



SOCIETY OF WATERCOLOR ARTISTS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
THE SOCIETY OF WATERCOLOR ARTISTS

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

January
2026



HAPPY
New Year



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Artist – Bev Boren

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**Renew your
SWA Membership
for 2026
by clicking the
link below.**

[CLICK HERE](#)



Facebook



Instagram



X (Twitter)

KEEP IN TOUCH!

WWW.SWAWATERCOLOR.COM

President's Message



A new year brings a new season for our watercolor society, and I believe this is going to be truly special year for us! This year we are proudly celebrating our 45th Anniversary! Back in 1981, twenty-five artists who shared a deep love for watercolor came together to form this group. Our first meetings were held in a bank on University Drive in Fort Worth, and we officially received our non-profit status in 1983. Thanks to the dedication and vision of those founding members, their efforts have endured for 45 years. It is my hope that our society will continue to grow, thrive and prosper for many more years to come.

Our membership grew last year by more people than it has in over 15 years, and we want that momentum to continue into 2026! Our goal is to make watercolor art more visible within the art community and more appreciated by the general public. That's where you come in. By being a member of our watercolor society and actively participating in discussions, meetings and exhibitions, you help us spread the word about this incredible and inspiring medium.

We have an exciting lineup of demo artists for 2026, and hope that you'll be able to attend as many meetings at the UNT Health Science Center in Fort Worth as possible. We are also already in the planning stages for the 2026 International Juried Exhibition. Our juror this year is Ken Call of Northbrook, Illinois. Ken was the Best of Show winner in the 2025 exhibition and will be conducting a three-day workshop for us this coming May. Registration for the workshop will open to SWA members first, giving you the opportunity to sign up before it's made available to the general public. We'll be sending out information on this exciting workshop very soon.

I also want to thank everyone who participated for our Painting of the Year contest. This was the first time we opened voting to members everywhere, and the overwhelming response truly surprised me. I sincerely hope many of you bring a painting to one of the upcoming meetings. It's always inspiring to see the wide range of beautiful works, and the monthly winners receive a \$25 gift card to Jerry's Artarma in Arlington.

Finally, I want express my heartfelt thanks to all those who volunteer their time to keep our organization running. We say it often, and it bears repeating: we simply could not function without you.

Here's wishing you all a wonderful 2026 - and plenty of time to paint!

Skeeter Murley

Email: swawatercolorpresident@gmail.com

SOCIETY OF WATERCOLOR ARTISTS

MEETING INFORMATION

Monday, January 27th, 2026
Meetings begin at 7:00pm

UNT Health Science Center
3500 Camp Bowie Blvd.
Fort Worth, Texas
Parking Lot #6
Click [HERE](#) to see map

6:30 to 7:00pm - Artwork
Critique's w/ Ann Winchester
*Bring a piece of your artwork to
get tips from a teaching
professional.*

7:00-7:15pm - General
meeting with announcements
and introductions of
newcomers

7:15pm - Introduction of guest
artist and demonstration
begins

8:00pm - Break for
refreshments, prize drawings
and view & vote on Painting of
the Month

8:15pm - Guest artist
continues demo

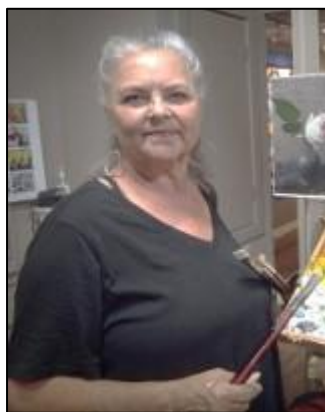
8:45pm - Painting of the
Month winners are announced

**DONATIONS OF SNACKS,
SOFT DRINKS, FRUIT
TRAYS ARE WELCOMED.**

CLICK BELOW TO VISIT

[Bev Boren](#)
[Website](#)

