

SWA

Splash!

December 2024

NEWSLETTER



SOCIETY OF WATERCOLOR ARTISTS

Fort Worth, Texas



From the President...

Dear Friends,

I trust that you had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday, perhaps with good friends and loving family. Maybe even painting some.

This is my last "Letter from the President" in the newsletter as my term ends in December. It has been a great honor and a treasured experience to serve as President of this wonderful Society. I learned a lot from, and I laughed a lot with the members of the Board, volunteers of various events, as well as many of you. Therefore, I must express my deepest appreciation to the Board members, Laura Hannah (Exhibition), Skeeter Murley (President-Elect, Membership, Communication), Shirley Nichols (Education), Vicki Rowley (Secretary), and Janet Southern (Treasurer). Their dedication, experience, knowledge, diligence, intelligence, and friendship made our work together such a joy. I am also deeply thankful to the many regular volunteers, Marilyn Ivy (Demo Chair), Veronica Ritchey (Photo Historian & Signature Membership), Christopher Stewart (Newsletter Editor), Ann Winchester (Critique Leader), and ad hoc volunteers to the different events who always show up with enthusiasm and a smiling face.

You are the heroes! Without you all, the Society will not survive.

As a tradition, during the November meeting, we have elected the Directors of the Board for 2025. I am very happy to announce that they are:

- **President / President Elect** – Skeeter Murley
- **Communication & Membership** – Skeeter Murley & Iok-Hou Pang
- **Education** – Open
- **Exhibition** – Janet Southern
- **Secretary** – Evette Oister
- **Treasurer** – Christopher Stewart



I have no doubt that they will do a magnificent job and continue to make the Society an amazing home for all of us.

The 2024 SWA Members' Exhibition & Small Works Exhibition is hung on Dec 7. Many of you have sent in your beautiful opuses. The exhibition will be at The REC at Grapevine (1175 Municipal Way, Grapevine, TX). Exhibition Dates are Dec 7-21, 2024. Reception and Award Ceremony will be held at 2-4 pm, Dec 21, at the REC. Please bring your friends and families to see the Show. I look forward to seeing you and enjoying discussions with you.

In addition, we are having our annual Winter Holiday Party. Please come and have fun.

- **What:** Dinner Party & Gift Exchange
- **When:** 6 pm, December 13, 2024 (Friday)
- **Where:** El Fenix (6391 Camp Bowie, Fort Worth)
- **Who:** Members & Significant Other

Just a reminder: Our next Monthly Meeting is on the fourth Monday of January (Jan 27), not the usual 3rd Monday, since the 3rd Monday of January is MLK Day and the school is closed. The Demo Artist of this meeting will be Melinda Morrison. She is a nationally well-known artist and sought-after art teacher, skilled in many different media. I am quite sure the demo will be informative and highly beneficial to all.

I wish you and your family a blessed, restful, and delightful Winter Holiday! Happy painting!

Kind regards, **Iok-Hou** (Yoko) Email: ipang@sbcglobal.net



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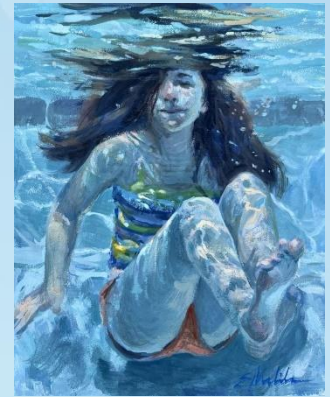
Follow Us!

www.swawatercolor.com

Next Meeting... Guest Demo Artist **Melinda Morrison**

**Monday, January 27th
7:00pm
UNT Health Science Center**

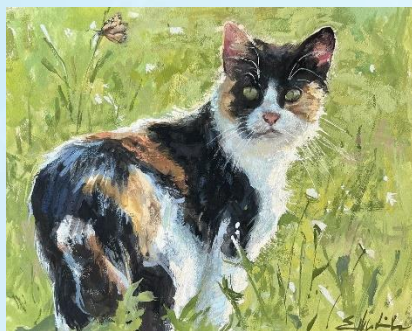
Artwork critiques begin at 6:30
Bring a piece of your artwork, and
Ann Winchester will critique your
work. It's a great way to get free
advice from a pro!



**Our meetings
are held at the**

UNT Health Science Center

3500 Camp Bowie Blvd. Fort Worth, Tx.



There is plenty of room to spread out to
encourage social distancing.
We want everyone to have fun and feel
safe at the same time.

