



SOCIETY OF WATERCOLOR ARTISTS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
THE SOCIETY OF WATERCOLOR ARTISTS

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

February
2026



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

[**CLICK HERE**](#)



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Instagram



X (Twitter)

KEEP IN TOUCH!

WWW.SWAWATERCOLOR.COM

President's Message



Well, I hope everyone has recovered from the cold spell that hit this area and a large portion of the country a few weeks ago. I know I was house bound for several days when there was ice & sleet covering the roads. But that actually turned out being a good thing for me, as it got me back into the studio to paint. I will admit that I don't paint near as often as I should, so I'm actually thankful for that unplanned opportunity!

Unfortunately, our meeting last month had to be cancelled due to the weather conditions, so we'll reschedule our planned demo artist, Bev Boren, to join us again in the future. We've also had to make a change to our demo artist in February. Jennifer Gillen won't be able to join us, so Ann Winchester has graciously stepped forward. Ann has been teaching watercolor in this area for many years, and she will be joining us on the evening of the 16th.

Also, I have a few notes I want to share with everyone. Our upcoming **watercolor workshop with Ken Call** is filling up very fast. I think we only have around 5 open spots remaining. If you've considered signing up, don't put it off. Once it fills up, we'll create a waiting list. Ken is a talented, award-winning artist, and this will be a really fun workshop to attend.

We are accepting entries into our **2026 International Juried Exhibition**. We already have entries from multiple states, and even international entries. This is our largest event of the year, so get your paintings ready. The deadline for entry is March 27th. It'll be here before you know it! All entries are being accepted through CaFE (Call for Entry).

And for those of you in the DFW area, don't forget you can bring a completed painting to our next meeting to enter the Painting of the Month contest. The winners receive gift certificates to Jerry's Artarama and are eligible for the **Painting of the Year** vote in November. Don't forget, it's open to current SWA members, so make sure you've renewed your membership for 2026.

And lastly, I want to thank our longtime member Veronica Ritchey for all of her years of volunteering to maintain our list of Signature Members. She's kept up with everyone that has been accepted into our shows over the years and knows who has met the qualifications to obtain their signature status. Veronica has relinquished that role, and I want to make sure she knows how much we appreciate her managing this for us for so long.

Here's to a good February. Spring is on the way. Keep painting!

Skeeter Murley

Email: swawatercolorpresident@gmail.com

SOCIETY OF WATERCOLOR ARTISTS

MEETING INFORMATION

Monday, February 16th, 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

[Ann Winchester Website](#)

Next Meeting... Monday, February 16th 7:00pm

Demo Artist

Ann Winchester



Ann Winchester is a commission portrait artist and innovative art coach.

Her list of ribbon-winning works includes Best of Show for the Society of Watercolor Artist's International Exhibition and two Best of Shows for the SWA's juried membership competitions.

Best known for her portraits, Ann has an innate ability to capture skin tones and the vibrancy of her subjects. She also paints animals, landscapes and still life.

Her inquisitive mind is constantly seeking out innovative ways to express her art and to teach others how to tap into their own artistic abilities. She loves to learn and generously shares what she learns with her art students in both classes in Arlington and Cleburne. Call or text Ann at 817-308-1889 for class information.

Her classes include beginning and advanced watercolor and portraiture. "For me the classes offer a mutually beneficial relationship—while my students are learning from me, I am constantly learning from them, pushing myself to be a better artist and mentor," Ann says.

Ann divides her time between portraiture and teaching and is available by special arrangements for art seminars and workshops. She is a Signature Member of the Fort Worth Society of Watercolor Artists and a member of the FW15.





2026 International Juried Exhibition

May 6th – 30th, 2026

Entry Deadline, March 27th

ENTRIES NOW BEING ACCEPTED!



