

# Watercolor Society of Oregon's *Watermark*

www.WatercolorSocietyofOregon.com

Vol. LIX, No. 2

May 2023

## Sign Up for the Trish McKinney Workshop

Read more starting on page 34



Juror Trish McKinney

## *"Watercolor in the Willamette Valley" in Salem*

Fall Convention  
October 6 - 8, 2023  
Learn more on page 30

## Important Openings for Volunteers!

Read more on pages 4 - 5

## Enter the 2023 Fall Watercolor Exhibition *Prospectus*

Read more on page 32



The Journey by Trish McKinney

# Watermark

Watermark is the newsletter of the Watercolor Society of Oregon and is published quarterly in February, May, August, and November.

WSO is a 501(c)(7) as determined by the IRS.

**WSO PRESIDENT:**  
Rebecca Sentgeorge

**NEWSLETTER CO-EDITORS:**  
Leslie Dugas

Karen Kreamer

Send articles and images that are of general interest to the WSO membership to the editor via email and file attachments. The due date for the August issue of *Watermark* is July 15, 2023.

**NEWSLETTER DESIGN & ADVERTISING:**

**DESIGN:**  
Elizabeth Zimmerman

Send advertisements and payment to:  
Lynn Baumgardner

**ROSTER CHANGES:**  
Jan Premo



**WATERCOLOR SOCIETY OF OREGON**

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A little note from Elizabeth: Click on any of the above articles, and you will be directed to that exact page! And to get back to this page click on any *Watermark* on the top of a page.

A big *Thank you* to our supporters and advertisers

Eric Wiegardt	Ruth Armitage
Winnie Givot	M. Graham Paints
Robert Burridge	Village Gallery of Arts
Elizabeth Zimmerman	Merri Artist

Click on an advertiser (above) to see their ad and click on their ad to be redirected to their website!

Would you like to advertise in *Watermark*?  
Click here to download Ad Reservation Form and details.

And we can't forget another big *Thank you* to the *Watermark* Editing Team: Susan Escobar, Kathryn Oliver-Garnett, Ilana Hoffman, Terri Rottman, Leslie Dugas, and Karen Kreamer.

"The world always seems brighter when you've just made something that wasn't there before."

- Neil Gaiman



## President's Message

It was a joy to see so many of you at our Spring Convention in Bend. I believe that those of us fortunate enough to be there in person had a very enjoyable time. We had exciting breakout sessions, informative juror critiques, and a fun time painting together at the table in the foyer. There were opportunities to get great deals from our vendors, raffle tickets from the 100 Club, logo items, and DVDs from the library. Some of us attended the five-day juror workshop with Vera Dickerson. We enjoyed the banquet which included the awards presentation, a talk by Vera Dickerson, a few funny stories from me, and some deep and beautiful words from our Convention Chair, Mary Jo Vranizan.

Those who could not be with us in person still had the opportunity to purchase one month access to breakout session videos, watch a slideshow of the exhibition, and view photos of the paintings selected for awards. With a little creativity, members could even create their own DIY awards banquet or workshop session by watching the slideshow or DVDs from the WSO library with friends.

At our Sunday all members Business Meeting, I challenged each of you to invite at least one new person to join WSO, especially other watermedia painters. Many, many of you stood up and **took the challenge**, receiving a brochure to pass along with your invitation. Have you since taken that first step to complete your challenge? I am planning to invite a couple of people from my local art group.

If you missed the convention or the Business Meeting, I invite you to join the many who stood up from their seats that day and took the challenge. Go ahead and stand up now as you read this article and say aloud, "Yes, I will invite another painter to join WSO. I will welcome someone into our fold!" Tell someone that WSO is a vibrant community of artists, banded together for connection, friendship, support, learning, and inspiration. And tell your fellow painters about the many opportunities WSO provides to connect with other members: critique groups, Menucha workshops, the *Watermark*, the Members' Gallery, Collective Wisdom, access to art DVDs in the WSO library, juried shows, and conventions.

I enjoyed meeting many of you and hearing your thoughts on how you would like to see WSO serve you. You are the most amazing people. Stay connected, create art, enjoy life, say yes.

Rebecca Sentgeorge, WSO President

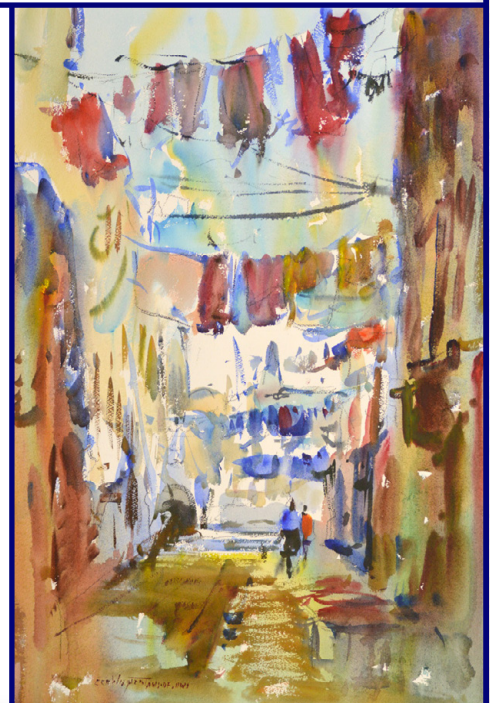
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### 2023 WORKSHOPS

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# Past President's Message

Once again it is time to think about who you would like to nominate for the **Outstanding Service Award**. There are many deserving members in WSO who give their time to make our organization a success. Please think about who you would like to see recognized this year for their numerous contributions to WSO. Then let me know.

As past president, my responsibility is to connect members with the various positions that make up WSO and make it the amazing organization that it is. Last year I was not looking forward to finding volunteers, but I've found instead that it is a pleasure. It is gratifying to have people step up and say, "I'm interested in..." or "I have skills in..." It is delightful to be introduced to someone with the right skills to take on a position, or to have someone come up and say, "I can help with this." I am also glad when someone says, "I bet this person would be very good at this," or when members who will be stepping down let me know of others who would be glad to take on their positions.

Open positions that are waiting for you:

- **Watermark Proofreaders and Assistant Editors**
- **Marketing Assistants** -- This is a new committee being formed to bring in new members, including younger people.
- **Mentor Program Chair** -- Welcomes new members, connects them with mentors, and helps them find their way around WSO.
- **New Member Chair** -- Work with Membership Chair to track and compile listings of new active members; oversee New Member meeting each year at the Spring Convention.
- **Logo Merchandise Representatives** -- Decide what merchandise to sell, order and keep track of it, and man the table at conventions (this is a two-person job).
- **Convention Chairs** -- We need a chair as well as a location for the 2024 Spring Convention and a chair for the 2024 Fall Convention in Salem. These positions are MOST IMPORTANT AS OUR CONVENTIONS ARE THE HEART OF WSO. Chair positions can be filled by a single person or by co-chairs who share the various responsibilities. You do not need to live in the place where the convention will be located as most tasks can now be done through the internet.
- **Three-Year President's Positions** --
  - **Vice President** -- Chooses upcoming jurors, attends the jurors during conventions, and trains for the presidency.
  - **President** -- Has overall responsibility for WSO. Leadership and people skills are needed as well as organizational skills. The president maintains an overview, connects different parts of WSO, and helps solve problems as they arise. She/He leads the Board and Business Meetings, the Banquet, and more. This is a big job, but a highly rewarding one as you connect with so many people, supporting them and being supported, as you work together to keep WSO inspiring and strong. (continued on page 5)

## Winnie Givot

### Summer Workshops



**Basics of Watercolor  
June 19-21**



**Pouring Watercolor  
July 31-August 2**

**Wait List only for Portraits  
(July 3-5) and Brush  
Calligraphy  
(July 31-August 2)**

**Open Studio**-paint with friends; most Fridays in the summer.

**Friday Classes**-watercolor, drawing & inspiration; during the school year.

**International Workshops  
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Wait list only  
Possible upcoming workshops  
**Costa Rica 2024  
Limoux, France 2025**

Learn more at  
[www.winniegivot.com](http://www.winniegivot.com)

# Past President's Message ... continued

- **Past President** -- Helps the president and finds people to work for WSO in all these different areas.

My experience as vice president, president, and now past president has been amazing. It has allowed me to connect with so many people, to discover their gifts, and to see their willingness to help. I now have more best friends than I could have imagined!

For all of these positions, you do not need to know how to do them as you will be trained. Interest is what is important. If any of these areas interests you, please let me know. (Refer to the *Membership Roster & Handbook* for my contact information.) I'm sure you have a wonderful contribution to make. Please let me help you find your place in WSO.

Thank you!

Winnie Givot, Past President/Volunteer Coordinator



## Our Conventions Are the Heart of WSO

Right now chairs are needed for both of next year's conventions! It is especially important that we have a chair for next spring soon. The juror for the 2024 Spring Experimental Show will be Keiko Tanabe.

And we also need a location for the 2024 Spring Convention. It would be great if next spring's convention were held in a smaller place. Holding our conventions in convention centers, such as those in Salem and Bend, works well, but it is just one way of doing them.

