



LCPS Mission Statement

We seek to unite artists from beginner to professional who are interested in the pastel medium and to serve their needs by encouraging artistic growth and development through education and sharing. We also work to create public awareness of pastel as a unique and beautiful art form.

From the President



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

It is January already, a brand new year with exciting activities brewing within LCPS. Remember to renew your LCPS membership so you don't miss anything!

We kick off 2020 with our annual **January Paint-In** on Saturday, January 25, from 11am – 4pm. This is always a fun time to get together with fellow LCPS members and paint within the comfort of four walls and a roof overhead, during what is often the coldest time of the year. Bring your pastels, a bag lunch, and enjoy a day of painting and camaraderie with your pastel friends. See our calendar for details!

Art Weeks and **Susan Estill** have arranged for our first exhibit of 2020, which will take place at the Paradise Center for the Arts in Faribault. Entry is now open, with final postmark deadline January 16. The prospectus is available on our website.

Our Workshop Committee, **Eileen France** and **Becky Jokela**, have been working hard for us, and this year brings two 3-day workshop presentations (instead of our traditional single 5-day). Perhaps the shortened timeframe will be easier for some of us to schedule into our busy lives. That also means double the opportunity to study and learn from masters of the pastel world right here in our own hometown.

In June **Nancie King Mertz** will visit us to teach a 3-day workshop (June 8-9-10). She is a master at painting beautiful urban scenes! I can't wait to see what she shares in her workshop. Visit her website for inspiration: <https://nanciekingmertz.com>

Then in September, **Karen Margulis** will also teach a 3-day workshop for us (September 14-15-16). Karen shares many creative tips and techniques on pasteling and marketing on her blog, Patreon page, and YouTube. Karen's website: <https://karenmargulis.com>

Each of these accomplished pastelists will bring us valuable information that you won't want to miss! Studying with others expands the mind, opening us to new ideas and techniques. I always take copious notes and review them immediately after any workshop so that I am able to edit and complete any hastily jotted thoughts while the presentation is still fresh in my mind. And I keep a file of all the workshops I have ever attended so I can refer to them when I need a creative boost! While at first it may seem overwhelming to absorb and incorporate the newly learned ideas into our work, I often find that my new knowledge sits in my head for a while, and just when I feel like I'm in a painting rut, a spark ignites and offers a fresh approach to my work.

So, these are just **some** of the highlights to look forward to in 2020 with LCPS. All of our board members work hard behind the scenes to keep things running smoothly, and to bring our

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organization the best knowledge, opportunities, and exposure we can offer. If you have ideas or suggestions for our consideration, please feel free to speak up. This is your organization, and you have a voice!

ONE LAST THOUGHT

Time is marching on. Don't wait for the perfect moment to create. Do it now.

To quote Edgar Degas

"You must aim high, not in what you are going to do at some future date, but in what you are going to make yourself do today. Otherwise, working is just a waste of time."

— Happy Painting!
Christine



New Facebook Group

We continue to make progress towards growing our social media presence.

Our Facebook page is gaining activity and followers. We can have multiple Editors. If you want to be more active posting on the page, you can become an editor. Just contact Susan Warner at contact@Lakecountrypastelsociety.org

We have added a new Facebook Group to our page. Now members can more easily interact with each other. All active LCPS members can request to join the group.

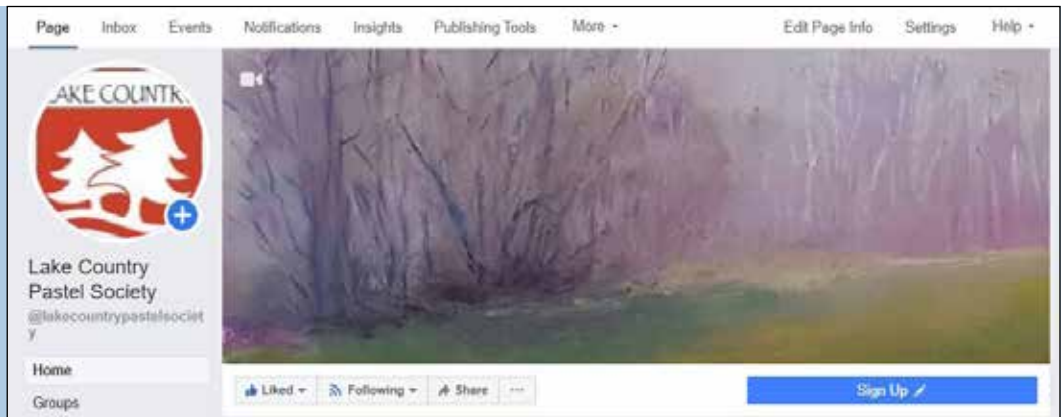
Photos posted during the month to either the Facebook page or group could be featured as our cover photo for the month.