Juror: Ken Call

AWS / NWS



2025 Best of Show Award

Ken Call

Northbrook, Illinois

Charlotte in Waiting

ALL ENTRIES ARE ACCEPTED THROUGH THE
CaFE (Call for Entry) WEBSITE



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](#)



2409 Neville Street
Fort Worth, Texas

Ken Call



watercolor workshop

"The Enlightened Brush"

May 19, 20 & 21, 2026

9am to 4pm



WWW.SWAWATERCOLOR.COM

SOCIETY OF WATERCOLOR ARTISTS

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

**JUST A FEW OPEN
SPACES REMAIN!**

**ALMOST
FULL!**

SWA Members - \$325
Non-Members - \$375

Direct questions to
swaworkshop@gmail.com



SWA Member

Artist Spotlight



Sondra Carr

Chico, Texas



Grandpa's Place

I began painting seriously nine years ago while searching for something that would bring a deeper sense of purpose to my life. My connection to art, however, reaches much further back. One of my earliest memories is from kindergarten, where I confidently critiqued a classmate's drawing—and was promptly sent to stand in the corner.

A few years later, at ages nine and ten, my mother enrolled me in both portrait and watercolor classes, quietly planting the seeds for what would eventually become one of the most rewarding pursuits of my life. Though largely self-taught, with guidance from classes along the way, I have developed a deep love for portraiture. There is nothing quite like watching a face come to life on paper. My work is primarily realistic, while intentionally leaving certain areas loose and open to the viewer's imagination. I'm especially drawn to capturing people as they are—unposed, present, and simply being human.

I live in Chico, Texas, and my work is currently represented at Cool Creek Gallery in Bridgeport, Texas, where I have completed numerous commissioned landscapes and portraits. Creating art that holds meaning for others—and witnessing the emotional responses of clients to pieces made especially for them—is one of the most fulfilling aspects of my life as an artist.

The three paintings included below are examples of my portrait work and reflect my approach to realism and capturing people as they are.



Resting in the Blue



Be My Valentine

SOCIETY OF WATERCOLOR ARTISTS
MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

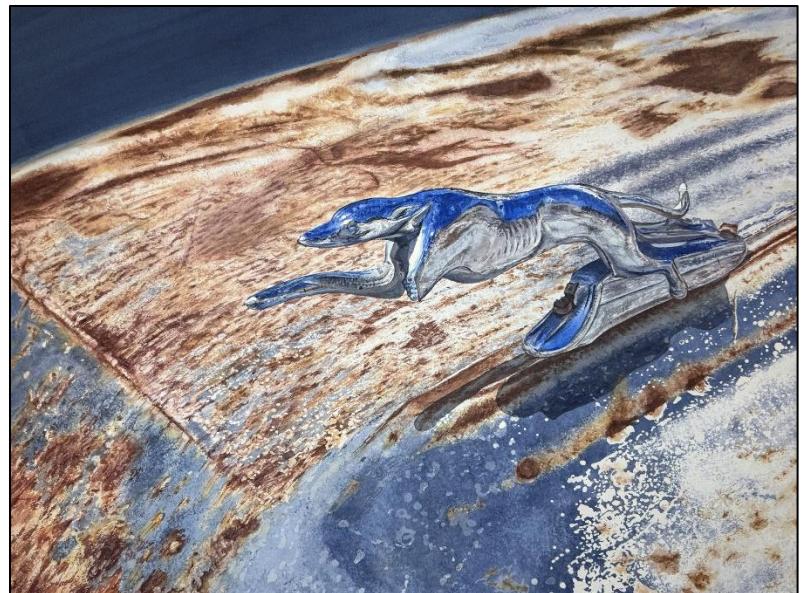


MEMBER NEWS

Proudly sharing accomplishments of SWA members



Rick Anderson's painting *Highway 61 Blues* (left) was selected to be included in the Fabriano in Acquarello 2026 Exhibition in Fabriano, Italy.



Lisa Tennant's painting *Empty Nester* (above left) has been juried into the 159th Annual International Exhibition of the American Watercolor Society.