As a young woman, Melinda's B.A. in fine arts from the University of Texas at Tyler took a backseat to the corporate world for many years: advertising exec; graphic designer and art director of her own company; and later corporate and executive recruiter. Not surprisingly, in advertising, she was recognized in national competitions for her print design and annual reports. Shortly after her move to Denver in 1994, the satisfied extrovert began to hear from the starving artist. She says she "felt like her soul was drying up". An oil-painting class at the Art Students' League of Denver rained water on that desert ground.

Over the next five years, Melinda studied painting at the League under the guidance of master painters like, Quang Ho, Kim English, Kevin Weckbach, and Ron Hicks. As her passion and skill grew, so did her dream to paint full-time. She made the leap in 2003 and brought years of corporate skills into the new and intricate dance of a full-time professional art career.

As a sought-out teacher, she teaches and offers professional studies courses as well as offering workshop instruction from other nationally known artists. Moving to Fort Worth, Texas in 2015, Melinda continued to paint and teach. It was in Fort Worth that Melinda met internationally award-winning Julio Reyes and Candice Bohannon who changed her understanding of painting. They introduced her to egg tempera. Since that time, she has focused her energies towards mastering egg tempera and now works in both oils, egg tempera and gouache.

Coming In February...

February Demo Artist – Sarah Janece

February 17th, 2025

SOCIETY OF WATERCOLOR ARTISTS

2024 Membership & Small Works EXHIBITIONS



The 2024 SWA Membership & Small Works Exhibitions are now hanging in The REC of Grapevine!

The show runs through December 21st. There are almost 50 pieces of amazing artwork in the Membership show, and over 25 pieces in the Small Works show.

We really hope you'll take the time to visit the facility to see this fabulous exhibition!



The REC of Grapevine
1175 Municipal Way, Grapevine, Texas

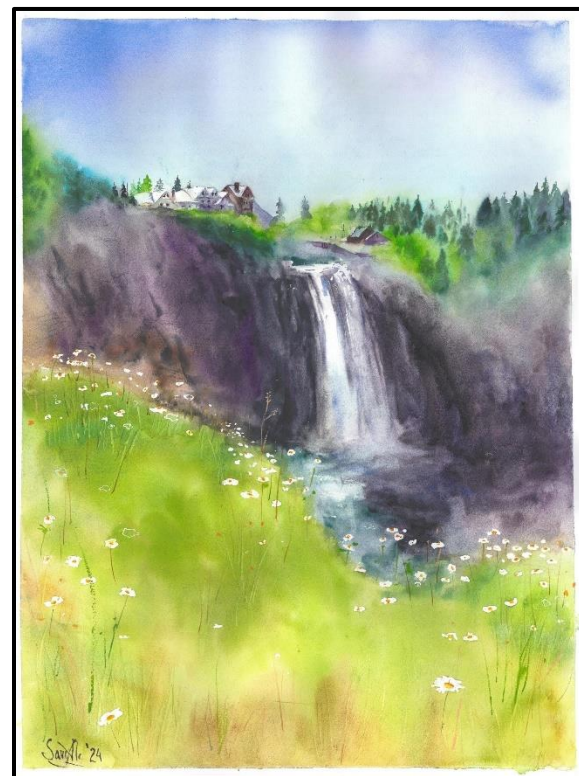


Artists Reception & Awards Ceremony

Saturday, December 21st
2:00 to 4:00 PM



Kathy Cunning's painting "El Dorado" won 2nd place in the Dutch Art Gallery Fresh off the Easel Show in Dallas.