— Susan Warner
Public Relations Chair



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Groups by This Page



Lake Country Pastel Society Group
Public group
27 members

November Meeting "Paint-Around"

Our November 12th meeting held the annual fun and educational pastel paint-around. Six of us bravely volunteered to lug our easels, pastels, and other painting needs to the evening's event. After a short formal meeting we proceeded to set up our stations in areas around the room easily accessible to the other members. Some artists preferred to stand at their easels. Others, myself included, decided to sit while working. Rules were stated, timer started, and we were off in clouds of dust! (Just kidding about that last part.) Members were free to walk around the room, watch as they chose, ask questions, or offer tips themselves. Every ten minutes the paintings would shift to the artist to the left.

The first ten minutes were used to block in our pieces in any way we chose. Time sure flies when you're focused! Subject matter was left up to individual artists — we worked on three landscapes, two florals, and a kitchen still life. Each gave us different challenges - from dealing with large expanses of dilute sky tones to tiny details in large leaves to creating bits of apple for a waiting pie!



As the time segments ticked by the paintings became more and more finessed. It was sometimes difficult to decide whether to work over the surface of a whole surface or to focus on a particular area. I tried to photograph each piece as it arrived on the easel, and then again after ten minutes. Eye opening! Perhaps try this in your own studio? As in other areas of life lots can get done if it must get done.

After we all took our turns at each other's paintings we got ten last minutes in which to finish up as best we could. We all got busy doing what we could to mirror the visions we'd

first seen in our heads. Time's up! We lined up with our work for members to discuss and/or admire. We all agreed that it had been an evening well spent. It had been agreed to beforehand that the finished paintings could be offered at auction at the end of the paint around, so after a bit of spirited bidding two or three paintings went home with happy buyers!

If you have never dared to participate as an artist in a paint-around of any kind I suggest you give it a try — at least once. You may gain new appreciation for marks put down by other artists, consider new techniques, and maybe learn other ways in which to focus.

I certainly learned new ways by which to create — and hope that my five brave easel-mates did the same!

— Sue Rowe



Artists from left to right:
Sue Rowe, Christine Tierney,
Lisa Stauffer, Cheryl LeClair
Sommers, Cristina Garrasi,
and Rene Ellis.



Spirituality Of Landscape

An Exhibit by Lake Country Pastel Society

St. Paul's Monastery

Maplewood, Minnesota

November 18, 2019 – January 23, 2020

Pickup: Friday, January 24, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

From the signage created by the St. Paul Monastery

The natural world that surrounds our lives gives us a sense of home, a sense of place. Landscape also connects us to a spiritual knowing.

These talented artists respond to that deeper connection and invite us to ponder the landscapes that call most deeply to us.

What is your response?

Here are a few of the beautiful paintings at the St. Paul Monastery show:



Our Next Upcoming Show

Paradise Center for the Arts

Faribault, MN

paradisecenterforthearts.org

Intake: February 13 and 14, 2020 during normal business hours.

Show Dates: February 17, 2020 - March 28, 2020

Format: Open Invitational (Non-juried) for Entry;

Judging for Awards

Judge: To Be Selected

The prospectus for this show can be found online at:

lakecountrypastelsociety.org/exhibits.php

Entries must be postmarked by Thursday, January 16.

— Art Weeks
Exhibit Chair
Susan Estill
Co-Chair

2020 June Workshop with Nancie King Mertz

We are now taking reservations for our next workshop with Nancie King Mertz which will be next June 8, 9, and 10.