Next Meeting... Monday, January 26th 7:00pm

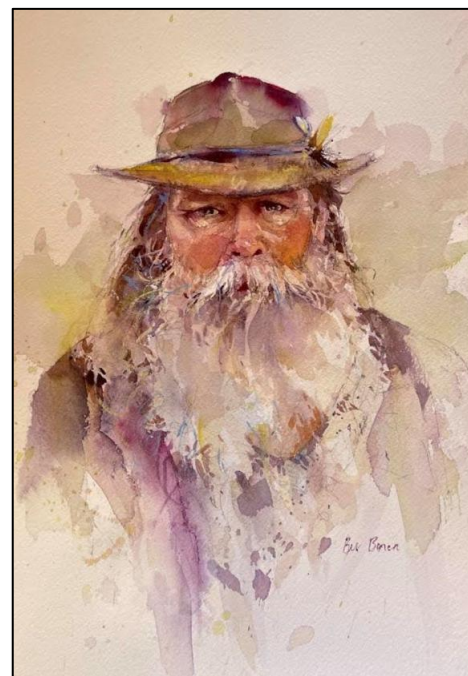


Demo Artist **Bev Boren**

Bev Boren was born and raised in Texas and now resides in Trophy Club, Texas with her husband Ben. She is a signature member of the Outdoor Painters Society and the Southwestern Watercolor Society. She is also a member of the Oil Painters of America, American Impressionist Society, and American Watercolor Society. Her work is primarily the result of her need to paint. Inspiration can come at any time and in any place. She is not confined to one subject area. She loves to

paint a variety of subject matter as well as working in various mediums. Bev's paintings are created with things that capture her eye whether it's a still life, landscape, or capturing a person's personality. Painting is her way of connecting with the world and the people around her and sharing those experiences along the way. 3500 Camp Bowie Blvd. Fort Worth, Tx. Bev Boren Website In her words "Trying to describe or explain my efforts at painting or drawing seems like a futile effort. After all, I want my work to express itself without the necessity of words. My best hope is that my work will stand simply on its own and find a connection with viewers where words fail". Her work is primarily the result of her need to paint. Inspiration can come at any time and in any place. She is not confined to one subject area. She loves to paint a variety of subject matter as well as working in various mediums. Bev's paintings are created with things that capture her eye whether it's a still life, landscape, or capturing a person's personality. Painting is her way of connecting with the world and the people around her and sharing those experiences along the way.

In her words "Trying to describe or explain my efforts at painting or drawing seems like a futile effort. After all, I want my work to express itself without the necessity of words. My best hope is that my work will stand simply on its own and find a connection with viewers where words fail".





2026 *International Juried Exhibition*

May 6th – 30th, 2026

Entry Deadline, April 27th



2025 Best of Show Award

Ken Call

Northbrook, Illinois

Charlotte in Waiting

***Ken Call of Northbrook, Illinois will be the juror of the
2026 SWA International Juried Exhibition!***

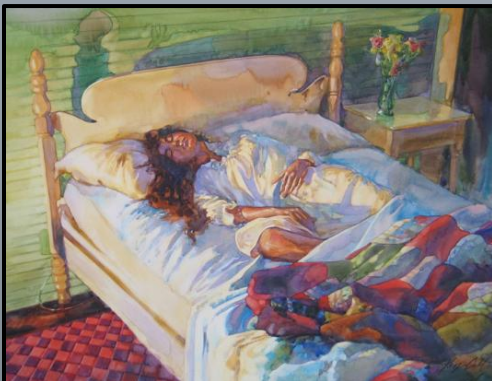
Ken Call will serve as our juror and also be conducting a 3-day watercolor workshop.
If you don't know Ken's award-winning work, we encourage you to visit his website.

[Ken Call Website](#)

Ken is best known for his amazing portraits but paints a wide range of subjects.
His unique style has won him numerous awards, including at our International Exhibition last year.

Entries are being accepted through the CaFE (Call for Entry) website.

More information on Ken's workshop will be released very soon.