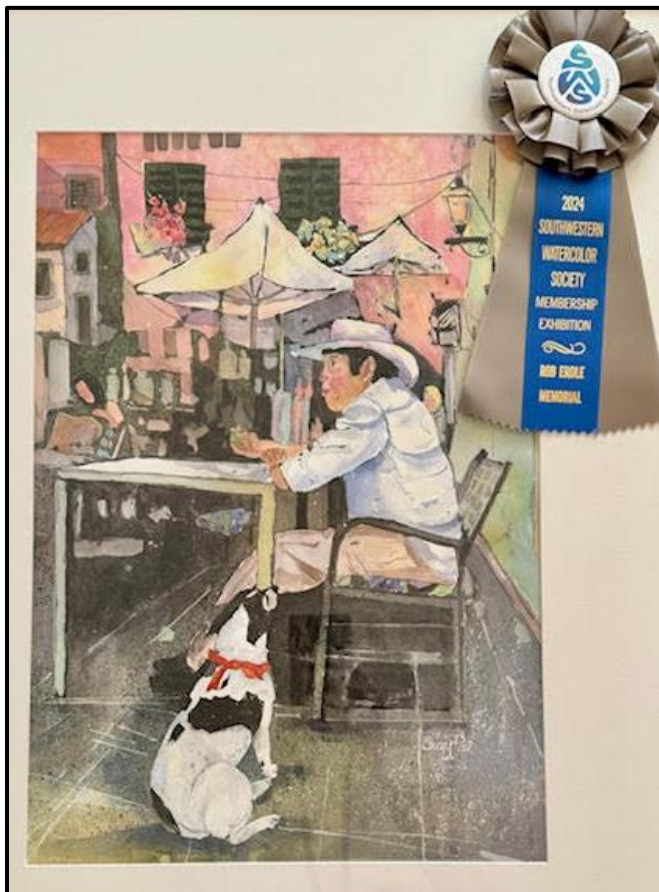


Alexandra Savelieva's painting (above) "A Misty Waterfall Serenade" was accepted into the 10th Silk Road International Arts Festival in Xi'an, China. And her painting "An Autumn Poem" (left) has advanced to the second round of the 2024 Autumn Malaysia International Online Art Competition.



Annie Strack won 7th place Award in the Georgia Watercolor Society 45th Juried Member Exhibit and Merit Award in Arizona Watercolor Society Juried Member Exhibition. Her paintings were also juried into Kentucky Watercolor Society 47th National Exhibit, Western Federation Watercolor Society 50th Exhibit, Northwest Watercolor Society 84th International Exhibit, and she earned Signature Status in NWS, WFWS, and CWS. She juried the Unionville Fair Art Exhibit.

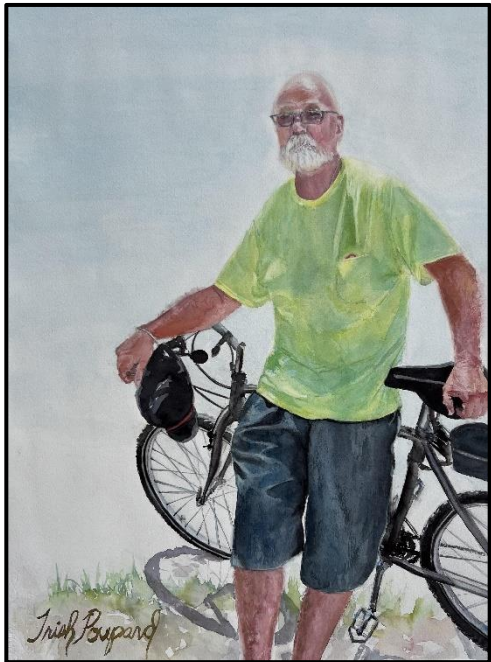
Suzy Powell's painting "Man's Best Friend" (below) won an award in the SWS Member's Exhibition. Her painting "8 seconds" (right) was accepted into a West Texas Watercolor Society exhibition.



Darla Bostick's painting "Floating Lotus 1" (right) is one of three pieces she is showing in the 8th Annual Gift of Art Exhibition at the Grand Performance Hall in Lewisville, Tx.



Janine Helton's painting "Under the Noonday Sun" is one of the 10 winners in this year's Artist Network Annual Over 60 Competition. She will receive a write up in the May/June edition of Artists Magazine.



Trish Poupard's painting "Badass Biker" (above) was juried into the Arizona Aqueous XXXIX. Juror – Barbara Borgwardt
And her painting "Taos" (right) received 1st Place in watercolor at the RCAS 59th Annual Show. Juror – Deanna Thibault



Linda Hidalgo had paintings exhibited at the Hudson Oaks City Hall during the month of November.

SWA MEMBER NEWS

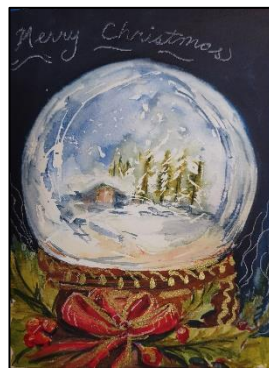


Marilyn Ivy has five works in the Reflections exhibit at the House of Neville Gallery in Fort Worth. She will have four more pieces in the Stroke of Genius exhibit beginning in January.

“Robert Frost’s Summer Home” (right)
“Self Portrait in Kimono with Ivan” (below)



Below are some of the cards created by SWA Members in our **HOLIDAY CARD EXCHANGE**



Happy
Holidays!



