



Hot Press News

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PO Box 984, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

www.delawarewatercolorsociety

The Start of a New Year

Delaware Watercolor Society members enjoyed a zoom presentation by artist, Kim Johnson Nechtman, AWS on January 12. This free, two-hour demonstration was offered to all members who renewed by December 31, 2021. We are happy to announce thirty-one members attended and painted along with Nechtman as she painted the “portrait” of a cat. The demonstration was well received, and we hope to invite Nechtman to teach a workshop in the near future.



Exhibitions

It's such a joy to see the creativity of our members and we hope you will consider submitting entries to each of our upcoming exhibition. Enter the following dates in your calendars and start painting NOW!

Nassau Valley Vineyards – May 2 through May 31. The Prospectus will be available shortly and published to the members. Please be aware that the “absolute” deadline for digital entry is April 1, 2022. Juror Kathleen Conover has many commitments, and therefore, we will be unable to extend the entry deadline as we have done in the past.

Lewes Library – August 1 through August 31.

The Biggs Museum of American Art – October 5 through December 5.

Awards will be presented as follows:

- First place \$300
- Second place \$200
- Third Place \$100
- Three Merit awards of \$50

DWS Signature Artist Jury Process April 2022

Have you ever considered becoming a DWS Signature Artist? Attaining signature artist status indicates a high level of artistic achievement supported by a strong knowledge of design and composition and usage of watermedia. Review the following criteria and see if you meet the qualifying requirements.

- Has your work been accepted in three juried shows within the past five years?
- Does your work show a strong knowledge of composition, design, and use of color?
- Does your work show originality?

- Does your work indicate a knowledgeable use of watermedia?
- Is your work of consistent high quality?

The directions, further information and application are available on our website.

Submit images, documents and applications to Isabel Pizzolato, Signature Jury Coordinator. Inquiries may be directed to Isabel at izpizz@comcast.net, or 302-519-6934, or 302-684-1457.

Workshops

“Painting Contemporary Portraits”

with

Christine Heyse, AWS, NWS, BWS, DWS

March 7 and March 9, 2022

10:00 am -3:00 pm with a one-hour lunch break

\$90 DWS members

\$100 non-members



Learn how to choose the best photos for portraits, how to draw the head and facial features from any angle, how to identify shadow shapes on the face and body, and how to paint them convincingly using a simple color palette. Challenge yourself and register for this exciting event.

This workshop will be held via Zoom on Monday and Wednesday. Tuesday will be left

free for you to practice your new skills and develop any questions you would like to address to Chris Heyse on Wednesday. A supply list will be provided upon registration.

Contact Wendy Leddy, Workshop Director, through email at Box29562@gmail.com for questions and applications.

Member News

It is with great sadness we report the passing of long-time DWS member and professional artist, Doris Davis-Glackin, NWS, TWSA.

Davis-Glackin maintained active membership in the Howard Pyle Studio Group in Wilmington, the Philadelphia Watercolor Society, the Kentucky Watercolor Society, the Baltimore Watercolor Society and the Chester County Art Association.

Her captivating and vibrant florals were always a highlight at exhibitions. Her presence and warm smile will be missed.

Donations may be made, in her name, to The Howard Pyle Studio Group, 1305 N. Franklin St., Wilmington, DE 19806 or to the Chester County Art Association, 100 N. Bradford Ave., West Chester, PA 19382.

Annie Strack won Best of Show in the Miami Watercolor Society 48th National Juried Show and Merit Award in the Arizona Watercolor Society Annual Juried Members Show. Her paintings were also juried into Western Federation of Watercolor Societies' 47th Annual Exhibit, Western Colorado Watercolor Society 32nd National Exhibit, Fallbrook's 13th National Watercolor Signature Exhibit, Northeast Watercolor Society Annual Juried Members Exhibit, and Mid Southern Watercolor Society 52nd National Exhibit. She earned Signature Status in MSW. She is featured in the December/January issue of Southwest Art magazine as a top awards finalist in their annual Artistic Excellence Competition.

Anne Crown-Cyr had two paintings – “*Waiting at City Market*” and “*Loving the Lavender*” – accepted into the Rhode Island Watercolor Society’s online open juried show Vision ’22.

Artist Lorraine Bromley worked diligently to jury the 220 entries down to 95 for this show. The show will be posted online at riws.org and Facebook page Saturday, February 26th. The Virtual opening is scheduled for Friday, March 4, at 7 p.m. via Zoom.

Visit the show page on the RIWS website (riws.org) for more information and for the link to the meeting. Award winners will be announced during the virtual opening.



“*Loving the Lavender*”
Anne Crown-Cyr



“*Waiting at City Market*”
Anne Crown-Cyr

Bring Your Work to the Next Level with Thumbnail Sketches

“Thumbnails are hard”. That said and out of the way, let’s consider the positive aspects of thumbnails. By investing time and thought you will be well on your way to creating stronger and more memorable compositions.

Thumbnails can help you map out the direction of your painting, focus on the bit of inspiration that drew you to your subject, help avoid pitfalls, and act as a guide through the painting process. This can be painstaking as you come face to face with some hard to answer questions, but well worth the effort.

- Is this just a good photo or might it work as a painting?
- Is this a strong composition or am I just attracted to the colors?
- Should I move or emphasize any elements to improve the composition?
- What might I eliminate? What distracts from the statement I wish to make?
- What format works best, horizontal or vertical, square or rectangular?
- Is there a wow factor or is it just a pretty picture? Is there really anything here?
- Are there strong shapes and values?

When drawing your thumbnails-

- Keep them small so you are not tempted to add in details. No larger than three inches on the longest side.
- Consider the major shapes and limit the number to five to eight shapes. Think of darks and lights as shapes.
- Simplify the sketch to three to five values. This will clarify focal areas and help to decide which details to eliminate. Also, by abstracting and simplifying shapes the compositional strengths and weaknesses will become more apparent. (Much better than noticing them when you are through with your painting!)
- Consider why you are drawing this subject and what attracted you to it.

Focus on this area when sketching your thumbnails.

The final thumbnail becomes the map for the painting process. All the major decisions have been made and the fun of painting can begin.

“I love doing my thumbnails. They capture the kernel of inspiration that steers me through the whole painting process, and they keep me inspired and focused when I inevitably start to lose my way.”

- Jeanne Rosier Smith

“Drawing is not what one sees but what one can make others see.”

- Edgar Degas

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Please send member news, marketplace items or article suggestions to Isabel Pizzolato, Communications Director at izpizz@comcast.net.