HOUSE OF
Neville
GALLERY & GATHERINGS

2409 Neville Street
Fort Worth, Texas



MEMBER NEWS

PROUDLY SHARING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SWA MEMBERS

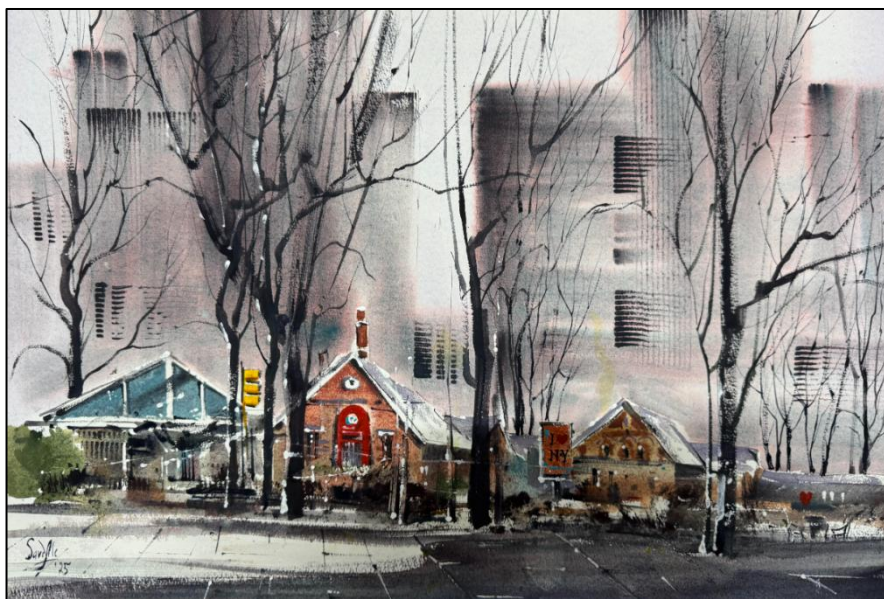
Annie Strack's painting *Into Darkness* (right) was juried into the 49th Southern Watercolor Society Exhibition, earning her Signature Status.

Juror: Iain Stewart

Congratulations



Alexandra Savelieva's painting *Jade Pavillion* (above left) received the creativity award from TOPFIVE – International Online Juried Art Contest & Virtual Exhibition.

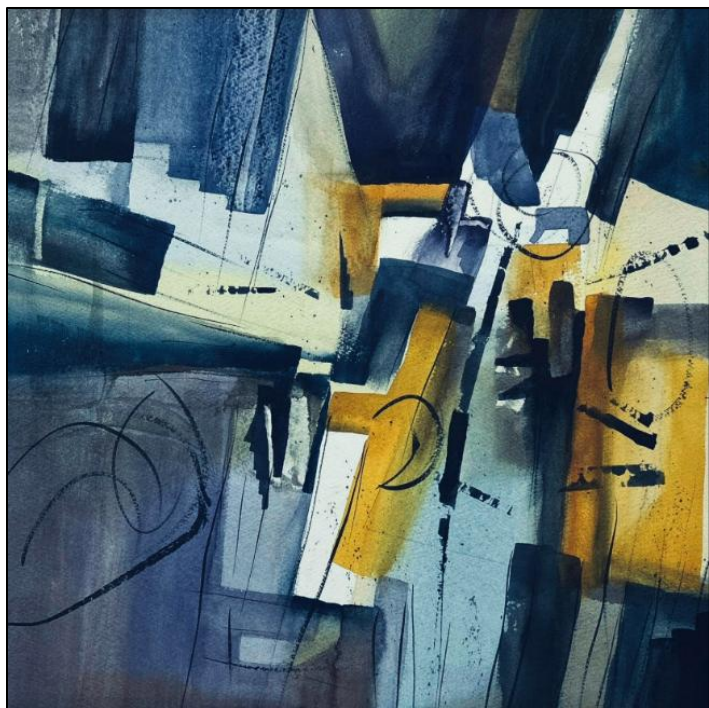


And her painting "*I ❤️ NYC*" (above right) has received Top-70 award in "2025 (Autumn) Malaysia International Online Juried Art Competition out of total of 1398 paintings in "Landscape" category from 63 countries and regions around the world.