Over the years WSO has had wonderful conventions in Hood River, Troutdale, Welches, Burns, Joseph, Prineville, Roseburg, Medford, numerous towns on the coast, and many other locales. Holding our conventions in a variety of cities and towns allows us to experience the beauty of areas throughout our state.

There are many advantages to holding a convention in a smaller town. Smaller towns love to have visiting groups like ours come in, bringing our business and exhibitions. Chambers of Commerce are delighted to have out-of-town visitors and often provide help with finding locations for the various aspects of our conventions as well as lodging for our members. Conventions can be held in hotels, grange halls and community centers instead of expensive convention centers. Banquets can be catered by locals. Our art exhibitions can be held at community colleges, libraries, galleries, and other venues. Conventions at smaller locales generally tend to be simpler, less expensive and delightfully different.

It is not necessary to live in an area in order to organize a convention there. Much of the planning and arrangements can now be done on the internet.

Where would you like to visit? Or would you like to bring WSO to your home town to show its attractions and charm?

Please let me or Linda Burgel know if you have an idea for a location, if you would like to chair a convention, or if you know of someone who might be interested in chairing one. We look forward to hearing from you. Our contact information is available in the *Membership Roster & Handbook*.

Winnie Givot, Past President/Volunteer Coordinator



# Worth Sharing

These words were shared by Mary Jo Vranizan at the 2023 Spring Convention on April 15, 2023.

I know there've been some changes to the usual conference agenda, and I thank you for your willingness to adapt.

But the spirit of nature **is** change. We are constantly experiencing change and adapting to it. We add water to pigment and what happens? It changes. Sometimes we can control it, but most of the time we cannot.

It's when we let nature design our creations – when we let the spirit of creativity take over is when the magic happens. We can stand back and be in awe of what unfolds before us and say "yes."

The ability to be open to change is what makes one an artist. And having the prize-winning painting is not the only goal. We practice our art because it changes us, makes us better humans, more open, more embodied, more inspired.

We see more, feel more, love more, appreciate more. The physical piece of work is the result of becoming a more enlightened soul.

Mary Jo Vranizan, 2023 Spring Convention Chair

**Do you want to offer recorded online classes?  
But don't know where to start?**



Elizabeth Zimmerman can help you with that! She is offering video services to fellow artists!

**Stay in your studio, because Elizabeth travels to you with all the camera and microphones** to film your art techniques and lessons that you can offer as online classes, YouTube videos, TikToks, Reels, and more!

**Don't miss out on the limited time introductory rate of \$500** for three hours of filming which includes the original audio and footage of two camera angles. Travel fees may apply. Additional rates for editing footage and audio.

**CONTACT ELIZABETH**

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# WSO News Roundup

## Video Library Rental **SUCCESS** Story

Seventy-two DVDs were borrowed by members at the 2023 Spring Convention. It is so gratifying to see members excited about this WSO membership benefit.

I want to thank Jan Premo for the time she spent at the Video Library table sharing her knowledge of the many artists' DVDs available to our members.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at [wsorayanne@gmail.com](mailto:wsorayanne@gmail.com) if you need help returning the borrowed videos. The instructions are also on the WSO website under the *Education* tab.

Happy painting!

*Rayanne Edwards, DVD Librarian*

## Education Report: WSO Workshop Grants Still Available

WSO 100 Club offers four grants a year to apply towards the cost of a WSO Workshop. Currently there are three more grants available to Critique Groups. To create a WSO Workshop and take advantage of these grants, **go to the WSO website**, and do the following:

1. Go to the **Education menu** and click on **Critique Group Workshops**. This page gives an overview of the process and provides links to a list of current instructors, an application form to be filled out by any new instructors, and the workshop application packet.
2. Click on the **Application packet** link for detailed instructions and to download and fill out the workshop application form.

If you have any questions, please contact the WSO 100 Club Education Director at [education@watercolorsofcolorado.com](mailto:education@watercolorsofcolorado.com).

*Beverly Haynes, Education Director*



**Ruth Armitage**

ARTISTRUTH ■ ARTISTRUTH

Visit [RuthArmitage.com](http://RuthArmitage.com) for full details

## 2023 Workshop Opportunities

Tubac, Arizona: 2/28 - 3/2

Moving Toward Abstraction



Terni, Italy: 10/15 - 10/22

Semplificare: Simplifying the Italian Landscape - 7 days at La Romita \$2650





# Historian Report

## Art Collection Offered for Sale at Spring 2023 Convention

Who is Gerry Hart? If you were at the Spring Convention this year in Bend, you likely noticed that the WSO 100 Club was selling artwork from the collection of Gerry and Pug Hart, which was recently donated to WSO by Pug.

Gerry was a key figure in the life of WSO. She joined in 1984 and served in a number of capacities over the years, including president, tour chairman, job description chairman, and coordinator of the annual WSO Capitol Show in the Capitol Galleria, just to mention a few. In 1996, Gerry was awarded the Outstanding Service Award. Over the years she and Pug collected a vast number of art pieces, and most of that collection was donated to us.

## Do you have old WSO information?

There are many individuals from WSO's 50+ year history who served before us, paved the way, solved problems, and contributed greatly to the evolution and success of WSO. Some of them are still active members, having joined as far back as 1971. It is important that we value their contributions, honor their service, and thank them for helping to grow WSO into the organization that it is today.

I was recently given collections of materials from two of our members. One contained WSO *Watermark* newsletters and other information from as far back as 1986; the other contained merit award information from 1966 forward. Both collections contain a huge amount of history, and I am thrilled to have received them.

**PLEASE donate any old information you may have to the historian.** We can retain what is important and let go of what is already in our collection. My contact information is available in the *Membership Handbook & Roster*.

*Peg Patterson, Historian*

# 2023 Spring Convention Matching Rides, Rooms and Roommates

For the 2023 Spring Convention, I tried to jump-start a system for matching members of WSO with other members for rides, rooms and/or roommates. Articles in the *Watermark* notified the membership of this effort. I encouraged participation and included a deadline for members to let me know of needs.

There was very little participation in this offer. Most members who wanted to share found their own partners. No members offered their homes for a stay. I was able to connect about half a dozen interested parties with each other to plan their trips.

I hoped there might be a way to include newer members in sharing the experience of a convention but was told by several that the cost of a motel room alone prevented them from going.

I would like to think this program can be offered in the future. I have a great time participating in WSO activities and hope we can continue to make the experience easy and welcoming for all members, new and "seasoned" alike, by helping to connect them for conventions.

*Sue Burgott*



# Collective Wisdom



## Favorite Paint Applicators

The two wonderful artists below have shared insights into what they hold in their hands to make their own special magic appear in their paintings. My

thanks to the former and current WSO presidents for adding their recommendations to our collective wisdom.

### Winnie Givot

Far and away my favorite brushes are Pro Arte Connoisseur 100 Series Rounds, sizes 8 - 16. They are a red sable-synthetic mix that have great spring and water carrying capacity. I have been using them for many years. I often use two of the same size, a newer one when I need the lovely point and an older one the rest of the time. They come from [Jackson's](#) in London and are reasonably priced. You can also get them from Amazon, which will charge you more and they will still come from Jackson's. Shipping takes 10 days to 2 weeks.

### Rebecca Sentgeorge

Here are my recommendations of favorite paint applicators. I like to use things that do not have a great deal of control. I choose really old worn out brushes that don't give me as much control and switch to a good brush only on selective parts of my painting.

I get lots of little cards in my junk mail. I use them to scrape or squeegee paint onto my substrates and build

up layers of colors to create an interesting surface to begin a

painting. Sometimes I cut notches in them for a combing effect. An insurance agent gave me a window ice scraper that I use in a similar way.

I also like to cut small squares of old t-shirts that I can wrap over my index finger and use to spread paint or to rub glaze, or to blend a color. I also use the small squares of cloth over my finger to draw with paint.

In this photo the cards are sitting on top of a surface that was made using these tools and is just waiting to be turned into a painting.



(continued on page 10)

## Collective Wisdom ... continued

### Theme for August Watermark Collective Wisdom: Your Personal Guiding Principles for Creating a Work of Art

What principles are guiding your mind and heart when you transform a vision or a photograph into a watercolor painting? How have you translated all of the rules and standards that you have learned through your studies and experiences into clear and compelling principles that determine your artistic choices?

One example of a principle that has impacted my approach to painting is from my years in Anji Grainger's classes: "Color gets all the credit, but value does all the work." In real estate, it's "Location, location, location!" and in painting it's "Value, value, value!"