Juror of Awards: Elaine Daily-Birnbaum, William G. Hook, Ken Goldman

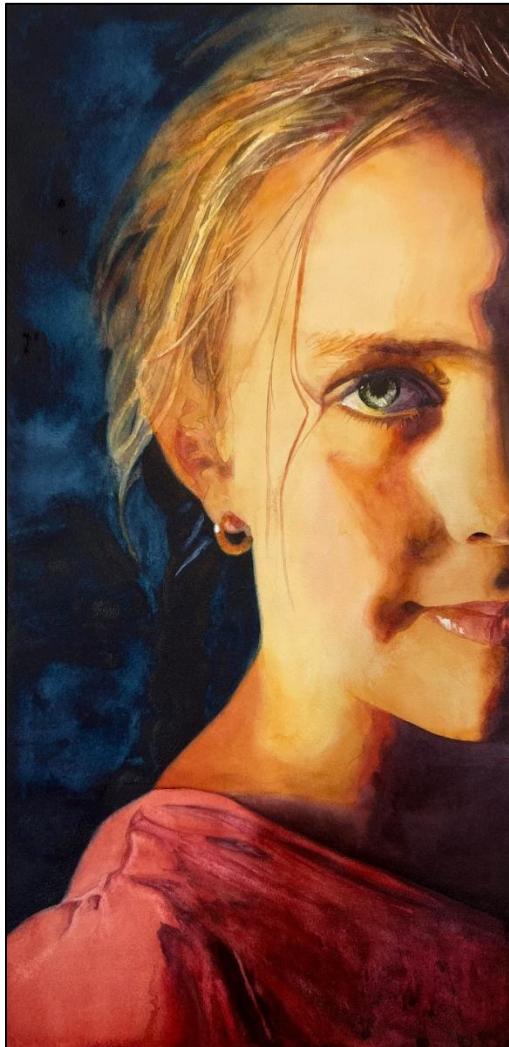
And her painting *Leap* (above right) has been juried into the Watercolor Art Society – Houston 49th International Exhibition.

Juror: Don Andrews



MEMBER NEWS

PROUDLY SHARING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF SWA MEMBERS



Monica Austin's painting *Gold Strike* (left) has been accepted into the Watercolor Art Society – Houston 49th International Exhibition.
Juror: Don Andrews



Gary Johnson's painting *Ponder On It* (above right) received the Third-Place award at the West Texas Watercolor Society's 2025 Signature Show in Lubbock.

Juror: Kathleen Conover
And his painting *Fractured* (left) was juried into the Mid-Southern Watercolorists 56th Annual Juried Exhibition.
Juror: Nan Rumpf





MEMBER NEWS

Proudly sharing accomplishments of SWA members

Shahrzad Afshinpour's painting *Beyond* (right) has been accepted into the Watercolor Art Society – Houston 49th International Exhibition.
Juror: Don Andrews



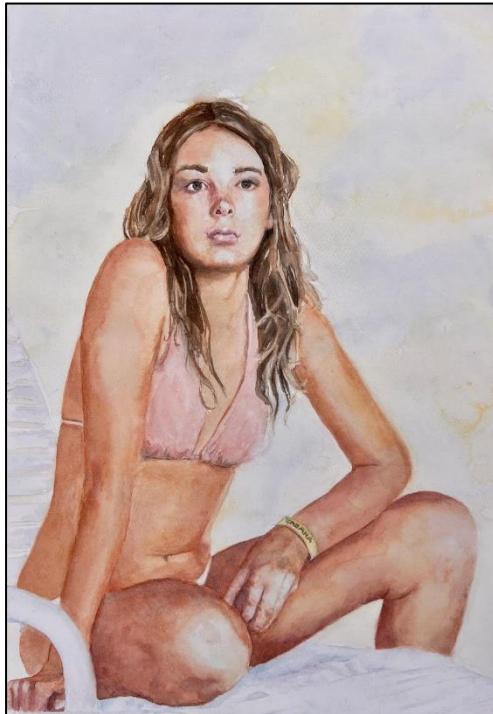
Darla Bostick's painting *Bubble Jumping* (left) has been accepted into Richardson Civic Art Society's Positively Giddy Spring Membership Show.
Juror: Kay Byfield
Darla also has paintings showing in Lewisville 's Absolutely Abstract Exhibition, Coppell Art Centers "Winter Show".
And Darla will be doing a watercolor demo at the Weatherford Art Association meeting on February 23rd.



MEMBER NEWS

Proudly sharing accomplishments of SWA members

Suzy Powell will have a Sketchbook Workshop this summer in Cloudcroft, New Mexico, July 20-24. They will be sketching using ink, watercolor & gouache. More information is on her website at www.suzypal.com



Trish Poupart's painting *Cabana Queen* (left) has been selected to be included in the Fabriano in Acquarello 2026 Exhibition in Fabriano, Italy.

