



# Dust in the Wind

May 2020

## 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.

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## From the President



### CHANGING TIMES

So much has changed since our last newsletter! With unexpected "extra" time on our hands it seems that my schedule become much more relaxed, and even domesticated (*did I really say that???*). I have scrubbed, sorted, organized, labeled, purged, baked, and made more lists. I have also taken a lot of time to read: many things, many subjects. When I was a child we had an anthology of children's poetry. I still have

that book, and recently took it off my shelf and leafed through it. I found this little gem:

#### THE MAGIC WINDOW

*Our window is a magic frame  
 With pictures never twice the same.  
 Sometimes it frames a sunset sky,  
 Where clouds of gold and purple lie,  
 And sometimes, on a windless night,  
 It holds a great moon round and white.  
 Sometimes it frames a lawn and flowers,  
 Where children play through summer hours.  
 Sometimes, a tree of gold and red  
 And grass where crisp brown leaves are shed.  
 And sometimes it shows wind-blown rain  
 Or snowflakes against the pane.  
 Our window frames all lovely things  
 That every changing season brings.*

~ Eleanor Hammond

May Member Meeting  
**CANCELLED**  
 due to Covid 19 restrictions.

If you view our current situation through a magic window your creativity can take wings and soar! Let your imagination run free. Try something new; just remember to stay true to your own artistic voice. Creative expression is personal; it comes from deep within. Our life's experiences are unique, and each one of us has something important to share with the world. Don't hide your talent! Allow it to blossom – now is the time!

### WHILE WE WAIT FOR THE "ALL CLEAR"

There are many painting blogs, YouTube videos, and tutorials available on the web. It seems that a lot of accomplished artists (all mediums) are sharing their own process by filming works in progress, giving helpful instruction, shortcuts and hints. Art galleries have had to close their doors for now, but most have turned to technology to share their current shows. The **36th Annual IAPS Juried Exhibition**, currently hosted at the Dunedin Fine Arts Center in Florida, is available to view online: <http://www.iapspastel.org> There you will see amazing works by 89 pastel artists, representing 36 IAPS societies from around the world. Our former member, **Edgar (Gary) Carabio** has a beautiful piece in the show. **Nancie King Mertz** and

**Karen Margulis** (both scheduled to do workshops for us this year) also have paintings in the show. Viewing these beautiful pastel paintings online in the comfort of your home you can take your time and really examine the masterful works that inspire and encourage us to keep working at our craft.

**IAPS President Richard McKinley** has shared videos of three virtual gallery “strolls” with the jurors. If you have not already viewed them, it is well worth taking a look and listen! They give insight about the paintings: why they caught their eye and what was unique and masterful about them.

The first juror, **Charles Peer**, chose the following paintings to discuss: **Tara Will** — “Allium in May”, Nancy Nowak — “Sunlit Flowers”, **Susan Ellis** — “Clam Digger”, **Jennifer Hoffman** — “Resplendence”, **Edgar Carabio** — “Send Off”, **Marie Weltzheimer** — “Pear Duet”, **Natalia Chekotova** — “Straight Up the Stairs and to the Right”. That video is here: <https://youtu.be/uMiqml-M3uo>

**IAPS Juror Anna Wainright** chose the following paintings to discuss: **Robbins Richardson** — “Frenzy”, **Olga Abramova** — “Old House”, the Apples, **JZ Xu** — “Indian Waiter”, **Julie Friedman** — “Aquinnah Afternoon”, **Joe Baker** — “Progression”, **Cory Pitkin** — “Hodgepodge”, **Loriann Signori** — “The Beauty of a Brush Creek Morning”. Her video discussion can be found here: <https://youtu.be/xid9WqiUApE>

Juror **Myles Johnston** chose the following paintings to discuss: **William Schneider** — “Rough Rider”, **Clarence Porter** — “The Reaching, No. 4”, **Teresa Saia** — “Dancing Light”, **David Brammell** — “Winter Hedgerow”, **Brenda Boylan** — “Elgin Evening”, **Sally Strand** — “Essay”, **Yana Golikova** — “Devon Rex”  
You will enjoy this YouTube video, here’s the link: <https://youtu.be/yQwRxw20iY>