Nancie is an award winning artist noted for her frequent urban paintings but she also has an extensive portfolio of landscapes from the many places she visits and travels. She is a recent recipient of the top Prix de Pastel award at IAPS and was named an eminent pastelist in 2018. In 2020, she will be the Guest of Honor for the French Pastel Society. Check out her website to see lots of beautiful paintings!

nanciekingmertz.com

This will be a studio class for the three days for \$375 for members and \$400 for non-members. Applications for the workshop are in this newsletter and must include a non-refundable \$100 deposit made out to LCPS. Early registration is advised, our last workshop filled quickly! Registration form is found on page

Workshop description

“Struggling with Structures?” Master & Eminent Pastelist, Nancie King Mertz, will help you find the way to include structures in your landscapes or tackle city scenes, and get the drawing right. Her rapid methods, whether plein air or studio, teach you to see perspective and understand its principles, so that you can include buildings of all types in your paintings.

— Eileen France, Workshop Chair
Becky Jokela, Workshop Co-Chair



Illinois Winter

Nancy King Mertz

Announcing our 2020 September Workshop with Karen Margulis

Karen Margulis will be giving our second workshop in 2020 on September 14, 15, and 16. She is a gifted pastel artist who generously shares daily art tips and paintings on her blog.

Be sure to check out her website by going to kemstudios.blogspot.com

Her class promises to be very informative and FUN! Be sure to plan ahead for this one.

Contact Becky Jokela (507-250-0845) for more information.

Initial Registration Form

NANCIE KING MERTZ WORKSHOP — LAKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY — JUNE 8-10, 2020

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

E-mail _____

Amount enclosed \$100 Down Payment or \$375 Full Payment (\$400 non-members)

Make check payable to LCPS and mail to: Becky Jokela, LCPS Workshop
37429 65th Avenue
Canon Falls, MN 55009
507-250-0845

NANCIE KING MERTZ WORKSHOP — LAKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY — JUNE 8-10, 2020

Return this portion with balance due by May 1, 2020

Name _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

E-mail _____

Amount enclosed _____ (\$275 due if initial payment was \$100 — \$300 non-members)

Make check payable to LCPS and mail to: Becky Jokela, LCPS Workshop
37429 65th Avenue
Canon Falls, MN 55009
507-250-0845

Frederick D. Somers: Borders & Betweens

Jan 21, 2020 to Mar 22, 2020

Gallery Talk on January 22
from 6-8 p.m.

American Swedish Institute
2600 Park Avenue
Minneapolis MN 55407

Exploring then, now and when, this exhibition is a retrospective of the work of Minnesota-based artist Frederick D. Somers.

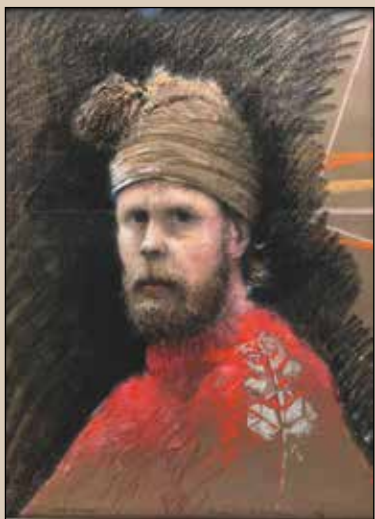
From his time in Sweden to the woods near his home in Northfield, Fred's oil and pastel paintings reflect themes from the land and are recognized for their peaceful sensitivity.

