



IWS Newsletter

www.illinoiswatercolorsociety.org

Showtime



Happy New Year! Preparations for the IWS 31st National Exhibition have begun. The dates will be very similar to last year's exhibit (once again in Dixon). Deadline for entries will be March 9. Show dates are May 1 – 31. The prize money will be over \$6000. All cash! Sandra Shaffer, WHS, TWSA will serve as selection and awards judge. The prospectus is available for download online now at www.illinoiswatercolorsociety.org.

Members' Show

The Members' Show will take place much later this year and will be returning to the Mayslake Peabody Estate in Oak Brook. Due to renovations going on at the Estate this summer we are going to have to have the show next winter. The show dates are

January 11 – February 26, 2016. We have had several shows there in the past with a great turnout.

Board Members Needed

We are now in the process of asking members directly if they would like to be more involved with running the programs of IWS. Some folks have already expressed their desire to do so which has been great. We are organizing a meeting that will take place before the national show to discuss expanding the role of the membership and to add to positions to the board. These positions include treasurer, director of membership, newsletter editor, meeting chair and show chairs. If you are interested in helping with these positions please let me know.

We have programs set in place that will run through 2016. At that point both Carole Hennessy and I will have served as IWS Directors for nine years. We need to begin the process of handing over the reins to someone else. The IWS has come a long way over the past several years and must continue but as a group effort. We will always be part of IWS but must now cut back our responsibilities and continue to bring in new blood and help kick off new (and maybe even bring back some old) programs!

Tony

www.facebook.com/groups/illinoisWC/
Membership Dues Schedule

The IWS Membership term is from May 1 thru April 30 of the following year. Dues are payable from February thru April and will cover the following year. Membership deadline (the postmarking of letters) is April 30.

IWS Previous Artist Demonstrations @ Blick Art in Wheaton

In September, David Becker presented a demo for IWS members and the public.



In November, Dan Danielson presented his demo.



Blick Art Materials

*79 Danada Square East
Wheaton, IL 60187
(630) 653-0569*

2015 Meeting Schedule

March 28: Dale Popovich
June 6: Peter Jablokow
August 1: Donna Jill Witty
October 10: Carole Burval

IWS Mailing Address

**Illinois Watercolor Society
P.O. Box 1003
Des Plaines IL 60018-9998**

In Memorium

Longtime IWS member Claire Wiest passed away in January of 2014. An award will be presented in her honor at the 2015 IWS National Show.



Longtime IWS member Gladys Becker passed away October 7, 2014. An award will be presented in her honor at the 2015 IWS National Show.



IWS 31st National Exhibition 2015

Judge of Selection and Awards
Sandra Schaffer, WHS, TWSA



Dining in Denver by Sandra Schaffer



Window Refraction by Sandra Schaffer

To be held at
The Next Picture Show
A Fine Arts Center
113 W. First St.
Dixon, Illinois 61021
815.285.4924
May 1 - 31, 2015

March 9 - Postmark deadline for entries
March 24 - Notification of acceptance sent

Over \$6000 in cash awards including:

Best of Show ... \$1,500
Award of Excellence I ... 700
Award of Excellence II ... 600
Award of Excellence III ... 500
Outstanding Figurative ... 300
Outstanding Landscape ... 300

Prospectus now available online at www.illinoiswatercolorsociety.org

IWS Members in the News

Milena Hughes has five works on paper in an exhibition at Imprenta Municipal Artes del Libro, Madrid, Spain, which continues through April, 2015. Her work encompasses early images and advancements she has made incorporating the technique of Japanese suminagashi to create fine art images. She has experimented with aqueous monoprint variances since 1983 and it was in that early time frame when she joined the first group of members of the IWS who held their meetings at the Glenview Public Library, winning an award of excellence in an exhibition held at the Palette & Chisel in Chicago. She returned to the IWS as an associate member several years ago.

Tony Armendariz, IWS will be presenting new works in a solo show at the Addison Center for the Arts March 4 - 28, 2015. The artists' reception will be Friday, March 13. The exhibit will include Tony's new thematic group of work based on imagery of and around Old Yankee Stadium in New York. Hot dogs will be served!

Tony also teaches watercolor at the Rivellino Art School in Long Grove and meets with a group at St. Luke Church in Downers Grove on Tuesday mornings.



Carolyn Owen Sommer is currently showing as a featured artist at Prairie Art Alliance in Springfield, and will have a one-woman show at Prairie House Gallery in February. Both venues are in Springfield, IL. She also will teach at Prairie Art Alliance, and Lincoln Land Community College.

Ann Pember, AWS, IWS has been selected to appear in the 2015 edition of Marquis Who's Who of American Women. Ann will also have paintings showing in the upcoming American Watercolor Society 148th International Exhibition and the Fallbrook Art Center Signature American Watermedia National in California. This past October, Ann won the Gold Award; Best of Show at the Montana Watercolor Society 32nd Annual National at the Bigfork Art & Cultural Center in Montana.

April Rimpo, PWS had her painting "Student Brushes" accepted into the Pennsylvania Watercolor Society's 35th Annual International Exhibition, now being held at the State Museum of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania through February 8, 2015.

Debbie A. Wilson reports exhibits and sales at: Illinois State Museum: Southern Illinois Art and Artisan Exhibition: Playful Notions: Experiments in Mixed Media, June 14-August 23 2014, Shrode Art Center, Mitchell Museum, Mt. Vernon, IL February, 2014. Holiday Open House: I 57/64 Artists, November 15-16. Instructor for Crossroads Health for Women, Crossroads Hospital, Mt. Vernon, IL: Watercolor Instruction, Mitchell Museum Presentation Gallery, Mitchell Museum, Mt. Vernon, 2014. Judge, Scholastic Art Awards, Mitchell Museum, Mt. Vernon, IL, Dec. 2014.