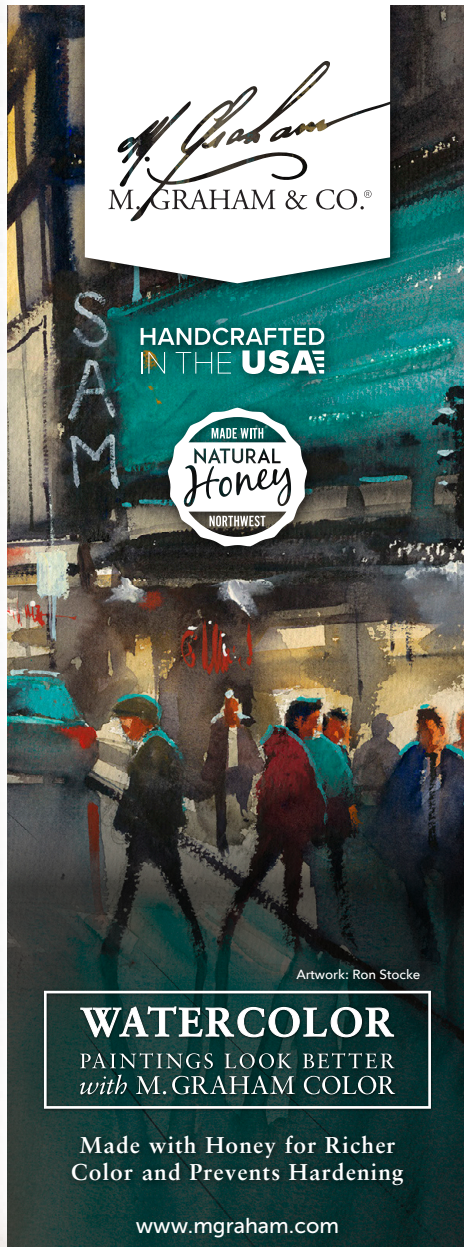
For the August *Watermark*, share your **guiding principles**, and if you have a photo of a painting that shows these principles in action, send that along as well.

Email your written piece (and attach your photo, if included) by **July 14**, to Ilana Hoffman with the subject line, "WSO Collective Wisdom." Find my email address in the *Membership Roster & Handbook*.

#### Postscript

If you have a great recommendation related to a previous theme in *Collective Wisdom* (Online Watercolor Resources, Books about Art or Artists, and Favorite Paint Applicators), please submit that to me at any time. I will include it in my Postscript section in the next issue of the *Watermark* and it will appear in the appropriate section of [Collective Wisdom](#).

*Ilana Hoffman, Watermark Assistant Editor*



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## Members' Gallery

The *Watermark* staff invites WSO members to share images of your paintings in a fun and informal way in the Members' Gallery. The photos will be published twice a year in May and November as a *Watermark* accompaniment and on the WSO website under the *Membership* tab.

Enjoy the delightful entries for [New Beginnings](#) and consider entering an image for the next theme which will be announced in the August *Watermark* issue.

*Leslie Dugas, Co-editor*

# Important WSO Dates May 2023 - May 2024

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>May 2023</b></p> <p><b>May 14</b> – <i>Watermark</i> published; look for the 2023 Fall Watercolor Exhibition Prospectus in this issue or online.</p> <p><b>May 14</b> – Trish McKinney Workshop registration opens for Active and Lifetime Members. The workshop is <b>October 9 - 13, 2023</b>.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>June 2023</b></p> <p><b>June 1</b> – The 2023 Fall Watercolor Exhibition opens for entries.</p> <p><b>June 30</b> – Trish McKinney Workshop registration opens for Subscriber Members.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>July 2023</b></p> <p>Paint! Finish your painting(s) and submit images by <b>August 1, 2023!</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>August 2023</b></p> <p><b>August 1, 8:00 pm</b> – The 2023 Fall Watercolor Exhibition closes for entries.</p> <p><i>Watermark</i> published; look for detailed information about the 2023 Fall Convention in this issue.</p> <p><b>August 19, 8:00 am</b> – Online registration for convention opens.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>September 2023</b></p> <p><b>September 9, 8:00 pm</b> – Online registration for convention closes.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>October 2023</b></p> <p><b>October 1 - December 31</b> – 2024 WSO membership dues collected.</p> <p><b>October 6 - 8</b> – The 2023 Fall Convention, Trish McKinney, Juror, Salem.</p> <p><b>October 9 - 13</b> – Trish McKinney Workshop, Salem.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>November 2023</b></p> <p><b>November 1</b> – <i>Watermark</i> published; look for the 2024 Spring Experimental Exhibition Prospectus in this issue, or online.</p> <p>Keiko Tanabe Workshop registration opens for Active and Lifetime Members. The workshop is <b>April 8 - 12, 2024</b>.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>December 2023</b></p> <p><b>December 1</b> – The 2024 Spring Experimental Exhibition opens for entries.</p> <p><b>December 16</b> – Keiko Tanabe Workshop registration opens for Subscriber Members.</p> <p><b>December 31</b> – Pay 2024 WSO membership dues by this date.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>January 2024</b></p> <p>Paint! Finish your painting(s) and submit images by <b>February 1, 2024!</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>February 2024</b></p> <p><b>February 1, 8:00 pm</b> – The 2024 Spring Experimental Exhibition closes for entries.</p> <p><i>Watermark</i> published; look for detailed information about the 2024 Spring Convention in this issue.</p> <p>Online registration for convention opens. Date TBD.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>April 2024</b></p> <p><b>April 5 - 7</b> – The 2024 Spring Convention, Keiko Tanabe, Juror, location TBD.</p> <p><b>April 8 - 12</b> – Keiko Tanabe Workshop.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>May 2024</b></p> <p><b>May 1</b> – <i>Watermark</i> published; look for the 2024 Fall Watercolor Exhibition Prospectus in this issue, or online.</p> <p>Iain Stewart Workshop registration opens for Active and Lifetime Members. The workshop is <b>October 7 - 11, 2024</b>.</p>



# WSO Website

## Interested in learning website design?

Or do you already have some web skills you might be willing to use to help WSO? The website team is looking for volunteer Website Assistants to help create and maintain website pages. If you have good basic PC or Mac skills, we can teach you basic website design. There's no commitment required, but we'd like members receiving the training to consider becoming Website Assistants. Interested? Contact Dan Perich; his email address is

in the *Membership Roster & Handbook*.

## New website feature: How to resize images

Artists often need to resize digital images in order to enter an exhibition or to prepare for printing. If you don't do this often, it's easy to forget how to do it. The WSO website now has a page with instructions for resizing images. These instructions use a free web application which can be used on a PC or a Mac. You can find these instructions from the website top menu at Exhibitions > How to Resize Images, or go to them directly at <https://watercolorsocietyoforegon.com/shows-exhibitions/how-to-resize-images/>.

Dan Perich, WSO Webmaster



# Important News from the Membership Director

Welcome to our returning members and 47 new members that have joined for 2023. We look forward to the energy and friendships these new and returning members bring to WSO.

There are several important issues that I want to highlight:

1. For members who renewed by December 31, 2022, please check the *2023 Membership Roster & Handbook* for your information, and contact me by email with corrections or additions. My email address can be found in the *Membership Roster & Handbook*. I added an addendum to the recently mailed 2023 Roster. An additional Roster addendum will be mailed with the Exhibition Catalog. You'll find WSO policies in the *2023 Membership Roster & Handbook*, pages 26-40.
2. We are receiving an increasing amount of "returned mail," including the Roster Handbook. WSO policies state that mail is not forwarded: Policy XI.G. (page 40). The rising cost of postage makes the expense prohibitive.
3. Please review **Membership Policies** (pages 39 and 40). We were flexible by not enforcing the policy stringently during the pandemic and the associated stressors. Beginning this year WSO will adhere to the policy more diligently. Specifically, note the policy related to "Signature Membership" and "Lapse of Membership:" Policy XI. Membership Policies, F. Lapse of Membership 1 & 2 (page 40).\* Several people did not renew by the specified date of December 31. It states that a lapse in membership will result in a member losing their original join date, you will be "rejoining" after December 31. In addition to this, you would be at risk of losing your Signature Status. Please renew on time to keep your hard-earned Signature Status, and original join date. We want to support you in the best possible way.

\*Note, under F. 1. (See Policy II. E. 2. a-d) the "E. 2. a-d." should be changed to "F. 2."

Jan Premo, Membership Director

# Welcome New Members!

**New Active Members** (Joined October 1, 2022 - April 10, 2023)

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>City</b>
Carol Ann	Armstrong	Albany
Michele	Avanti	Roseburg
Deborah	Baxter	Florence
Judith	Beck	Amity
Sharon	Burchett	Bend
Cheryl	Burmeister-Gray	Clackamas
Karen	Corey	Bend
Judy	Cox	Grants Pass
Connie	Faulkner	Bend
Cathie	Flanigan	Bend
Sally	Foster	Bend
Lorell	Girard	Bend
Vernon	Groff	Sandy
Linda	Hanson	Sisters
Judith	Harlan	Oak Grove
Lisa	Hendrix	Medford
Becky	Jacob	Brightwood
Michael	Kronstadt	Portland
Shana	Laursen	Bend
Elizabeth	Leeberg	Bend
Jane	Leeson	Bend
Michelle	Lindblom	Bend
Christine	Linder	West Linn
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Margery	Linza	Astoria
Ana	Marquez	Lake Oswego
Jill	Martin	Bend
Gary Neil	McHargue	Ashland
Linda	Mecum	Roseburg
Paulette J	Miller	Bend
Melaney	Moisan	Salem
Tim	Oakley	Damascus
Tina	Olsen	Tualatin
Kim	Potvin	Bend

(continued on page 14)

# Welcome New Members ... continued

First Name	Last Name	City
Linda	Redeker	Bend
Jane	Scott	Portland
Catherine	Steffano	Bend
Andrea	Sigetich	Bend
Shawn	Spencer	Sisters
Pamela	Talley	Bend
Sonja	Thompson	Mapleton
Julie	Toston	La Pine
Patrick	Williams	Portland
Alice	Winberry	Bend



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70 Works - 26 Artists      **for Scholars**  
Floors 1, 4 & 5      Giving Young Artists  
8:30am - 4:30pm      a Boost!  
March - May      May 2 - 28

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**60th Anniversary Retrospective**      **FUNDRAISER**  
Honoring 60 years of      **Recycled Upcycled**  
VGA artists      **Art Show**  
May 30 - July 2      Community Artists  
Welcome!  
July 4 - 30



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## Upcoming Workshops and Changes at Menucha

Sandra Pearce will be our spring workshop artist at Menucha, May 15 -18, 2023. You can still sign up for this workshop! Prices and details are at: <https://menucha.org/programs/swcw>.