For more information and directions visit www.asimn.org



Quiet Place — Touched from Above

Fredrick Somers

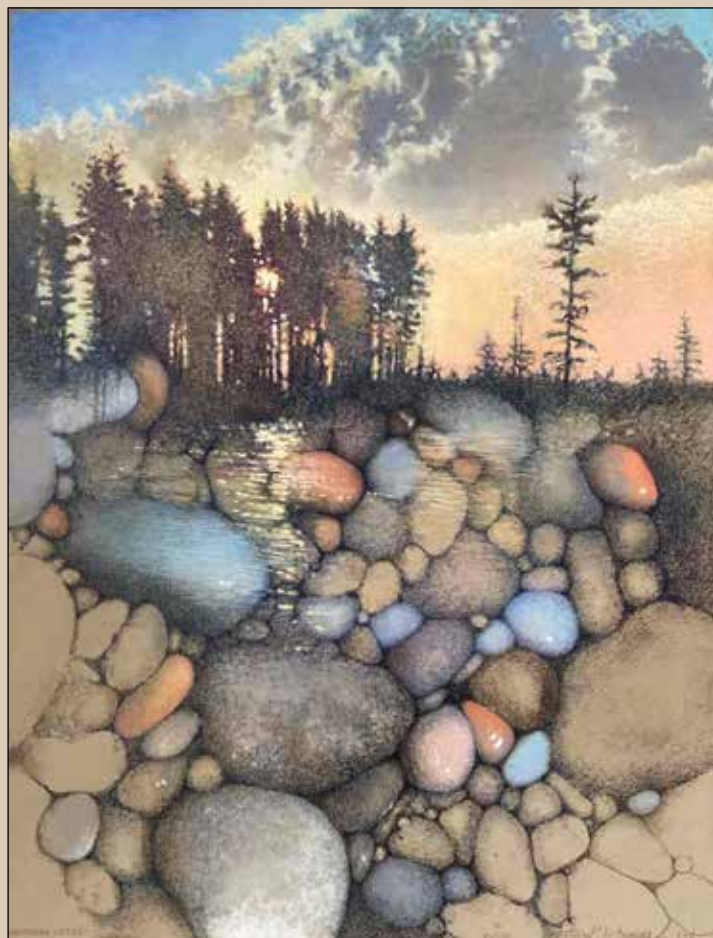


Left: Pastel 16x22 on Canson Paper; 7/1984 exhibit in Vaxjo Sweden.



Middle: Fred plein air painting, Mullsjo, Sweden, June 1989.

Right: "North Shore Waters", 2000, 26x34 pastel on Canson Paper. The sky and trees are from Lake Silljan Sweden and the rocks are from our northshore of Lake Superior where my grandfather came to work in the woods of Minnesota in 1906. His dream of becoming an American — We all have a story.



News from Christine Tierney

Christine Tierney's painting "Tea with Rockwell and Rembrandt" (oil, 16x16) has been juried into the 25th annual Arts North International (formerly Arts in Harmony). The exhibit takes place at Hopkins Center for the Arts, opening on Thursday, January 9, and will end on February 15, with select pieces from the show traveling to the American Swedish Institute.

More information www.hopkinsartscenter.com

Drawing & Painting classes, all mediums, all levels are ongoing at Christine Tierney Studio in Downtown Shakopee. 612-210-3377.



Tea with Rockwell and Rembrandt

Christine Tierney

News from Art Weeks

Art Weeks will be teaching at the Minnetonka Center for the Arts in an afternoon class from 1:00 pm until 4:00 pm on January 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2020. The focus of the class will be on use of color, surface color blending, creating texture or the allusion of texture, and compositional balance.

For more information, C47520 Pastel Painting: www.minnetonkaarts.org/classes/



Abiquiu Reservoir, New Mexico

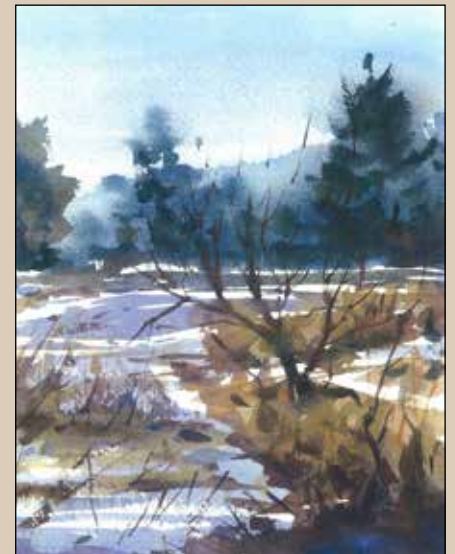
Art Weeks



Art also has an exhibit of 25 pastel and watercolor paintings at the Chanhasen Library in Chanhasen, Minnesota, which runs through December 29, 2019.

Above: 'A Sunny Day in Fife'; 9" x 12" Pastel on U-Art Paper.

Right: 'Misty Wintry Morning'; 11" x 8.5" Watercolor on 140 lb. Arches cold press paper.