MEMBER NEWS

PROUDLY SHARING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SWA MEMBERS

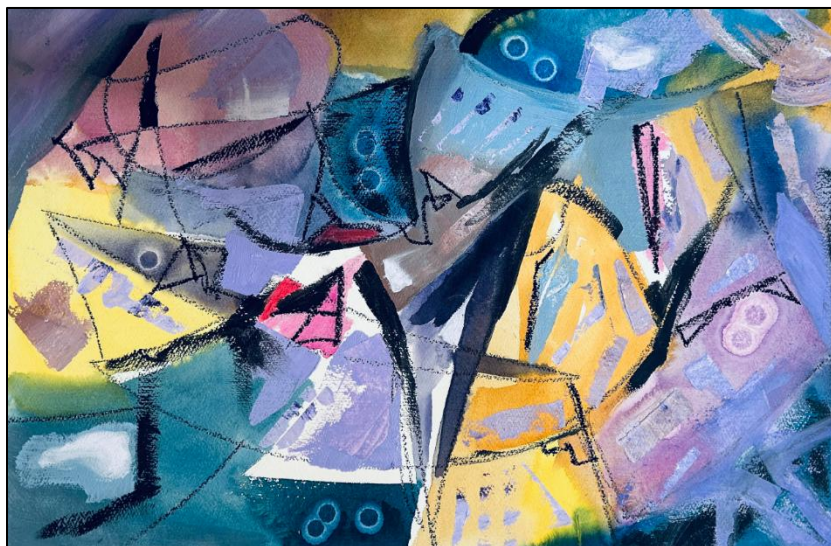


Gary Johnson's abstract painting *Ponder On It* (left) recently won third place in the West Texas Watercolor Society's Signature show in Lubbock, Texas.

Juror: Kathleen Conover

And his painting *Fragmented* (below) was juried into the Mid Southern Watercolorists 56th Annual Juried Exhibition in Little Rock, Arkansas

Juror: Nan Rumpf



Trish Poupard's painting *Brown Eyed Girl* (left) was selected for the California Watercolor Association's 56th International Exhibition
Juror: Pat Moseuk





MEMBER NEWS

PROUDLY SHARING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SWA MEMBERS

Darla Bostick's painting *Wired* (right) will be in the Visual Art League of Lewisville's Absolutley Abstract Exhibition.
Juror: Shawn Saumell



FOR SALE



Package of 7 sheets of new Crescent Conservation Solid Matt Board, Acid Free / Lignin-Free
32 x 40, Museum / Gallery Quality
Color – 6 Antique White, 1 Black
Price \$35 for all seven sheets
If interested, please contact Debbie at DLgdowning@gmail.com



WE WANT TO SHARE YOUR NEWS!

Send us an e-mail to let us know if your paintings have recently been accepted into or won awards in any shows. Make sure to let us know the name of the exhibition, and the who the juror is. And don't forget to include a quality image of your work!

SEND INFORMATION TO US AT:

WATERCOLORCOMMUNICATIONS@GMAIL.COM

Society of Watercolor Artists

We are saddened to share the news of two former SWA members who recently passed away.



Bob Cook

SWA Signature Member and Granbury resident, artist **Robert Warren (Bob) Cook** passed into the hands of our Lord on December 14, 2025, at his home in Granbury, Texas. Bob was born in Kansas City, Missouri on December 24, 1942. Bob graduated from Shawnee Mission High School, attended Baker University and the Kansas City Art Institute, going straight to the Architectural Illustration Business for 45 years. He moved to Florida to work as an architectural artist for Disney on the Disney World Complex creating dozens of works, exhibits, and cruise ships. Once Bob retired, he began painting full time, entering art shows nationwide. His prestigious wins included first place at the Los Angeles Audubon Society National Show, Florida and Louisiana Watercolor Societies, and more. Bob won Tarleton State Rio Brazos Art Exhibit four years consecutively, and the Southwestern Watercolor Society, Florida Watercolor Society, Louisiana Watercolor Society, and The Stars of Texas "Best of Show" awards. His art has been featured on the covers of magazines and in newspapers as the winning artist or featured artist for years. He is survived by his wife Carol of 35 years, his son Steven

W. Cook and wife Holly, his brother Charles (Chuck) and wife Kim and their children, Christopher, Taylor, and Ashley. Stepdaughters Stephanie Adame and husband Adam, Deanna Stirling, step-granddaughters, Ana Maccioli, Misha Johnson, Amy Jacobsen, and Sonya Adame. He was preceded in death by his parents and daughter Kelly Cook Anderson.

A Memorial celebration is scheduled on Saturday, January 10th from 2 to 5pm at Generations Church in Granbury, Texas

SWA Signature Member Dr. **Diana (Newby) Weaver Littlejohn** went to be with her Lord on Wednesday November 26th in the evening with her daughter, Michelle & grandson Lane present holding her hand by her side. Dr. Diana was born in Sheffield, England on March 6th, 1943.