Judge of Awards, **Brooke Allison** discusses the awarded artwork and her difficulty judging such a beautiful show., They include: **Christine Swan** — “Impact”, Prix de Pastel; **Lyn Asselta** — “From Rock to Wood, Gold Award; **Vianna Szabo** — “Last Hurrah”, Silver Award; **Yana Golikova** — “Devon Rex”, Bronze Award; **Brenda Boylan** — “Elgin Evening”, Honorable Mention; **Natalia Chekotova** — “Straight up the Stairs and to the Right”, Honorable Mention; **Yin Feng** — “A Happy Girl”, Honorable Mention; **Jennifer Evenhus** — “Roadside Reds”, Honorable Mention. Her video is here: <https://youtu.be/hiHeH1fWs0M>

Finally, here is an interesting video with **Richard McKinley** talking with **Red Weber** and the three selection jurors about the process of selecting pieces for this show, what they were looking for, and suggestions for better representing your art in a juried selection process: <https://youtu.be/RJiq-4fWYEA>

## SO WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

At this time it is unknown how much longer we need to continue with the social distancing. Right now all activities are on hold, waiting for the opportunity to be free to return to work, studio, and classrooms. This includes our LCPS member meetings and scheduled activities. We promise to keep you all informed as things unfold. Stay tuned.

## PONDER THIS

*“ A life spent making mistakes  
is not only more honorable,  
but more useful than a life  
spent doing nothing.”*

*~ George Bernard Shaw*

*— Look through that Magic Window,  
and Keep Painting!*

*Christine*



**Wet Paint**

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

# Winter Interlude Show at the Paradise Center for the Arts

The LCPS exhibit at Faribault Center for the Arts opened with a reception on Friday February 21. Then COVID 19 intervened. Like all other nonessential businesses and services, Faribault Center for the Arts was closed with our show still hanging.

While FCA remains closed as of this writing, a decision was reached to keep the show hanging through Sunday June 7. Perhaps a few more people may be able to see the show if the board chooses to reopen PCA before June 7. Meanwhile, PCA Operations Manager, Julie Fakler, hopes to take a video of the show and post it on the PCA website.

## To Exhibit or Not to Exhibit; That is the Question

For the past year, LCPS exhibits have had a low participation rate from our LCPS membership. Sometimes this is solved by inviting exhibitors to enter a second painting, however this is not a practice we wish to continue. The Exhibits Committee would like to serve our entire LCPS membership, not just a select few.

Discussions about this problem have taken place during several board meetings. A variety of factors were identified which may be contributing to a low participation rate such as:

- Distance of the exhibition gallery from the TC metro area;
- The season of the year (worries about winter travel or snowbird schedules);
- Whether it is a juried or non juried exhibit (some may only choose to participate in one or the other type of exhibit but not both);
- Feelings about exhibiting one's work alongside accomplished artists in LCPS who are consistent exhibitors.
- Inability to drop off/pick up artwork during the stated hours.

These have all been identified as potential explanations for why exhibit participation may be low.

The issue of dropping off/picking up artwork during the allotted hours we are given by the gallery or Arts Center, was discussed at length. One suggestion which was made was to try to arrange "artwork shuttle pools" for pickup and drop off of artwork at the exhibits. As chair of the Exhibit Committee, I am wary about promising more that I can personally deliver to solve this problem. One thing I can easily do — and will do from now on — is to send out a list of all the exhibit entrants to the members of this group when the entry deadline has closed. Exhibitors can then contact one another to set up "artwork shuttle pools". I know that this informal shuttling of artwork already takes place. But I would encourage those who

**Pickup of artwork will be Monday June 8, 9am-noon and Tuesday June 9, 10am-5pm.**

**Paradise Center for the Arts**

321 Central Avenue North; Faribault, MN 55021

An email will be mailed to all show participants listing contact information for exhibitors. Please make use of these contacts if you would like to help/or find someone to pickup your artwork.



have not tried this approach to enter an exhibit and then work out transportation for your work if you need to do so.

I would like to reach out to members to contact me about the above listed issues, or any other issues or concerns surrounding exhibits that you would like to see addressed. Or perhaps you may have a suggestion or idea for the Exhibits Committee as to how we can better serve our entire membership and increase participation in LCPS Exhibits. Also I would also like to hear from you if the opportunity to exhibit your work is not a factor in your LCPS membership. Perhaps we may already be serving the needs of our membership. I can be reached at [Sestill58@gmail.com](mailto:Sestill58@gmail.com) or 612-751-9625. I look forward to hearing from you!