"Sandra loves helping other artists make progress in their work. Her class will help you to learn how to express YOUR vision, through painting basics and watercolor handling. Sandra says that this is a safe place for beginners with challenges provided for more advanced painters. She will work with your style: landscape, abstract, figurative, or still life. And if the weather is good, she may even do some plein air painting with everyone."

Additionally, I have been your Menucha Liaison for about ten years now, and lately I have been feeling that it's time for someone new to take over this job. So, I was thrilled to hear at the convention that both René Eisenbart and Sharon King are excited to become your new Menucha/WSO liaisons! Please let them know of any ideas you might have for Menucha instructors.

It has been an honor serving WSO in this position over the years. Thanks so much!

*Chris Stubbs, Menucha Liaison*

## WSO Artists Selected for Western Fed Show!

Every fall WSO artists are invited to submit paintings to WFWS (Western Federation of Watercolor Societies) for its annual show. This year the show was juried by internationally famous Mary Whyte! Seven hundred paintings were submitted from all ten WFWS watercolor societies and Mary selected 90 in total.

The show is being hosted by the Southwestern Watercolor Society at the Clock Tower Gallery in Grapevine, Texas (near Dallas) from May 6 - June 7, 2023.

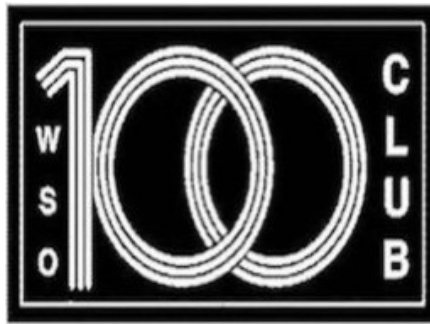
Each year the show is hosted by a different member society of WFWS. WSO's hosting year will be 2027—four short years away!

Congratulations to selected WSO artists:

Mary Fran Anderson  
Robin Becic  
René Eisenbart  
Susan Escobar  
Winnie Givot  
Debbie Loyd  
Hazel Reeves  
Steve Rothert (entered through SDWS)  
Kim Ellen Smith (award recipient!)  
Chris Stubbs  
Liz Walker

Robin Becic (Alternate Delegate) and I will be attending the WFWS Convention in Grapevine, Texas, from May 4 - 7, and we will give you all the details in the next issue of the *Watermark*.

*Chris Stubbs, WFWS Delegate*



## *Fundraising for Artists' Success and Growth*



### **Inspiration . . .**

If inspiration is what we're all seeking when we paint, then the WSO Spring Convention was the place to be. Great camaraderie, knowledgeable instructors and amazing demos! Congratulations to WSO for another wonderful event!

It was a proud and very affirmative experience to hear the words "sponsored by the WSO 100 Club" mentioned over and over again when the award winners were announced at the banquet. It makes the weeks and months of work and preparation feel so worthwhile. Thank you to all the members who helped make this convention a successful fundraising event for the 100 Club – and YOU!

### **Fundraising and Endowments . . .**

The 100 Club builds our annual budget so that the fundraising that happens at the WSO conventions provides a major portion of the Artists' Awards prize payout, with the rest of the award money coming from other fundraising efforts or the endowment. At this 2023 Spring Convention, we were very successful -- which means we are better positioned for Artists' Awards at the Fall Convention. However, we still have our work cut out for us!

Not everyone has a clear understanding of how endowments work. Basically, they are professionally managed investment funds that gain, or decline, with the overall investment market. Each year The 100 Club is allowed a very small, single-digit percentage withdrawal, or "draw down," to use for awards and education programs for WSO members. For example, if the endowment is \$1000 and the single-digit percentage drawdown is 4%, then the amount of money that can be withdrawn is \$40. The remaining \$960 remains in the endowment and continues to grow in value based on how the money is invested. That draw down does not cover the full amount required for either program without significant additional annual fundraising activities.

### **The 100 Club is a focused and determined organization . . .**

Through some serious and intense work on the development of our five-year strategic plan, we know that, while the WSO membership will always continue to be a major partner in fundraising efforts, we must work on developing other income venues and patronages as well. Our long range goal is to build both endowments to be self-sustaining. To make that happen, we need approximately \$120,000 in additional market value between the two endowments.

Right now, we are just taking our very first steps in branching out into other areas such as: 1) obtaining grants for educational programs, 2) identifying and soliciting true "patrons of the arts" as major donors, and 3) building our "100 Club Lifetime Patron" membership. We need all the help we can get, so please reach out to me. We welcome ideas or resources from all of you! Please contact me with your questions, comments, or suggestions. My contact information is available in the *Membership Roster & Handbook*.

These things won't happen overnight. It will be a slow process. But if we can do it well, it will be worth all the time, energy, and commitment to ensure we have financing for our future artists' success and growth!

### **Back to Inspiration . . .**

Let me leave you with lyrics that have resonated with me for many years. They are from the album *Buffalo Café* by singer-songwriter Jack Gladstone, a member of the Blackfoot Nation near Glacier National Park in Montana.

*"The purest gift is not of gold, but in art that awakens the soul."*



## Kudos



### Local/Regional Shows

The annual Village Gallery of Arts Spring Award show in Portland was juried by Harold Walkup. Several WSO members received awards. Best of Show went to Britt McNamee; Liz Walker received second place, and Honorable Mention Awards went to Kay Gifford, Amanda James, and Jung Soo Pak. The show can be viewed here: [Spring Awards Show - Village Gallery of Arts](#).

Accepted in the Northwest Watercolor Society Waterworks Members Exhibition, 2023, were René Eisenbart, Mary Elle, Airi Foote, Marjorie Johnson, Kristie Mooney, Sandra Pearce, Mary Rollins, Steve Rothert, and Liz Walker. The exhibition is online only and is on view at <https://www.nwws.org/annual-waterworks-exhibition/>, April 28 - June 30, 2023. The juror was David R. Smith.

Bruce Ulrich's painting *Tasting Notes: Pinot Noir* was accepted in this year's 40th annual Art about Agriculture Competition and Touring Exhibition 2023. The show can be seen at the [Guistina Gallery](#) in the LaSells Stewart Center at Oregon State University from May 9 - June 15, and then will tour the state. This show is sponsored annually by the College of Agricultural Sciences at OSU.

May 6 - June 5, 2023, the Southwest Watercolor Society hosts the [Western Federation of Watercolor Societies](#) annual show in Grapevine, Texas. The juror was

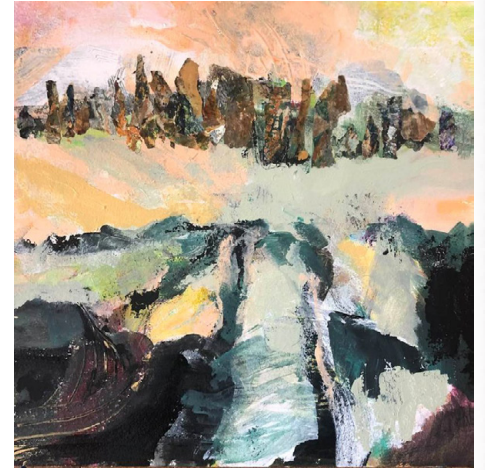
Mary Whyte. The WSO members accepted for the show are Mary Fran Anderson, Robin Becic, René Eisenbart, Susan Escobar, Winnie Givot, Debbie Loyd, Hazel Reeves, Steve Rothert (entered through SDWS), Kim Ellen Smith, Chris Stubbs, and Liz Walker.

### National/International Shows

The following WSO members were juried into the 2023 Emerald Spring Exhibition by Juror Bets Cole: Judith Baer, Patrice Cameron, Jo Dunnick, Lynda Hoffman-Snodgrass, Kim Smith, Liz Walker, and Judy Waller. The show is on display May 5 - June 3, 2023, at the Emerald Art Center, 500 Main St, Springfield, Oregon, <https://www.emeraldartcenter.org/>. The Artists' Reception was held Friday, May 5, 5:30 - 7:30 pm.