News from Lisa Stauffer

Class Opportunity with Lisa Stauffer

■ Exploring Underpainting for Pastel & Other Media

Play with the possibilities that a loose underpainting can provide for the abstract foundation of your painting.



Experiment with a variety of media to create colorful and textural designs to paint on. These will include watercolor, oil stain, inks, gesso and more to begin your paintings with abandon! These underpaintings will work for nearly any media, instructor demonstrations will continue in pastel. Bring photos, paintings, field studies of subjects that you love to

paint so that you have a familiarity with your subject already—that allows you more freedom to experiment in class. This class works well for all opaque mediums such as pastel, acrylic, gouache and even watercolor! Material fee provides underpainting materials, see supply list for what to bring from home.

Date/Time: Friday-Sunday, January 10-12, 9:30 AM-4:00 PM

Tuition: \$230 Member/ \$288 Non-Member

Material Fee: \$30 payable to instructor

Age/Level: Adults, Experienced Beginner and Beyond

* Register and supply list at www.WhiteBearArts.org

■ Progressing With Your Paintings — From Underpainting to Completion

Continue to resolve your paintings from our underpainting exploration class with support from Lisa and the group. Feel free to bring in current work to develop further. Open to any student who has taken a class with Lisa in the past.

Date/Time: Monday & Tuesday, January 13 & 14, 9:30 AM-4:00 PM

Tuition: \$153 Member/\$192 Non-Member

Age/Level: Adults, any student who has taken a class with Lisa Stauffer in the past

* Register and supply list at www.WhiteBearArts.org



Above: "Dancing Maple"
Right: "Valley Caldera"

2020 Membership Renewal

Membership is valid from January 1 to December 31. To renew, please go to the LCPS website and select "Contact": www.lakecountrypastel.society.org This will give you the option to renew online using PayPal, or to download a "Membership/ Renewal" form and send a check, payable to Lake Country Pastel Society, to:

Claudia Hodges
1933 122nd Ave. NW
Coon Rapids, MN 55448

EARLYBIRD INCENTIVE

All members renewing their LCPS membership before January 31, 2020 will be eligible for a special prize drawing of a gift card from one of our art store sponsors!

Wet Paint

1684 Grand Ave St. Paul, MN 55105
wetpaintart.com
651-698-6431
M-F: 10am-8pm Sat: 10am-6pm Sun: 12pm-5pm

Member Profile — Deborah Damgaard-Hansen

The LCPS has gone international! Deborah Damgaard-Hansen from Soenderborg, Denmark joined LCPS this fall expanding our membership to Europe. Her current residence near Soenderborg, Denmark is new to her. It is near the border of Germany and is the hometown of her Danish husband. Prior to this recent move, Deborah and her husband and 3 children lived for 17 years in the opposite corner of Denmark—the northwest portion of Denmark known as Thy. Thy is an area of mostly wilderness, wind, and dramatic seacoast. (As a point of comparison, Deborah explains that Denmark is about ¼ the size of Minnesota.)

Damgaard-Hansen's connections to Minnesota run deep.

A native of Bemidji, Deborah attended St. Olaf earning a BA in Fine Art. During her senior year at St. Olaf she spent a year abroad at the art school in Oslo, Norway. Following her graduation from St. Olaf, she lived alternately in Minneapolis and Oslo. She took part-time classes at the various classical realism art schools. She eventually met her husband while living in Oslo and their first home was in the Valdres Valley of Central Norway. Eventually they moved to Minnesota spending 4 years in International Falls, and 10 years in New Germany near Waconia.



Before moving their family of 5 from Minnesota to Denmark in 2002, Deborah took plein air workshops in Minnesota whenever she could to become prepared for the visual treat in store for her as an artist heading to Denmark. Her favorite subjects have become rolling landscapes, Danish architecture, Copenhagen street scenes, and lots of still life with Danish household items. Preferring to paint *ala prima*, "I'm not much into working from photographs," she says. Deborah has received many commissions to paint homes and cabins. A devotee of fairy tales since she was a child, Hans Christian Anderson has been a long time influence for Deborah. But she is still waiting for the right moment to paint the iconic Little Mermaid statute in Copenhagen. She has yet to find that magic moment.