**Excerpt from a blog by Jeanne Rosier Smith:**

*"... Competitions inspire us to get better, both by challenging us to create our best work, and by showing us the best work currently around. . . . It also keeps us a part of the community.*

*While the competition kudos are nice, they are a by-product of the real point, which is to do good work. Even after winning an award, we always have more to learn, and we gradually understand that we have not 'arrived' and in fact there is no arriving: we're always only as good as what's on the easel right now. That's the joy and the burden of being an artist, and perhaps that is why we are continually drawn to the lure of the outside approval.*

*But the truth is we each have our own inner critic and we know whether or not we're producing our best work. Continue to enter those shows, participate in the community, and be inspired."*

See Jeanne's full post here:  
[jeannerosiersmith.com/blog/120377/and-the-winner-is](http://jeannerosiersmith.com/blog/120377/and-the-winner-is)

— Susan Estill, Exhibits Chair

# March Meeting "Critique"



Way back on March 10, (it feels so long ago), a group of us met for our LCPS member meeting to learn how to do an art critique, led by Rene Ellis.

## "Rules of Critique"

Our purpose in being here is to help each other grow as artists, by sharing observations of each of our works. Our personal goal is to see how the elements of design are being used in the execution of your work.

"The basic elements of a critique are description, analysis, interpretation.

Observing the elements help you to be aware of how you are using the elements in creating a work of art, and to allow you to understand your reaction and interpretation of the work you are looking at."

I was able to apply these techniques to improve the two paintings I had brought in for critique. Thanks for a safe, learning time Rene & fellow attendees.

Now, looking to the future. The New Brighton Community Center will remain closed to all activities until May 15, so we will not be able to meet on our normal date. We will send out information of a rescheduled date soon.

I am finding some purpose during this time of quarantine by continuing to create. There are so many online opportunities to learn and stretch myself. One in particular that I enjoyed was "Noontime Doodle with Mo Willems." I shared that experience with my granddaughters out in Boston, and we would exchange our doodle exercises via text.

What ways are you finding to stay creative during this time of uncertainty? Post on our LCPS Facebook page!

I look forward to meeting together soon!

— Cinda Columb  
LCPS program chair



## July Member Meeting

The Annual Paint-Out has a tentative date of July 14. It will be dependent on any new issues that come up with Covid-19. But we do know we can easily "social distance" while painting.

Look for more information in an email that will be sent to members — Time, Location, etc. — once details are worked out.

# 2020 September Workshop with Karen Margulis

**K**aren 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](http://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.

## Workshop Description

**Expressive Pastels: Loosen Up and Add some Spice to your Paintings**  
Three day studio pastel workshop with Karen Margulis PSA IAPS- MC

It has been said that as artists we are either moving toward or away from abstraction. No matter where we fall on this journey we can all benefit from ideas to help us create more expressive paintings. I am always striving to interpret my subject by including my own personal touch rather than a copying the reference or painting exactly what I see.

On day one of the workshop I will share some of the ways I have discovered that help me paint in a more expressive 'loose' manner. I will introduce a simple method for a successful pastel painting from the planning stage to the addition of those final important spices!

On the second day we will explore the use of underpaintings and how they contribute to more expressive pastel paintings. I will demonstrate two different underpainting techniques. Students will use an underpainting to develop their paintings.

On the 3rd day we will continue to explore techniques that will lead to more expressive paintings with an exploration of new and exciting ways to start a pastel painting.

## Nancie King Mertz Workshop Cancelled

I am sorry to say that due to COVID 19 and an effort to prioritize the health and safety of all involved, the June workshop with Nancie has been cancelled.

Our plan is to reschedule her workshop for next year. So stay tuned — we will keep you posted.



Perfect Ending

Karen Margulis

There will be demos, handouts and plenty of individual help at the easel during the workshop.

The registration form is found on the following page.

— Becky Jokela, Workshop Chair

An advertisement for Dakota Art Pastels. The background is a close-up of several blue pastel sticks. In the upper center, there is a white silhouette of a horse in a running or jumping pose, set against a green square. Below the horse, the text "Dakota Art Pastels" is written in a white, cursive script. Underneath that, "your pastel specialist!" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the phone number "888.345.0067" and the website "WWW.DAKOTAPASTELS.COM" are displayed in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

Initial Registration Form

Karen Margulis WORKSHOP — LAKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY — SEPTEMBER 14–16, 2020

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed  \$100 Down Payment or  \$400 Full Payment (\$425 non-members)

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

Karen Margulis WORKSHOP — LAKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY — SEPTEMBER 14–16, 2020

Return this portion with balance due by August 1, 2020

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ (\$300 due if initial payment was \$100; \$325 non-members)

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



## Keeping Your Spirit Willing

It's the evening of the submission deadline for this newsletter. I'm sitting in Studio B — yes, I am fortunate to have two studio areas in our home. I am listening to the great Duke Ellington and his band play *Jump For Joy* and *Mack the Knife*, among other of their classic jazz tunes. The album cover (yes, real vinyl record albums around here!) notes that the title piece *Mood Indigo*, was issued in LP form in 1964, but also that the original version came out in 1930. Because of the current pandemic possibly bringing an echo of the Great Depressions, in imagination of some if not in actuality, thoughts went to how one remains creative in times of great uncertainty.