Diana lived in many different countries including Jakarta, Indonesia to name a few. Settling down in the United States where she moved permanently to DeCordova Bend Estates back in the 1970's where she was a member of DCBE Ladies Golf Association for many years. Winning 1st place golf tournaments over numerous different years when she had time to play.

As a believer in lifelong learning, Diana began her formal art educational training at the University of Arlington, receiving a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art Education, a Master's in Art Therapy. She then went further to receive another Masters from Tarleton State University & a Doctorate from Nova Southeastern University in Educational Administration & Leadership. She was a member of many Deans, Honors. and sororities throughout her continuing education.

Diana retired from Joshua ISD, where she ended being Principal of Joshua Primary to begin as an Assistant Principal of Joshua High School. Also, Glen Rose ISD & teaching seven years for Fort Worth ISD Polytechnic HS as an art and history teacher. Amongst these years she also was a member twenty years plus on the Lake Granbury Art Association. She painted with several world-famous artists like Pat Dews, Betty Carr, Doug Walton and many others. Winning many contests for her inspiring creative art pieces & work. Her art ability was adverse in every art media Diana decided at that moment to work with from watercolor, pastels, acrylic & many more. She is survived by her son, Kevin Weaver & wife Carley, including three grandchildren - Kaylee, Ella, & Jacob Weaver. Her daughter & full-time caregiver, Michelle Weaver-Simpson & husband Stephen including five grandchildren.



Diana Littlejohn

WELCOME!

To Our Newest Members

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

Carol Rowley – Denton, Texas



*Painting
of the
Month*

Sponsored By
JERRY'S ARTARAMA
Arlington / Fort Worth

At each SWA monthly meeting, members are encouraged to bring in a completed painting. During the meeting, members may vote for their favorite paintings. We have two separate divisions, one for members that have attained Signature Members status, and those that are still working toward that.

Votes will be counted, and winners will receive gift certificates to Jerry's Artarama in Arlington, Tx.

All entries must be 2026 members of SWA.

Paintings must be water media. (Watercolor, acrylic gouache)

Once an artist has won 1st place, they will become eligible for the SWA Painting of the Year.

Artists can only win 1st place once, and they then become ineligible until the following year.

2025 Painting of the Year

"White Kimono"

Bill Dale

Arlington, Texas





2026 SWA Membership Renewal

It's Time to Renew your SWA Membership for 2026!

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

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

The 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 and are run by non-paid volunteers, so we do our best to keep fees as low as possible and spend funds wisely.

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

Membership Options

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

Join or renew for \$40. Add family members for \$5 each

SENIOR MEMBERSHIP

Over age 65 for \$30. Add family members for \$5 each

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

One-time fee of \$400 per individual

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

Student Memberships cost \$25 per year

Art Opportunities!



International Urbino Watercolor Festival 2026

April 30 – May 5, 2026

Entry Deadline – February 1st

Theme: SAPPHIRES OF THE INSTANT

UrbinoInAcquerello invites artists worldwide to participate in the International Collective Exhibition 2026 in Urbino, Italy.

- ✓ No physical artwork required
- ✓ Participation via digital submission
- ✓ Selected works will be published in the unique edition of the official Festival Catalogue
- ✦ Submission is free of charge
- 1 square artwork photo (300 dpi)
- 1 personal photo (300 dpi)
- 📅 Submission deadline: 1 February 2026
- 📧 Notification of selection: 15 February 2026
- 📅 Festival dates: 30 April – 3 May 2026

For More Information, visit their website

[INTERNATIONAL Festival Urbino In Watercolor 2026 -
Welcome to urbino.in/acquerello!](https://urbino.in/acquerello)

Art Show Listings

SWA encourages our members to enter art exhibitions around the state and country. It's fun to see our members being accepted into all these shows, and winning awards.

We try to update our website with art shows we think you might be interested in, but we can't keep up with all of them. If you have information on upcoming deadlines. Please send us an e-mail. We'll keep our website updated as best we can with this information.

Visit our website to see the current listings of upcoming exhibitions.

[SWA Exhibition Listings](#)



**DON'T FORGET TO VISIT OUR WORLD-CLASS ART MUSEUMS
IN FORT WORTH, TEXAS**



SWA Fundraiser Opportunities



Have You
Signed Up?