In the American Watercolor Society's 156th International Exhibition, Ruth Armitage received the AWS Bronze Medal of Honor with \$3000. With his first-ever acceptance to an AWS Exhibition, Harold Walkup received the Mary S. Litt Memorial Medal with \$750. The show was at the Salmagundi Club in NYC, April 3 -28, 2023. The exhibition will then travel throughout the U.S. for the year. See Award winners here: <https://americanwatercolorociety.org/156th-exhibition-awards/>.

Judy Nigh achieved signature status in the International Society of Experimental (continued on page 18)



*Metropolis* by Amanda James



*Tasting Notes: Pinot Noir* by Bruce Ulrich



*Great Egret* by Mary Rollins



*Fledgling 1* by Liz Walker



*Pursuit of Happiness* by Judy Nigh

Artists (ISEA) with the acceptance of her painting, *Pursuit of Happiness*. The Members-only online exhibition, called [Utterly Unfathomable and Powerfully Profound](#), was juried by Joan Fullerton.

Kim Smith's painting *Cold Spring* was accepted for the 55th Watercolor West International Juried Exhibition, and this acceptance also gives her signature membership. The show will be at Coastline College Art Gallery in Newport Beach, CA, from July 8 - August 12, 2023. The juror was Michael Reardon.



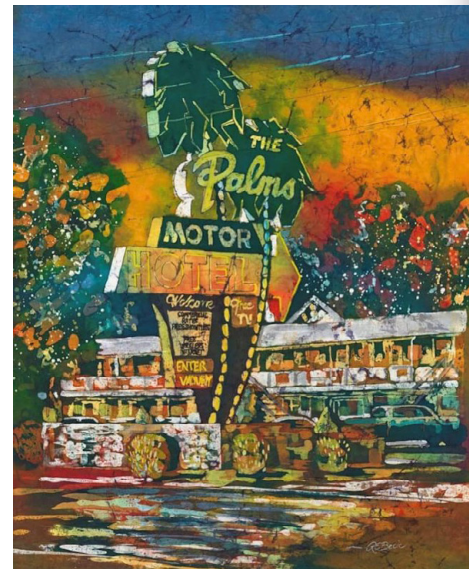
*Cold Spring* by Kim Smith

## Publications

Harold Walkup's painting *Look* and Robin Becic's painting *Palms Motor Inn* will appear in *Splash 24-Best of Watercolor*. The juror was Jean Haines. The magazine will come out in June 2023.

Share news about your art shows, awards, and publications. Calls for Entries are welcome too. Send your Kudos to Sarah Bouwsma. Check the *Membership Roster & Handbook* for her contact information.

Sarah Bouwsma



*Palms Motor Inn* by Robin Becic

"No artist tolerates reality."  
- Nietzsche

# Convention Central

## 2023 Spring Convention

### It Was Indeed "An Artist's Playground!"



"Fabulous" was the word that was uttered repeatedly over the weekend. There was a vibrant hum of collective mirth, celebration, and creativity. The weekend started off with a bang when over 200 members, guests, and public visitors gathered on Friday afternoon for the Spring Experimental Exhibition at Central Oregon Community College's Barber Library. The magnificent Rotunda Gallery offered not



Winnie Givot speaking at New Members Meeting



Convention Lobby



"Inspiration Station"

only an amazing and lively venue to showcase the artwork, but also a spacious location for attendees to mingle, catch up with dear friends, and celebrate the winners. WSO President Rebecca Sentgeorge warmly welcomed the group and introduced us to our Juror Vera Dickerson.

Saturday was filled with a variety of breakout sessions from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, while the convention center lobby was buzzing with enticing vendors, auction items, and WSO merchandise. The "Inspiration Station" invited members to spontaneously create mini paintings.

Saturday evening was dedicated to crowning the achievements of so many in our organization: Spring Experimental Exhibition award winners, the People's Choice Award winner, new Signature Members, and Merit Award recipients. Vera Dickerson took us (continued on page 20)



Carol Putnum, Jean Lea, and Kara Pilcher at Artists' Reception



Sharon Hansen congratulates Angela Wrahtz on her Best in Show.



Rebecca Sentgeorge, Vera Dickerson, and Winnie Givot enjoying the Artists' Reception

# 2023 Spring Convention



Juror's Critique



Lobby of Convention Center



Juror's Critique

on a journey through each of the prize-winning paintings and shared her thoughts on what made them worthy of recognition.

The attendees at Sunday's Business Meeting were treated to complimentary pastries and fruit prior to the always-entertaining executive committee reports and the raffle for prizes, which included original artwork from the Inspiration Station.

Vera Dickerson demonstrated the first stages of how she uses mixed-media collage. Beginning with a bright underlayer of acrylic paint, she then strategically applied bits of torn collage paper, which were created using deli paper, paint, and stencils. The papers add texture, depth, whimsy, and color while the finished painting can include more acrylic paint, gel gloss, posca pen, and other mediums.

The whole weekend had a relaxed and comfortable feel and will be remembered fondly.

*Mary Jo Vranizan, 2023 Spring Convention Chair*



Rebecca Sentgeorge, WSO President at Banquet



Mary Jo Vranizan, 2023 Spring Convention Chair



Rebecca Sentgeorge, WSO President at Banquet

# 2023 Spring Convention



Mary Rollins accepting the People's Choice Award at Banquet Dinner



Business Meeting overview



Business Meeting Participants



Vera Dickerson's Demo



## Thank You to 2023 Spring Convention Photographer

The Watermark staff would like to give a shout-out to Robert Davis for his excellent photography skills. He provided us with many of the beautiful Spring Convention photos seen in this section. Thank you, Robert!

## Reviews of Breakout Sessions for the 2023 Spring Convention

### Go Travel — Make Art! with René Eisenbart

René's enthusiasm inspired us to be ready for travel, with art kits sized appropriately to one's trip. For her basic kit, she uses a Vaschy case and includes a variety of pens and pencils; several favorite brushes: a 1/4 inch striper and a #8 Travel Brush, both by Silver Black Velvet; and a Princeton 1.5 inch Angled Flat Wash. She travels with gorgeous M. Graham paints in a small rubber-sealed palette by Falling in Art. She warned us to allow ample time for M. Graham paints to set up to prevent these paints from running into each other. René also has a tiny paint kit using Viviva Colorsheets and only a few tools.



She shared examples of artists painting, collaging, and stenciling on maps. An online "Art on Maps" search can lead you too into this creative realm.

René set us up to trace and paint a map on translucent film by Dura-Lar, creating a surprisingly bright painting. We certainly learned exciting tips for travel and techniques for using maps in our art.

*Penelope Youngfeather*

### The Pleasure of Drawing with Winnie Givot

Winnie's goal was to remind us that drawing regularly maintains skill and boosts our mood. Encouraging us to temporarily switch off the logic-oriented left brain and escape into the judgment-free right brain, Winnie led us in drawing:

- **Blind Contour** Study an object (leaf, poppy pod, scissors). Without looking at the paper, use a pen to make a continuous line drawing without lifting the pen until the drawing is complete. Participant comment: "I felt free, smiling throughout."
- **Upside Down** Without studying it, rotate a master's drawing 180 degrees so the bottom edge becomes the top edge. Draw the top and left borders and re-create the drawing freehand. Focus on the relationship between lines, remembering, "It's all just shapes!" Responses: "I noticed things not seen in the original." "The critic in my head was quiet!"
- **Negative Space** View an object through a viewfinder, with part of the object spilling past your view. Draw and blacken the shapes BETWEEN the borders and the object, leaving the form of the object blank white. Comment: "Seeing just shapes suddenly became much easier!"



*Sharon King*

(continued on page 23)

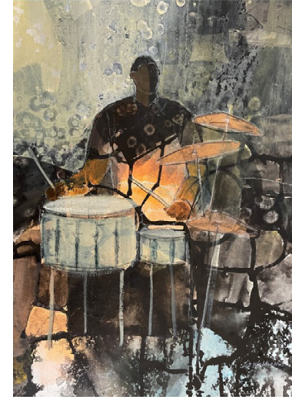
## Reviews of Breakout Sessions for the 2023 Spring Convention

### Is It Done Yet? with Liz Walker

Liz presented an honest, inspiring, and humorous talk that opened this viewer's eyes and exceeded expectations.

It takes real discipline to leave your painting alone!

Get into a critique group with trusted friends who will "see" things that do not serve the painting. Listen to jurors when they tell you what makes a good painting.



The before and after visuals showed concrete examples of how to turn a good painting into a better one. These artists thought their piece was finished but look what happened...

- An artist turned a daytime landscape into a more dynamic night scene by changing the color temperature.
- Another noticed something that didn't work in the painting AFTER winning an award and took it out of the frame to "fix" it, which brought an audible "Oh Wow!" gasp from participants.
- A musician with drumsticks in hand was enhanced by changing the static drumsticks to drumming in motion, a huge difference.
- A lone figure in the center became more dynamic with the addition of supporting characters.

Is it done yet? That depends. What emotion do you want to convey? Keep that stack of old paintings for future potential. Don't give up. Maybe you don't have the skills to finish it now, but you might in the future.

Janet Grissett

### Let's Get Moving with Beth Verheyden

Beth Verheyden likes to invite the viewer into her paintings with visual movement. She shared her knowledge of how to achieve this by giving us several tips and examples. These included repeating shapes and softening edges, using lines and blurred edges to show the direction and feel of the motion.