“... we artists seem to somehow find a way back to the comfort of using our bountiful bunch of art supplies.”

Because a number of art workshops and art festivals have been cancelled at least well into summer, and, at present, brick-and-mortar galleries and many other shops are closed, we who make much of our income from art are faced with a huge “why/how” about our very work hours. Artists who do not make a living from their artistic efforts may have a number of the same questions when it comes to facing a blank piece of paper, a new canvas, or a fresh lump of clay. Whether professional or not is not the issue — the point is: how do we keep our spirits willing, and maybe even still a bit excited to go create another new piece?

Many artists, along with “normal” humans, have reported a lack of ambition. The accumulation of facing distressing news every day, new rules for behaving out-of-doors,, and disruption of usual-day schedules often makes joyful creativity a difficult effort.

(I've resorted to actually starting to reorganize both studios — gasp!)

However, we artists seem to somehow find a way back to the comfort of using our bountiful bunch of art supplies. For example, I have been working on a mandala series since late December, 2019, simply as a practice of discipline and trying new ways to put marks on paper. Some incorporate pastels, but

most do not. My challenge to myself on the first of January: create at least 366 mandala-inspired images in 2020. No, I have no idea if this project serves any “higher” purpose, but it does “force” a bit of putting marks, including words, on paper daily. This may be enough in itself. So far — so good.

If you too have found a practice, recent or long-formed, that works for you, perhaps note it on the LCPS Facebook Group Page? Even if we cannot meet in person we can still learn from each other!

I will be back making circle-y circles tomorrow. And working on some commissions for pastel pet portraits. And playing in several visual journals. Remember to play a bit, OK? I miss drawing in coffee shops. I will miss Minnesota art festivals. I am trying not to think about the Minnesota State Fair. I miss having had to miss the last LCPS meeting — though a wonderful trip out West was the reason for being absent.

May you and yours be well and stay safe. Keep hunkering if you can. Thanking you — if you have a front lines job. I am hoping that someday we will, like Duke Ellington and his band, be able to **Jump For Joy**.

— Sue Rowe



More stories about what LCPS members are doing while dealing with confinement continues on the next couple of pages.

## Isolation or Seclusion?

**I**solation — stresses detachment from others, often involuntarily. As artists, I’m guessing many of us see it more as **seclusion** — “**the deliberate withdrawal from the world to a quiet life**” (of **PAINTING**). With so many working from home and social calendars cleared, creativity is flourishing! The Covid-19 “safer at home” edict has given new meaning to “masking fluid” (groan). How are YOU spending your gift of time? Here is what a few members have been doing. Continue the conversation and add your thoughts and photos to our next newsletter or on our Facebook Group page: [www.facebook.com/groups/441200556541310](http://www.facebook.com/groups/441200556541310)

**Sher Leksens:** I am in my studio, naturally I can’t go to work now as Maurices that I work at in Elk River is closed of course. It is fine with me, have been doing things around the house here and there too.

I am making a lot of progress with tasks around the house, so this has actually been a help for me. I still work at Maurices, been there 20 years now, in Elk River. But we won’t open up again for awhile.

**Cinda Columb:** I have been painting with a Zoom online group led by an art therapist. She gives us a theme & a couple quotes & then we have 40 minutes to create. The first two times I participated I was still in the mode of “creating art.” But then I began to relax and started using my grandchildren’s art supplies. The theme that day was Patience, & it did take patience to use kid grade colored pencils! Some other themes have been Trust, Comfort, Frustration.

Now I have dug out artist grade watercolors, markers & pencils. These exercises are like a **visual diary** of this time of quarantine. It’s been interesting to see other’s pieces; collages, different mediums, etc. The challenge is not to compare my simple drawings to other’s.