Trish also had her painting *Brown Eyed Girl* win a merchandise award at the California Watercolor Association's 56th International Watermedia Exhibition.

Juror: Donfeng Li

And her painting *Essence of Speed* is in the Watercolor Art Society – Houston 49th International Exhibition.

Juror: Don Andrews

SWA Members **Colleen Erickson, Kathy Cunning & Linda Hidalgo** and friends will have paintings in the Women of Worth exhibit at the House of NeVille Gallery from March 11 – 28th.



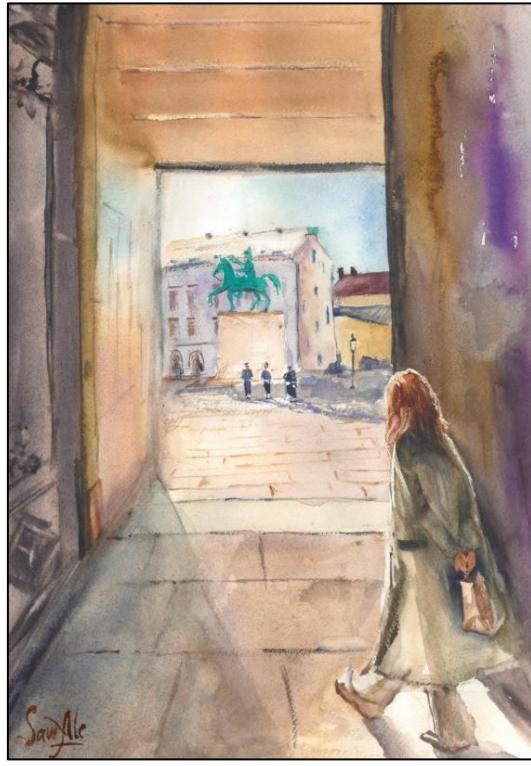


MEMBER NEWS

Proudly sharing accomplishments of SWA members



Christine Alfery's painting *She is A Creative* (above left) was accepted into the Abstract National Exhibition at Mark Arts in Wichita, Kansas. And her painting *Different Journeys* (above right) was accepted into the Watercolor Society of Alabama 2026 National Online Showcase.



Alexandra Savelieva's painting *A Traveling Woman* (far left) is featured as a finalist in the annual Let's Rock Art Festival. And her painting *The Emerald Waterfall* has been accepted into the International Watercolour Festival – Calgary 2026.

WELCOME!

To Our Newest Members

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

Barbara Doberenz – Granbury, Texas

Ruth Grannemann – Mansfield, Texas

Debbie Keaton – Cleburne, Texas

Lisa Koets – Robinson, Texas

Shelby Lloyd – Cleburne, Texas

**Fabriano in
Acquarello
in Watercolor
2026**

Congratulations to the following SWA members that have been selected to have paintings accepted into the 2026 Fabriano in Watercolor Exhibition in Fabriano, Italy!

Larisa Anaya – Dallas, TX

Rick Anderson – Clinton, MS

Bill Dale – Arlington, TX

Krystyna Dale – Arlington, TX

Ann Hightower-Patterson – Leesville, SC

Robert Krazewski – North Richland Hills, TX

Laurin McCracken – Fort Worth, TX

Trish Poupart – Celina, TX

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!**

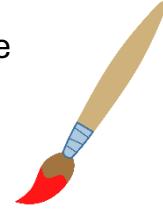


DONATE DIRECTLY TO SWA



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



4802 Little Road
ARLINGTON, TX

Don't forget to bring a painting to the **February** meeting to enter the **2026 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, February 16th at 7:00pm



SWA
P.O. Box 471571
Fort Worth, Texas
76147

www.swawatercolor.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Skeeter Murley

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Skeeter Murley

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lok-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 – Ann Winchester - 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

2026

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: Iok-Hou Pang
Prize Sponsors: Skeeter Murley

PUBLICITY & COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

CHAIR: Skeeter Murley
Newsletter Editor: Skeeter Murley
Photography: **AVAILABLE**
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: Iok-Hou Pang
Greeters: Linda Hidalgo
Editor of Online Membership Directory: Skeeter Murley