Four techniques to help create dynamic movement:

- Paint through wet edges
- Repeat a directional line or shape next to a moving shape
- Add drybrush marks within the shape that's moving
- Lift out paint using a Magic Eraser

Beth's final suggestion was to paint what moves you, take risks, and expect a breakthrough.



Becky Meier

(continued on page 24)

## Reviews of Breakout Sessions for the 2023 Spring Convention

### Fun with Paint Pours with Kim Smith

The unexpected addition of the breakout session on acrylic paint pouring was fun and inspiring. Kim first explained the process of pouring acrylic paint, reviewed all the required materials, and then did a demo for the class, where she showed us different techniques. We learned that adding silicone would create "cells," like little swirls! And as a bonus, the run-off paint made acrylic skins that we can use in other applications.



What came next was the thrill of doing the paint pours ourselves with Kim's materials. We chose our colors and layered them in a small cup, which we placed upside down on a small wood disk. We then lifted the vessel and watched the mixture of colors spread over the disk, creating beautiful tiny masterpieces!

It was so creative and fun that we each made at least two pieces. Coat the disks with resin and apply cork to the bottoms, and voila! We would have coasters! She also brought several examples of how paint pours could be applied on many surfaces and sealed with many different products.

The pouring process could be the background for a painting or stand alone. We all left the class inspired!

*Judy Nigh*

### Forest for the Trees: Exploring the Freedom of Gestural Painting with Molly Freitag

Molly's emphasis was to help us develop a special attitude or spirit of the heart to create paintings that say what's needed by invoking memories, ideas, emotions, and even the spiritual world.

We played with small 1/8th sheet paintings and began with no plan or judgment, using only imagination to explore what could come from within. She told us that once the painting is started, it will tell you what it needs next. The artist must practice trusting this process and look for unexpected things to happen. The artist can take what the painting gives, staying open to exploring and believing good things will happen.



Molly shared the Gerhard Richter quote, "One has to believe in what one is doing." Commit to looking inward, be playful, and experiment. This approach will lead to visionary paintings that are uniquely yours.

After we worked on small paintings, we had time to explore a larger one. This creative approach is an enjoyable way to think about painting; for many of us, it can lead to something totally different.

*John Mohney*

(continued on page 25)



## Reviews of Breakout Sessions for the 2023 Spring Convention

### Creative Backgrounds with Jacqueline Newbold

Jacqueline welcomed us with many examples of the wonderful journals that she has made over the years. We could see how her sketches and paintings described her many trips.

She provided gesso, a sketch of Bend's Old Mill District, and a forest service map for our project. We applied a few drops of Gesso onto the map; the color and consistency of the Gesso applied to the surface was transparent enough that we could still make out the map lines. We sketched what we wanted on the map. Many of us drew the Old Mill District, but I saw one artist draw a beautiful elk on their Gesso map. We all began by painting the sky with a mixture of cobalt and cerulean watercolors. Then each person chose the colors they wanted for the rest of the map. The last step was to outline in pen or ink some of the icons of Bend, Oregon, such as the rounded mountains, the river, and the Old Mill smokestacks. It was nice to bring the Deschutes River into view. I decided I wanted the mood of my painting to be a historical one. I feel that it tells of a time when the lumber mill was operating in Bend. I thoroughly enjoyed Jacqueline's class and appreciated her providing the map, gesso, and the sketch of the Mill District.



Dana Mounts

### An Artist's Journey with Michelle Lindblom

Michelle is a performance painter. While listening to instrumental music, and with no plan in mind, she paints on large, textured canvases. Michelle's twenty-four years of college-level teaching, drawing and painting have prepared her for this style.

Early in the process, she uses a lot of water and up to four acrylic colors to later reveal what's underneath. She frequently turns her canvas to get a different perspective. Trying not to overthink, she listens to music for inspiration. Using her motto, "Just let things happen," Michelle often brings her painting to the point of chaos, then brings it "back down," allowing a more conscious effort to guide her.

The "mystery" of her work draws us in to reveal our interpretation. Freedom to paint intuitively is a worthy goal, and Michelle demonstrated this unique style very effectively.



Terri Gonzalez

(continued on page 26)

## Reviews of Breakout Sessions for the 2023 Spring Convention

### Painting Our Pets and Animals with Chris Stubbs

I felt like I was given a piece of double chocolate candy and craved more!

Chris Stubbs did an excellent job of demonstrating painting fur with soft edges "in order to get," as she said, "tiny 'creeping' edges of paint that resemble soft fur, without resorting to masking the heck out of the fur."

We learned that getting the best results takes a lot of practice, patience, and observation. Chris blended light/dark fur so it looked real, with no hard edges.

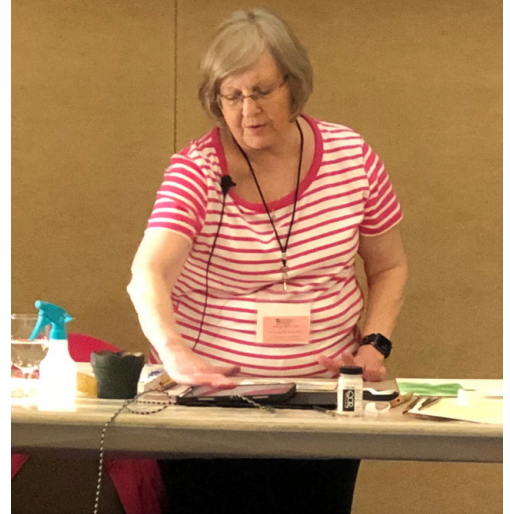
I put my paintbrush down and never stopped watching Chris show us what to do; some painted, some drew, but mostly we watched.

Chris discussed the eye anatomy of dogs and cats, and how light is reflected in the pupils. While she was painting an eye, she told us that the pupils of dogs and larger cats are round, while those of smaller cats and alligators are elliptical.

She showed us how to pull out single whiskers or hairs using masking or Nichiban tape.

This was an excellent demonstration that could easily become a longer session as I craved more, just like my double chocolate.

Judy Mohney



## Juror Workshop with Vera Dickerson

What a treat for those of us who were lucky to attend Vera Dickerson's 5-day workshop, "Integrating Pattern, Color, and Design." She challenged our creativity and stretched our imagination in ways most of us had never experienced before. We eagerly devoured her instructions and spent our days immersed in a whirlwind of materials and an explosion of color!

On day one, we learned how to create our own collage papers using plain waxed deli paper, stencils, roller brushes, and acrylic paints. In a beehive of messy activity, we endeavored to create an array of values, tones, and colors, layering one or more stencil patterns over solid colors.

Day two included a demonstration and exercise on how to compose a collage using a sealed canvas for a base and incorporating collage elements, acrylic paint, and direct stenciling around the central image.

On day three Vera critiqued each work, giving us direction on our pieces regarding mark-making and adjusting values. Later Vera shared a slideshow of some of her artworks, as well as images of her favorite artists' paintings and explained why she is drawn to them.

On day four we set the tone for our next painting on watercolor paper by using (continued on page 27)



Vera Dickerson, Workshop Instructor

## *Juror Workshop ... continued*

a base color mixed with Vera's special recipe for the sealant. Then direct stenciling indicated heavier values where needed as we drew our simple chosen images into place. We learned a variety of flourishes using white and black gesso, Saran wrap, and aluminum foil.

Vera critiqued the week's work again on the final day and the attendees spent the remaining hours finishing artwork, adding small accents, refining edges, or beginning new pieces.

Vera was the epitome of all the qualities we look for in a juror: warm, encouraging, knowledgeable, efficient, energetic, and so darn likeable! The Brooks Room at Trinity Episcopal was the ideal setting for the workshop and attendees regularly arrived early and worked through lunchtime.



Marjorie Johnson

Mary Jo Vranizan, 2023 Spring Convention Chair



The Brooks Room at Trinity Episcopal Church

## *Thank You Convention Vendors*

Many thanks to our vendors who spent Saturday in the convention center lobby to share their offerings and products. Their presence rounded out the array of activities for attendees to participate in during breaks.

Lori Nance from Menucha Retreat Center showcased the upcoming retreats they will be offering, including the one with our own Sandra Pearce in May 2023. You owe it to yourself to attend one of the inspirational classes and workshops they offer. Nestled in lovely grounds overlooking the Columbia Gorge, you can immerse yourself in an art form while being fed and housed in a comfortable and serene setting. For more information, please go to: <https://menucha.org>.

Many thanks to Lacy and Paul from Laylor Art and Supply for setting up their miniature store for us all to purchase our necessities and extravagances. They offered a great discount on items and some giveaways. This small brick and mortar store in downtown Bend not only sells supplies for sophisticated artists, but also offers classes and workshops by local artists at extremely reasonable rates. When you're in Bend, stop by and take a look or check out their website at: <https://laylorart.com>.

Mary Jo Vranizan, 2023 Spring Convention Chair



# Signature Membership and Merit Award Winners for Spring 2023

## Signature Membership

Signature Membership is awarded when a WSO member submits 10 points for awards they have won. For most, that is at the same time they receive their Bronze Merit Award.

