualified to enter this show. Time to get those brushes wet! More information will be given at the September meeting. You can also find information on WFWS Website: <http://wfws.org/> and AWA: <https://azwatercolor.com>.



Western Federation of Watercolor Societies

52nd annual
Exhibition & Delegate's meeting



Hosted by
Watercolor Society of Oregon



At the Chehalem Cultural Center

415 E Sheridan St, Newberg, OR 97132

Exhibition: June 4 - July 30, 2027

Activities and Delegate meeting: June 4-June 6, 2027

Fairfield Inn & Suites

900 North Brutscher Street
Newberg, Oregon

Juror Workshop News

Don't Miss this Exciting Fall Workshop!

By Marion Droge

Fall 2026 Juror Workshop – October 8, 9 & 10, 2026
Enrollment available online

Artist Carl Purcell

<https://carlpurcell.com/>



Carl Purcell taught painting and drawing at Snow College in Utah for 30 years. He is currently retired from the college but is a popular painting and drawing workshop instructor, having conducted workshops throughout the West, from Alaska to Arizona, and in Great Britain. Carl is the author of the North Light publications, *Painting With Your Artist's Brain* (a watercolor book) and *Drawing With Your Artist's Brain*. In addition his art has been featured in numerous articles published in *The Artist's Magazine* and in *Splash I*. He has been invited to jury exhibits in Colorado, New Mexico, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, Michigan and California. Carl has achieved signature member status in the National Watercolor Society and was given honor member status in the Utah Watercolor Society for his contributions to watercolor in the state. He has won numerous awards, including a purchase award in the 2008 National Watercolor Society's international exhibition. In 2009 Carl was chosen as one of the panel of three judges for the National Watercolor Society Annual Exhibition.



Upcoming 2027 Juror Workshops

Look for enrollment for our 2027 Juror workshops soon...

Our Juror Spring 2027 will be **Michelle Nixon**. April 8, 9 & 10.

<https://mmnixon.com/>

And in the Fall 2027

Kathleen Giles (Portraiture)
October 14, 15 & 16.

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

Member Workshop News

ONE MEMBER WORKSHOP REMAINS FOR 2026

By Karen Gray

AWA Member Workshop Chair

The AWA member workshop in November will feature Agustin Vargas as the artist instructor. With an architectural background, Agustin will illustrate abstraction with a contemporary flare.

Agustin Vargas, an architect by UNAM (National Autonomous University of Mexico), has a deep-rooted interest in art. He honed his artistic skills by taking lessons at the Art Academy of San Carlos and the National Fine Arts Institute of Mexico City, Mexico. His extraordinary abilities are reflected in his work, which spans various techniques such as drawing, painting, lithography, printmaking, and muralism.

Since 1985, Agustin Vargas has showcased his work in numerous exhibitions in Mexico and the United States. His art reflects his deep fascination with nature, proportions, philosophy, and life, which has earned him honorable mentions.

Agustin Vargas's work transports us to alternate realities, where we get captivated by the subtleties of colors, forms, brush strokes, and the artist's imagination. Architectural designs underline his paintings' compositions.

As a dedicated instructor, Agustin shares his knowledge of techniques and composition. He is a National Watercolor Society, Arizona watercolor Association and Honorary Member honorary of the Watercolor Association of Morelos State, Mexico (President, 1998). He is a Former Lead Instructor at Mesa Arts Center.

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



Balcony



Della Salute III

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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.



Phoenix Art Museum

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Welcome New Members

Daniel Perich
Brigham Kerr
Darrell Prestage
Candy Blakeslee
Cyndy Lawshe
Katia Andreeva
Elena Johnston
Michael O'Neal

AWA Board Members

President: Ron Peters
Past President: Ruth Phillibin
1st VP Programs: Donna England
2nd VP Exhibitions: Karen Donmoyer
3rd VP Membership: Tanya Lemma
Recording Secretary: Christine Oliver
Treasurer: Karla Milinovich
WFWS Delegate: David Amsellem
WFWS Alternate: Tanya Lemma
Director Juror Workshops: Marion Droge
Director Member Workshops: Karen Gray

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

This Month's Program

Our Sept. 10, 2026 meeting will feature a program of Western Federation of Watercolor Societies and the Arizona Art Alliance, artist groups that we are a member of.

Western Federation members will up-date us.

Arizona Art Alliance is a group that has many opportunities for our members and have information about the art community in Arizona. The focus will be on writing an artist statement for the first time and updating an existing statement.