Community
Rewards

Kroger offers us the opportunity to raise funds for our watercolor society. They make quarterly donations to SWA based on the shopping you do every day in their stores.

Go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com. Then simply follow the directions on how to link your Kroger card to our organization. We are listed as Society of Watercolor Artists Inc.

Your transactions moving forward using the Shopper's Card number associated with your digital account will be applied to SWA, at no added cost to you. **Every dollar we raise helps!**

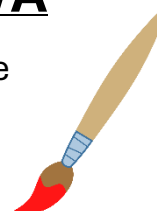


DONATE DIRECTLY TO SWA



Click the link below to be taken to a page to donate to SWA through PayPal.

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)



You can also donate by writing a check payable to Society of Watercolor Artists and sending it to:

SWA

P.O. Box 471571

Fort Worth, Texas 76147

We want to thank you in advance for considering a donation to the Society of Watercolor Artists.

SWA will be able to use your donations to support our operational needs.

Those needs include funding for meeting & gallery space, equipment, outreach and awards.

SWA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, and donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

SWA Painting of the Month Competition



ARLINGTON
FORT WORTH

Don't forget to bring a painting to the October meeting to enter the 2025 Painting of the Month contest.

Paintings that win 1st Place in the monthly contests throughout the year become eligible for the year ending Painting of the Year contest!

Next Meeting

Monday, January 26th at 7:00pm



SWA

P.O. Box 471571
Fort Worth, Texas
76147

www.swawatercolor.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Skeeter Murley

SECRETARY

Evette Oister

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Christopher Stewart

EDUCATION/WORKSHOP

Laura Rugg

COMMUNICATIONS

Skeeter Murley

MEMBERSHIP

Iok-Hou Pang

Exhibition Chair

Janet Southern

2026

2026 CALENDAR

Our meetings are held at the UNT Health Science Center
3500 Camp Bowie Blvd. in Fort Worth, Tx.

January 26 – Bev Boren - Demo Artist

February 16 – Jennifer Gillen - Demo Artist

March 16 – Ron Crouch - Demo Artist

April 0 – Monica Austin - Demo Artist

May 18 – Ken Call - Demo Artist

May 19, 20 & 21 – Ken Call Workshop

June, July & August – No Meetings, Summer Break

September 21 – TBD - Demo Artist

September 22, 23 & 24 – TBD Workshop

October 19 – Brenda Driggers - Demo Artist

November 16 – Cheryle Chapline - Demo Artist

Masks are not required to attend the meetings.
There is a lot of space inside the room for social distancing.
We really do want everyone to have fun & feel safe.

**Your SWA Board Members continues to
hold regular monthly meetings via Zoom .**

If you have any questions or suggestions,
please send them to Skeeter Murley at
swawatercolorpresident@gmail.com



If you have any news you would like
to share in future e-mails, please feel
free to send it our way. We've set
up an e-mail address for you to send
all of your newsletter info to.

swa.membernews@gmail.com

SWA INFORMATION STATION



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
- ✚ Invitation to Plein-Air events
- ✚ Links to Members' Websites
- ✚ While maintaining active SWA membership, earn SWA Signature Status 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 short business discussions & announcements.

2026 Committees & Volunteer Opportunities

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Laura Rugg (*Additional Volunteer Needed*)
Painting of the Month/Year: Vicki Rowley
Monthly Critique: Ann Winchester
Programs: Marilyn Ivy
Social Chairman (Refreshments/Receptions): Linda Hidalgo
Workshop Chair: Laura Rugg
House & Properties: **AVAILABLE**

EXHIBITION COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Janet Southern
SWA Signatures: Veronica Ritchey
Prize Sponsors: Skeeter Murley

PUBLICITY & COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Skeeter Murley
Newsletter Editor: Skeeter Murley
Photography: Veronica Ritchey
Print Editor for Catalogs: Skeeter Murley
Publicity: **AVAILABLE**
Website & Social Media Manager: Skeeter Murley

FINANCE AND MARKETING COMMITTEE

CHAIR and Director of Finance & Budget: Christopher Stewart
Professional Standards (yearly audit):

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

CHAIR and Director of Membership: Lok-Hou Pang
Greeters: Linda Hidalgo
Editor of Online Membership Directory: Skeeter Murley