WELCOME!

To Our Newest Members

We like to welcome new members to our watercolor society, along with returning members from years past.

Kathleen Jackson – Arlington, Texas

2025 SWA Membership



**It's Time to Renew
Your SWA Membership!**



SWA Memberships run from January thru December of each year.

We start taking memberships in October of each year for the following year.



**20
25**

By renewing your SWA membership, it allows us to fund many of the programs we provide each year.

It helps us book demo artists for the each of the monthly membership meetings and allows us to reserve the meeting room at the UNT Health Science Center in Fort Worth.

Thos fees also allow us to maintain our website, not to mention multiple smaller expenditures that arise throughout the year. Remember, we are a non-profit organization, so we do our best to keep fees low and spend any funds wisely.

Click [HERE](#) to be taken to the membership page on our website.

SOCIETY OF WATERCOLOR ARTISTS

2025 SWA Calendar

January 27 – Melinda Morrison

February 17 – Sarah Janece

March 17 – Jim Gensheer

April 21 – Michael Holter (Juror for International Exhibition)

April 22, 23 & 24 – Michael Holter Workshop

May 19 – Joshua West

June, July & August – No Meetings, Summer Break

September 16 – Tim Saternow (Juror for Membership Exhibition)

September 17, 18 & 19 – Tim Saternow Workshop

October 18, 19 & 20 – Robert Kraszweski

November 21 – Ron Crouch



Holiday Party

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13th at 6:00 PM



El Fenix Restaurant
6391 Camp Bowie Blvd.
Fort Worth, Tx.

White Elephant Gift Exchange

Bring a wrapped gift, related to watercolor art
for a fun gift exchange!
Spouses & Partners welcome.

SWA INFORMATION STATION

2024

SWA memberships runs on a calendar year January through December

You may join SWA anytime during the year. Our official membership campaign begins in October as our regular year runs with the calendar: January through December. Those who join mid-year do not receive a discounted membership fee, but they are eligible for the membership juried show in the fall, which is for current members only. We will not be meeting during the summer months and will resume in September.

We like new members...invite your friends!



SWA Membership includes these benefits:

- ✚ Fellowship with like-minded creative folks
- ✚ Free monthly SWA newsletter
- ✚ Entry discount for any SWA show
- ✚ Annual Juried Membership Exhibition
- ✚ Annual Juried International Exhibition
- ✚ Painting of the Month Contest
- ✚ Links to Members' Websites
- ✚ While maintaining active SWA membership, earn SWA Signature Membership after selection to 5 SWA juried exhibitions (without disqualification)
- ✚ Advance notification & entry into Workshops
- ✚ Fun Competitions!
- ✚ Watercolor Holiday Greeting Cards
- ✚ December Holiday Party and Gift Exchange

Our Monthly meetings are held at the UNT Health Science Center building in Fort Worth. After you turn from Camp Bowie to Clinton St turn left into a sloping parking lot beyond the vacant kiosk. We are on the bottom floor of the building to the right corner. Watch for a sign on the parking lot with directions to our room (or check the map on the website)

6:30pm Artwork Critique (bring in 1 or 2 works for some friendly advice) Ann Winchester – Artwork Critique Artist

7:00pm Member meeting begins after a few brief business notices .

2024 Committees & Volunteer Opportunities

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Shirley Nichols

Painting of the Month/Year: **AVAILABLE**

Monthly Critique: Ann Winchester

Programs: Marilyn Ivy

Social Chairman (Refreshments/Receptions): **AVAILABLE**

Workshop Chair: Shirley Nichols

House & Properties: Shirley Nichols

EXHIBITION COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Laura Hannah

Hanging Volunteers: **AVAILABLE**

SWA Signatures: Veronica Ritchey

Prize Sponsors: Laura Hannah

MEETING VOLUNTEERS (Not a committee)

Hospitality: **AVAILABLE**

PUBLICITY & COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Skeeter Murley

Newsletter Editor: Christopher Stewart

Photography: Veronica Ritchey

Print Editor for Catalogs: Skeeter Murley

Publicity: **AVAILABLE**

Website Manager: Skeeter Murley

Facebook, Instagram & X (Twitter): Skeeter Murley

FINANCE AND MARKETING COMMITTEE

CHAIR and Director of Finance & Budget: Janet Southern

Professional Standards (yearly audit): **AVAILABLE**

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

CHAIR and Director of Membership: Skeeter Murley

Greeters: **AVAILABLE**

Editor of Online Membership Directory: Skeeter Murley