Nancy Wedow, IWS was recently juried into the Northwest Cultural Council's Corporate Artist Program. Quarterly solo shows are exhibited throughout corporate galleries in the Northwest Suburbs. Currently her watercolors are on exhibit at the Fremont Library in Mundelein until April 10.

IWS Members in the News

Elisha Dasenbrock has signed with a new gallery, The Bowery, in Apalachicola Florida. Elisha is currently doing the 30 paintings in 30 days challenge. There are over 1400 artists in the challenge.

April Galamin has exhibited two paintings in The Kalo Foundation of Park Ridge & the Park Ridge Art League Continuing the Tradition 2- Art Exhibit @ The Iannelli Studios Heritage Center- Sept. 2014. April also displayed several watercolor paintings, drawings, graphic art and fabric design at The Park Ridge Public Library, Park Ridge, IL- October 2014. Art Display-Midwestern Watercolors by April Galamin.

Pat Mrocza received a first place ribbon from the Downers Grove Artists' League show at the Woodridge Library in November 2014, for "Shades of Grey".

Rochelle Weiner reports that she has won honorable mention in Watercolor Artist Magazine's "Watercolor Media" competition, to be published in April 2015 and has been accepted into membership at the ARC Gallery, Chicago. Rochelle's artwork also has been used on the television program sets of Chicago Fire, Chicago PD, Mindgames, Sense8 and Sirens.

Fred Bushnell won First Place in the Ft. Myers Beach Art Association Member's Fall Show. Over ninety watermedia and oil paintings made for the best Fall Members' Show ever. The title of Bushnell's piece is "West of Cody" - a landscape in watercolor. The FMBA is composed of 230 members with an association membership of 235 artists for 2D work only.

Carmelo Schifano has started up winter sessions at galleries this week with full enrollment. Carmelo also continues to provide art activities for St. Dorothy School one day a week south east side of Chicago. He's also been doing some charity work, devoting time with a gallery in Tinley Park, completely dedicated to helping physical and mental challenged people. He became a "buddy" with an individual. She completed 7 paintings over time. They had a special showing for her in November and sold all seven. Carmelo is very proud of her. Her handicap was to use one arm.

Dale Popovich, IWS won a 3RD place at Indiana Heritage Arts – 36TH Annual Exhibition & Sale. This is primarily an oil painting show. 71 artist made it in the show (123 in total) and only 6 were watercolors. Dale had 3 of his watercolors excepted into the show. Dale currently teaches watercolor at Mainstreet Art Centre in Lake Zurich and at the Elmhurst Art Museum. Dale is also teaching a watercolor class at the Palette & Chisel and co-teaches Fundamentals of Drawing & Painting with Robert Krajecki.



Carole Hennessy, IWS with her painting *Puzzling*, at the Opening Reception for the 94th Annual NWS Exhibition in San Pedro, California. November 8, 2014.

IWS Members in the News



Katherine Weber had two watercolor paintings on terraskin selected for the 40th Annual International Miniature Art Show at the Leepa Rattner Museum of Art in Tarpon Springs, Florida taking place January 18-February 15, 2015. Katherine also won second place in the Artist's Magazine completion and will be featured in the Jan/Feb 2015 edition.

Suzanne Hetzel, TWSA, IWS is offering the following learning opportunities: Ongoing classes - DuPage Art League: Wednesdays, March thru May, 1p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Wheaton, IL Ongoing classes - United Methodist Church, LaGrange: Thursdays, March thru May, 9:30 a.m. to noon Demonstration - Lakes Region Watercolor Guild: 50 Commerce Drive, Grayslake, Thursday, March 12, 9:30 to noon Workshop - Addison Art Guild: ATHS art room, Saturday, March 14, 9:30 to 3:30

Suzanne also received the following recognition from **American Art Awards**, chosen by 25 US galleries on art from around the world: 2nd Place in Fashion category - "Restraint", 2nd Place in Floral category - "Flags", 3rd Place in Abstract category - "Musical Chairs", 4th Place in Landscape - "Avignon".

Dan Danielson has a new class at the DuPage Art League and reports that the next DuPage Art League six week session for the watercolor class starts Feb 23rd. Class meets Mondays from 1 - 3:30pm. Beginners and intermediates are welcome. Class includes demos, individual guidance, support, and critiques.



Denise Athanas, AWS, NWS, IWS at the opening of the 94th Annual NWS Exhibition, with her painting Moonlight Nocturne IL. She received the Loa Ruth Sprung Award (Non-Objective Subjects). November 8, 2014.

George M. Schoonover, IWS has won several awards recently. *Keystone National/Honorable Mention; North East Watercolor/award for transparent watercolor; Missouri Watercolor Society/Winston Churchill award for watercolor; Pennsylvania Watercolor Society/award for watercolor; Illinois Watercolor Society/Winsor Newton award for Artistic Excellence.*

Cassandra Swierenga, IWS participated in the Elmhurst Artist's Guild and Garden Club Fall Members Show along with the EAG Winter show in early January. She was also accepted and showed work at the following juried shows: Small Works Show, White Ripple Gallery in Hammond IN, Flow Art Space LLC's show *Invented Worlds* in St Paul, MN, and for the 6th year in a row, at the venue, Women's City Club, the international show Artprize in Grand Rapids, MI. Cassandra is also currently participating in the show "*Creation Care: Water*" Exhibit at the Bridge Gallery in Littleton Colorado which runs January 30 through May 18, 2015.