## Spring 2023 Signature Membership recipients:

**Loisann Young, Elizabeth Schilling, Roberta Mathews, and Kristie Mooney**

## Merit Awards

Merit Awards are awarded to WSO members for show entries and awards based upon points. The Best of Show Award receives five points. Places 2nd-4th receive four points. All other award-winning paintings receive three points. Getting a painting into a show earns one point.

Our highest Merit Award is the Celestial Award for 100 or more points. The Comet Award is for 75-99 points; the Diamond Award is for 50-74 points; the Platinum Award is for 25-49 points; the Gold Award is for 20-24 points; and the Silver Award is for 15-19 points. The beginning level is the Bronze Award for 10-14 points.

## Spring 2023 Merit Award Recipients:

Diamond Award: **Lynda Hoffman Snodgrass and Liz Walker**

Platinum Award: **Chris Helton**

Gold Award: **Jeanine Miller**

Silver Award: **Jacqueline Newbold and Elizabeth Schilling**

Bronze Award: **Loisann Young, Elizabeth Schilling, Roberta Mathews, and Kristie Mooney**

## Congratulations to all!

## Tracking Your Merit Awards Points

Download a copy of the Merit Awards worksheet for keeping track of your points from the Merit Awards page on the WSO website at <https://watercolorsofcolorado.com/membership/awards/>. Submit your list of accumulated points to Becky Meier when you reach ten points or more. Check your *Membership Roster & Handbook* for Becky's email address. After you've tracked your first 10 points, WSO will keep track of all future points. When you earn a Bronze Award, you now also receive Signature Membership. This is an added reason to keep track of your points and turn them in!

*Becky Meier, Merit Awards Chairperson*

## Thank You Volunteers!

The WSO Convention “machine” is a mighty one, operated by a few and run by a multitude. And when the convention runs flawlessly, it is a sign that the many individuals are working together as one cohesive unit. It is impossible to thank each one of you in this space, however I’d specifically like to mention:

- Barbara Hutchings, Publicity
- Lynn Baumgardner, Email Communications and Flower Centerpieces
- Jennifer Ramerman, Juror Critique Coordinator
- Cathy Huntington, Artists’ Reception
- Del Moore, Ken and Kathy Cramer, Elizabeth Zimmerman, Audio Visual Team
- Kara Pilcher, Hospitality Coordinator
- Helen Brown and Liz Haberman, Inspiration Station
- The generous breakout session teachers who donated their time, effort, and knowledge for the betterment of our organization: René Eisenbart, Winnie Givot, Liz Walker, Kim Smith, Beth Verheyden, Molly Freitag, Jacqueline Newbold, Michelle Lindblom, and Chris Stubbs
- The Exhibition Receiving and Hanging Team: Rebecca Sentgeorge, Mary Holt, Linda Burgel, Winnie Givot, Hazel Reeves, Helen Brown, Suzy Carroll, and Kim Smith
- Those who donated items for the Business Meeting raffle prizes: Winnie Givot, Michelle Lane, Shana Laursen, Suzy Carroll, and American Easel
- Vera Dickerson, Juror, for her warmth, commitment to professionalism, and undying love of her craft
- And to the women who bolstered me with knowledge, courage, and power throughout the whole process, I will be forever grateful for your time, expertise, and encouragement:
  - Linda Burgel, Conventions Director
  - Winnie Givot, Past President
  - Mary Holt, Vice President
  - Nancy Fraser, Treasurer
  - Rebecca Sentgeorge, President
  - Barb Sulek, Convention Registrar

There were so many more who pitched in to help with tarps, table coverings, merchandise sales, registration, reception, raffle donations, and other needed tasks. Your help was vital and appreciated. The full list will appear in the Exhibition Catalog.

*Mary Jo Vranizan, 2023 Spring Convention Chair*



Registration, Merchandise and Video Library Table



Betty Drullinger and Barbara Hutchings with WSO 100 Club

# Watercolor in the Willamette Valley 2023 Fall Watercolor Convention, October 6 - 8



Welcome to the Willamette Valley and the Watercolor Society of Oregon's 2023 Fall Convention! We look forward to hosting artists and watercolor enthusiasts who will inspire you in your artistic endeavors. With the leaves changing color and the weather cooling

down, Salem is lovely and lively, with lots to do and see, great food and fun adventures. Our 2023 Fall Convention will again take place at the Salem Convention Center. The Grand Hotel is conveniently located next to the Convention Center. We will begin this exciting weekend with a Meet and Greet on Friday evening, getting to know new and old friends. On Saturday there

will be ten breakout sessions plus two juror critiques. In the evening we'll host an Exhibition Reception at Elsinore Framing and Fine Art Gallery, just two

blocks away, where you'll see the 80 accepted paintings. The gallery will be open Saturday from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm and on Sunday from noon to 4:00 pm. After the reception, we can enjoy a no-host Social Hour, followed by the Awards Banquet at the Salem Convention Center. After the Sunday morning

Business Meeting, our Juror Trish McKinney will give a lecture and demonstration. Her exciting workshop "Chasing Wonder" at the Willamette Heritage House will start Monday, October 9, and continue through Friday, October 13. Online convention registration opens Saturday, August 19, and will close Saturday, September 9. Additional information about registration will be included in the August Watermark.

Join us this Fall in the beautiful Willamette Valley; we can't wait to see you! For more information about the Salem area, visit [www.travelsalem.com](http://www.travelsalem.com)

Michelle Myers, 2023 Fall Convention Chair



Capitol Building



Trish McKinney, Juror

# Things to Do in the Salem Area

One of my favorite seasons in Salem is autumn! There are paths that lead through amazing vistas and river parks. Among them and close to the Grand Hotel and Convention Center are the Hallie Ford Museum of Art, the Riverfront Carousel and Bush's Pasture Park. Set amid a park with gardens, and the changing fall foliage, the domed Oregon State Capitol contains a collection of art by Oregon artists. Trish McKinney's workshop will be held at the Willamette Heritage Center, which holds a Victorian wool mill plus 19th century homes with period furnishings. Near the waterfront walkways you'll find the Peter Courtney Minto Island bicycle and pedestrian bridge. If you're into sketching or plein air painting, beautiful sights abound. The countryside surrounding Salem is loaded with vineyards. Some of the best wineries in the state offer wine tastings and wine pairings. October is the perfect time to enjoy Salem and the beautiful Willamette Valley!



Peter Courtney Bridge



Hallie Ford Museum of Art

Michelle Myers, 2023 Fall Convention Chair

## Fall Breakout Sessions

- Gary Snavelly ..... Bringing Order out of Chaos (using art to help students heal after the tsunami in Japan)
- Sara Bouwsma ..... Using Little Shapes
- Steve Ludeman ..... Historical Paintings Project
- Sandra Pearce ..... Atmospheres

**And more to come!**

## 2023 Fall Schedule of Convention Events and Juror Workshop

### October 6 (Friday)

- 1:00 – 4:00 pm Hospitality Team Welcomes Members and Guests
- 6:00 – 8:00 pm Meet and Greet

### October 7 (Saturday)

- 8:00 am – 4:00 pm Hospitality Table Open
- 9:00 am – 3:30 pm Breakout Sessions
- 9:00 am – 4:00 pm Vendor Exhibits
- 4:30 – 6:00 pm Artists' Reception, Elsinore Gallery
- 6:00 – 7:00 pm Pre-Banquet Social Hour
- 7:00 – 9:00 pm Awards Banquet

### October 8 (Sunday)

- 9:00 – 10:45 am Business Meeting
- 11:00 am – 1:00 pm Juror Demo

### October 9 – 13 (Monday - Friday)

- 9:00 am – 4:00 pm Juror Workshop with Trish McKinney at Willamette Heritage Center

# Prospectus

Online Entries Open: June 1, 2023, 8:00 am

Online Entries Close: August 1, 2023, 8:00 pm

## ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS AND RULES

### Artwork Requirements:

1. You must be an Active WSO member, residing in Oregon, with 2023 dues paid, to enter.
2. To renew your membership, go to: [www.watercolorsoforegon.com/membership/](http://www.watercolorsoforegon.com/membership/), click on "Renew Your Active Membership" and follow the prompts.
3. A maximum of two images may be submitted.
4. All selected paintings shall be by a different WSO member.
5. Work shall be completed within two years of the submission deadline.
6. Work may be critiqued by a teacher and/or a critique group.
7. All work must be original in its concept, composition, and design, and must be the creation of the artist. The definition of original: created directly and personally by a particular artist, not a copy or imitation.
8. The painting has not previously been juried into any WSO exhibition.
9. Work shall be executed without step-by-step instruction.
10. Artwork may not be altered once the image is submitted, except for adding the artist's signature, and artwork must match the submitted image exactly.
11. Single or double mats in white or off-white only are acceptable, but optional. No colored liners.
12. Frames must be matte black metal with a maximum depth of 2", with minimum outside dimensions of 256 square inches and maximum outside dimensions of 1200 square inches.
13. Paintings must be covered with Plexiglas (acrylic), not with glass.