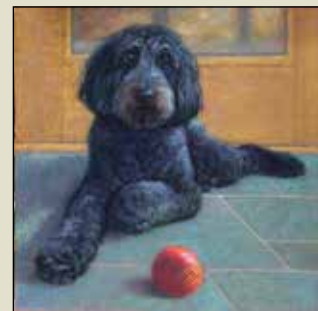
**Carol Pruchnofski :** When Claudia Hodges asked to come paint her dog with me (long before isolation was an idea), it gave me the push to finally paint one of my dogs. Now it will be a while yet before we can paint together again. I must say that when this Covid 19 started and the world seemed so weird, I found it difficult to be motivated to paint anything. Then I finished “Jackson” and started “playing” with some of the ideas that I’ve kept in the background, waiting for the “right time” to paint from travel photos. This giraffe is just getting started, but calls to me every time I walk in the studio to spend more time with it. It’s 18” x 36”, on gatorboard using a technique I learned from Rita Kirkman. Additionally, after Fred’s talk to LCPS members at ASI — I’ve been inspired to take more time to experiment with pastels. I’ve also started playing with a couple of new mediums – cold wax and oil & also painting with gouache — both with the idea of staying loose and more abstract for now.... **And having fun!**

**Claudia Hodges** I’ve been doing a few painting exercises. Having fun and trying to observe better. I’m trying to get back to the “**playing and discovery**” I had when I first started pastels. Also planning to do some watercolor exercises as soon as my porch studio warms up to comfortable temps.

Since we all have extra time on our hands, here is another link to the **Unison Pastel blog** with several interesting pastel blogs:

[www.unisoncolour.com/blog/category/artist-blogs/](http://www.unisoncolour.com/blog/category/artist-blogs/)

— Carol Pruchnofski & Wendy Peterson





Rita Kirkman has kindly shared one of her recent blog posts about going easy on yourself: [ritakirkmanjournal.blogspot.com](http://ritakirkmanjournal.blogspot.com)

### Who's the Boss?

Well, a week ago I said I'd take the Daily Painting thing one day at a time, and I made it a week. I had an epiphany yesterday while working on my newest batch of underpaintings, and I realized that when the pressure of the Daily Painting Machine was creating Stress in my life, then it was time to stop taking it so seriously! I mean, who's the Boss here, huh? Ok, I know I have workaholic tendencies, and I'm very serious about living up to the goals I set for myself - and most especially the Goals I post online for all to see! (... which is sometimes the only way I ever get anything done, lol.) And I've done 30-in-30's before with no problems (or at least no problems that prevented me from getting it done) so on the one hand I could not understand why this first month of my new open-ended Daily Painting Goal should be so difficult.

Really! But several things coalesced yesterday in my mind and foremost of those thoughts was the simple and pure Enjoyment I was getting out of working on the new batch of underpaintings. So much that when my stressed out workaholic pointed out to me that if I didn't pause this batch process and get at least one of these pastelled to the finish for yesterday's post, I wouldn't have a post for the day.

UGH!! That thought was SO annoying that I only gave it about 5 seconds of consideration before replying, "Shut. Up! I'm HERE. In my STUDIO. WORKING, and ENJOYING it. And how DARE you interrupt me and tell me what to do!!"

So, I continued to finish the first underpainting layer on all 19 new little paintings-in-progress, then I went back to the house and made dinner.

After dinner, my competitive left-brained workaholic needed to justify my flippant decision to skip a post, so I looked up a



"Parked Tree" (pastel, 12x9 inches)



Yesterday's batch of underpaintings... first layer finished

few of my favorite Daily Painters and collected some data...

I was happy to find out that Julian Merrow-Smith had posted 267 paintings in his first year, and an average of 203 paintings per year across the 15 years that he's been posting his famous Postcards From Provence. Carol Marine, my personal introduction to Daily Painting, posted 319 in her first year as a Daily painter, and 225 per year average across 13 years. And so just out of curiosity I checked on Duane Keiser, the "original" Daily Painter, and found that he had a whopping 388(!) posts in his first year, but an average of only 111 posts per year for the following 14 years.

*"Sometimes what you really need to do IS what your soul cries out for!"*

It seems my impression that "Daily Painters" actually post daily on a continuous basis has been a myth all along. (Although starting off strong seems to be key!)

**I'm so relieved!!**

To top it off, this morning on the way to the grocery store, someone talking on NPR who had written some book was saying that these days it's important not to stress yourself about work. Just do what you can and make sure you allow yourself time to just "be." I only heard a snippet of the interview but that part really hit home.

So, my new revised Daily Painting Life Goal will be to paint and post as often as I can enjoy doing it, and just try to beat my 13 posts/month average as much as I can.