In Denmark, abstract art still rules and pastels are a rare medium. Deborah has become somewhat of a 'pastel

ambassador' in Denmark. Despite her training in oil, she describes pastel as her 'go to' medium. "I love the subtle color blending possible with pastels," she explains. She is still using some of the same pastels she purchased years ago—Yarkas, Rembrandts, and Senneliers. "I've added Schminckes because they are available here and mix well with the Senneliers," Deborah adds. She paints on Uart paper or Sennelier card in a variety of colors. And she travels with her Dakota Pastels easel. She has painted in England, Norway, Sweden, Portugal and the Faroe Islands.

Damgaard-Hansen has two paintings in the current LCPS show at the St. Paul Monastery. She describes this exhibit as one more typical to a Danish art exhibit. "At a Danish

art exhibit, there would never be prizes given out, as there is a deep cultural reluctance to stick out from the crowd," she explains. She also participated this past fall in the Grand Marais Plein Air Festival and described the Quick Paint as her favorite part of the event—and a great experience. Not one drop of Lake Superior water got on her Sennelier card despite the extreme winds and spray. Damgaard-Hansen was recently named "Artist of the Year for 2019" at a local cultural event held in October in Thy where she is known as "the crazy American Pastel Lady". She described this honor as a lovely ending to her years living in the Thy area.

Along with LCPS, Damgaard-Hansen is a member of the Pastel Society of America, Pastel Guild of Europe, Outdoor Painters of MN, and Kunstpunkt (an artists' society in Augustenborg Denmark near her new home). She thanks LCPS for the warm welcome she's received as the new European member!

— Susan Estill



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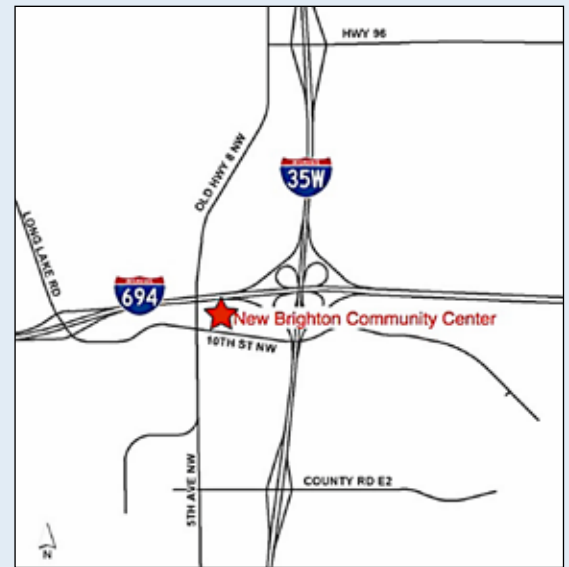
Claudia Hodges
763-501-8575

Historian and Newsletter

Carol Pruchnofski
715-425-8101

Lake Country Pastel Society 2020 Calendar

- January 16** Entries due - Fairbault Exhibit
- January 22** 6–8 p.m. Fred Sommers Retrospective Gallery Talk, American Swedish Institute
- January 24** 10–2 p.m. Pick up artwork St. Paul Monastery Show
- January 25**
9:30 a.m. Board Meeting
11:00 a.m.–4 p.m. Member meeting & Paint In
- February 13, 14** Drop off entries Paradise Center Show
- February 15** March Newsletter deadline
- March 10**
5:30 p.m. Board Meeting
7:00 p.m. Member meeting



New Brighton Community Center

400 10th Street NW
New Brighton, MN 55112

In case of bad weather

LCPS will email members by noon the day of the meeting and will contact people who don't have email.

If you have questions, call Christine Tierney at 612-210-3377 or email christinetierneystudio@gmail.com

Come join us for a Paint-In!

January 25 for our annual member "Paint In" from 11am to 4pm at the New Brighton Community Center. We will set up in our same meeting room on the 2nd floor.

Bring your easel, pastels, paper & a tarp for a cozy day of painting with your fellow artists. It's a great way to begin a new painting or finish one, and to see what others are working on.

We will have snacks & warm beverage options. Bring a personal snack if you desire some additional energy.

There will be three drawings for pastel related prizes. Just come & sign in for a chance of winning.

Hope to see you there!

— Cinda Columb
Program Chair
612-210-9920