### Mediums and Substrates:

1. The Fall Watercolor Exhibit is open to water media that can be reactivated by water.
2. Water media shall consist of paintings that are predominantly watercolor.
3. Work must be on a single piece of untreated paper; plastic paper such as Yupo and Tyvek are not allowed.
4. Acrylic, gesso, pastel, collage, ink, embossing, varnished works, and canvas supports are not accepted.

### Procedures:

1. All accepted paintings must be available and delivered to the convention exhibition.
2. Artists who do not make an accepted painting available for the exhibit will not be allowed to enter WSO exhibitions for two years.

### How to enter:

1. Go to [www.watercolorsoforegon.com](http://www.watercolorsoforegon.com); click Exhibitions. On the drop-down menu, select "Guide to Entering a WSO Show."
2. RESIZE your image to 1200 pixels on the longest side. The WSO website now has a resizing tool. Access at [watercolorsoforegon.com](http://watercolorsoforegon.com); click Exhibitions. On the drop-down menu, select "How to Resize Images."
3. RENAME your image as follows (example) SmithMary-GoneWithTheWind.jpg
4. Note: No special characters can be used in the file name when submitting the images.
5. Submit entries on the WSO website: [www.watercolorsoforegon.com](http://www.watercolorsoforegon.com); click Exhibitions. On the drop-down menu, select "Submit Artwork."



## *2023 Fall Exhibition Calendar*

June 1 (Thursday): Online Image Submissions open.

August 1 (Tuesday): Online Image Submissions close.

October 4 (Wednesday): Shipped paintings must arrive at Elsinore Gallery, 444 Ferry St. SE, Salem OR 97301.  
(Brent Allen: [elsinoregallery@outlook.com](mailto:elsinoregallery@outlook.com))

October 5 (Thursday), 10:00 am – 2:00 pm: PAINTING CHECK-IN: Hand-deliver paintings to Elsinore Gallery, 444 Ferry St. SE, Salem OR 97301. Hanging of art will commence at 2:00 pm until completed.

October 6 (Friday), 9:00 – 11:00 am: Judging of paintings at Elsinore Gallery.

October 6 - 8 (Friday – Sunday) 2023 Fall Convention Weekend.

October 7 (Saturday), 4:30 – 6:00 pm: Artists' Reception, Elsinore Gallery.

October 28 (Saturday), 10:00 am – 2:00 pm: PAINTING PICK UP for all paintings at the Elsinore Gallery.

*Michelle Myers, 2023 Fall Convention Chair*

2023 Fall Convention

*Juror Workshop: Chasing Wonder - Find Inspiration  
Combining Words with Watercolors with Trish McKinney  
Monday, October 9 - Friday, October 13, 2023*



Trish McKinney, Juror

In this five-day mixed media workshop, using watercolor, mark making and collage, Trish states that students will learn how to reinvent their paintings through the use of words and watercolor. By weaving words with watercolor, students will go beyond the traditional approach to watercolor, moving into something inspiring – something personal. Students will learn how to create strong compositions, strengthen design, use playful collage, paint acrylic transparently and use words as exciting textural backgrounds. Through it all, students will learn to recognize their muse, chasing wonder along the way.

*"Wonder is the beginning of wisdom" – Socrates*

All art forms, painting and creativity, begin with that moment of wonder. Recognizing these moments and combining them with words creates a deeper meaning that can inspire, heal, and make magic.

Trish McKinney is a national and international award-winning artist, instructor, graphic designer, published author and illustrator. Her unique mixed water media paintings are about being aware of a moment and sharing her wonder by telling the story. She especially loves the unpredictable surprise and spontaneous nature of watercolor and combining layers of meaning in her painting through words and unexpected shapes. In her words "Being aware of wonder – that moment when you pause for beauty, for sparkling, incandescent light – and the magical awareness of emotion... these are the things I savor and adore. I love weaving a story through the

use of color, words, shapes, lines and texture – inspiring the viewer to tell their own story." She loves to ask "what if" when she works in her studio because it leads her to a new discovery.

**About the Instructor**

Trish is a signature member of the Ohio Watercolor Society and has been a juror for many exhibitions. Her paintings have been juried into international and national exhibitions, including the National Watercolor Society, Pikes Peak International Watermedia Exhibition, Rocky Mountain National Watermedia Exhibition, Kentucky Watercolor Society, International Society of Experimental Artists and Ohio Watercolor Society. She has won awards in national exhibitions since 2011. Her work has been featured in *Confident Color* by Nita Leland, *Splash 12 – Celebrating Artistic Vision, The Artistic Touch 4*, a children's book *Do Trees Nap?* and *Art Journaling Magazine*. Trish has been teaching and traveling since 1991 in Italy, Greece, Croatia, Ephesus, France and (continued on page 35)



Reflections by Trish McKinney



*Morning Glory* by Trish McKinney



*Charleston Dreaming* by Trish McKinney

throughout the United States.

One of her favorite quotes: *"Instructions for living a life. Pay attention. Be astonished. Tell about it."* ~Mary Oliver

Links: [www.trishmckinney.com/moments](http://www.trishmckinney.com/moments)

<https://youtu.be/4IMt5wow-QQ>

<https://youtu.be/8xhnewZbVQM>

### Location

The workshop will be held at the Willamette Heritage Center, 1313 Mill St. SE, Salem, OR 97301, just a few blocks away from the Grand Hotel. We will have snacks, coffee, tea and water each day in our workshop room. There is a restaurant on site and many within walking distance. There is a refrigerator and microwave accessible, so you may also bring your lunch.

### Registration

The workshop fee is \$500 for the 5-day workshop. Online registration for the workshop opens on the WSO website for Active and Lifetime Members **May 14**. Registration for Subscriber Members and non-WSO members opens on **June 30**. There is an additional \$35 fee for non-WSO members. Link for registration:

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=nn4zanuab&oeidk=a07ejrmkwtly76978a9f>

### Workshop Cancellation Policy

Cancellations will be accepted prior to September 26 (14 full days prior to the beginning of the workshop). Cancellations made after September 26 will only be refunded if the workshop fills and a replacement is found. Exceptions may be made in the event of serious illness, accident or death in the family. All refunds, less a \$25 process fee, will be mailed after the workshop (see WSO Policy II.E.2 Workshops, a-d, in the WSO *Membership Roster & Handbook*).

Michelle Myers, 2023 Fall Convention Chair

## Lodging in Salem

### Grand Hotel

201 Liberty Street SE, Salem, OR 97301

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

WSO Convention Room Rate (Deluxe King) is \$179.00 plus applicable state and local taxes and fees. There is a \$20 charge for each extra person per night. Double queen room rates are \$189.00.

You may make your reservations directly by calling the hotel toll-free number 877-540-7800. Indicate your reservation is for the WSO Convention in October to get the special group rate.

The block of rooms will be held until September 5. Reservations made after that date will be accepted based on space and rate availability. Check in is 3:00 pm and Check out is 11:00 am.



Grand Hotel

### Other Lodging in Salem:

LaQuinta Inn & Suites  
890 Hawthorne Ave SE  
Salem, OR 97301  
503-391-7000

Phoenix Inn Suites Salem  
4370 Commercial St SE  
Salem, OR 97302  
503-588-9220

Best Western Plus Mill Creek Inn  
3125 Ryan Dr SE  
Salem, OR 97301  
503-585-3332

Hampton Inn & Suites  
510 Hawthorne Ave SE  
Salem, OR 97301  
503-362-1300

Residence Inn Salem  
640 Hawthorne Ave SE  
Salem, OR 97301  
503-585-6500

You may also check TripAdvisor: [www.tripadvisor.com](http://www.tripadvisor.com).

*Michelle Myers, 2023 Fall Convention Chair*

## Looking Ahead

Well, winter in Central Oregon continued much longer than anticipated! We have a glorious deep snowpack in the mountains, reservoirs filling and spring will come despite several snow squalls even during our workshop. Many were surprised to find it so cold every morning!

I anticipate our October convention and workshop in Salem organized by Michelle Meyers will be much warmer! Debi Loyd is working on breakout sessions while Jean Lea is working on the Fall Watercolor Exhibition opening at the Elsinore Gallery. I am sure our Juror Trish McKinney will inspire us to paint at new levels.

### Coming up:

#### Fall 2023:

Juror:

Convention:

Workshop:

Convention Chair:

**Salem**

**Trish McKinney**

<http://www.trishmckinney.com>

October 6 - 8

October 9 - 13

**Michelle Myers**

#### Spring 2024:

Juror:

Convention:

Workshop:

Convention Chair(s):

**LOCATION NEEDED**

**Keiko Tanabe**

<https://ktanabefineart.com>

April 5 - 7

April 8 - 12

**CHAIR(S) NEEDED**

#### Fall 2024:

Juror:

Convention:

Workshop:

Convention Chair(s):

**Salem**

**Iain Stewart**

<https://iainstew.fineartstudioonline.com>

October 4 - 6

October 7 - 11

**CHAIR(S) NEEDED**

#### Spring 2025:

Juror:

Convention:

Workshop:

Chairs:

**Grants Pass**

**Jean Pederson**

<https://www.jeanpederson.com>

April 4 - 6

April 7 - 11

**Katherine Abdun-Nur  
and Tracy Frederickson**

*Linda Burgel, Conventions Director*