And, oh yeah, **NO STRESS!!**

Have you had any recent arguments with your self over how to use your time or what you think you need to do vs. what your soul cries out for? (Sometimes what you really need to do IS what your soul cries out for!) I'd love to hear from you!

— Rita Kirkman

## Fred Somers — An informal discussion with LCPS members

Thursday, March 12  
The American Swedish Institute

Fred graciously invited our members to an evening discussion of his work with a special emphasis on answering our questions. Here are a few of the memories from a some of the members that were in attendance.

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“One thing that stood out for me that evening was experiencing the series of paintings Fred did (2 on display) where he made some of the pastels he used in the paintings from the rocks found on the site. That was particularly moving for me. There was a display showing and explaining how he made the pastels.”

— Susan Estill

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“I got struck just at his paintings, and the love of the blue because it is also my favorite color, so they just spoke to me. The use of the gold leaf also was new for me.

It was fascinating to hear his journey. We all need to take classes, to expand our horizon with different teachers and techniques, but ultimately you have to find your own way, your own style and silence is the essence. Silence as sound, as stimulus and voices from others.

How important also is the focus of the painting, what you want to shine and let loose all the rest. Sometimes we get caught in wanting all the details to be there, but it is not a representation of reality, that is what the pictures are for, but to create an emotion through colors and shapes.”

— Cristina Garrasi



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“Isolate (timely advice). Find your personal inner artist. Remove the distractions of others’ artistic accomplishments. Focus inward. Find your own way. Use your time to find **YOURSELF**, your style, your artistic voice, not yearn and strive for what others have and do. Fred “isolated” himself for 10 years from one of his favorite artists, in order NOT to allow that artist’s work to influence what Fred did. Only when Fred found his own true voice did he reconnect.

This is sound advice, as I too often have found myself checking Facebook, Youtube, art books and art blogs, searching for inspiration. Instead of inspiring, this can lead to frustration and feelings of not being “good enough”, which can paralyze creativity. According to Fred, in order to find my true self, **I must shut it all off and go within.**”

— Christine Tierney

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“Fred talked about having a ‘silence moratorium’ — not looking at the art of someone he admired (for years) so that Fred’s own vision could emerge. With technology today it is not easy to shut it out — this really hit home as something I should try to do. What I want to achieve can come from being silent and listening to my own voice. Scary!

It was also inspiring to find out more about Fred’s experimenting with making his own pastels and refining his technique of preparing paper and then pouring pastel on that surface. I look forward to seeing his next goal of creating some very large pastel paintings!”

— Carol Pruchnofski





Iris MaryAnn Cleary

## News from MaryAnn Cleary

This past month I had three pieces of art accepted into the Studio Pintura juried Spring Flower Juried Floral Show. My pastel, "Iris", 12 x 9 inches, received an Honorable Mention. The show can be seen virtually as well as the judge's presentation. The judge was Steven Levin. Here is the link for the exhibition and the presentation:

<https://studiopintura.com/floral-exhibition-2020>



Peaceful Place MaryAnn Cleary

The next thing that I accomplished this month was having one of my pastels accepted into the AWA (American Women Artists) 2020 Spring Online exhibition. This is a juried show and there were 1397 entries and only 125 were accepted. The piece that received recognition is a pastel called, "Peaceful Place", 12 x 12 inches. With this piece, I now have reached Signature status with my membership with AWA. I feel so honored for this achievement. This show can be seen on the AWA website and it will be up for a year. Here is the link for that show:

<https://americanwomenartists.org/exhibition/2020-spring-online-juried-show/>

**Congratulations to  
MaryAnn Cleary**



Unfinished Business Sher Leksen

## News from Sher Leksen

Sher received a Third Place Award for her painting "Unfinished Business" at Jaques Art Center in Aitkin, MN

Unfortunately this show is also closed to the public and has no presence online.

**News From Pat Duncan**



*Spoon and Stable* Pat Duncan



*Color Vibration* Pat Duncan



*Tucked Away* Pat Duncan

Paradise Center for the Arts in Faribault, MN; 3rd Place award (Rick Kochenash —judge for show) for “Waiting My Turn”.

**Arizona Pastel Artists Association National Show** in Sedona at the Sedona Center for the Arts — “Spoon and Stable” was juried into this National Show with Doug Dawson and Christine Ivers as the judges. Currently the show is online at Arizona Pastel Artists Association website: [www.apaa.wildapricot.org](http://www.apaa.wildapricot.org)

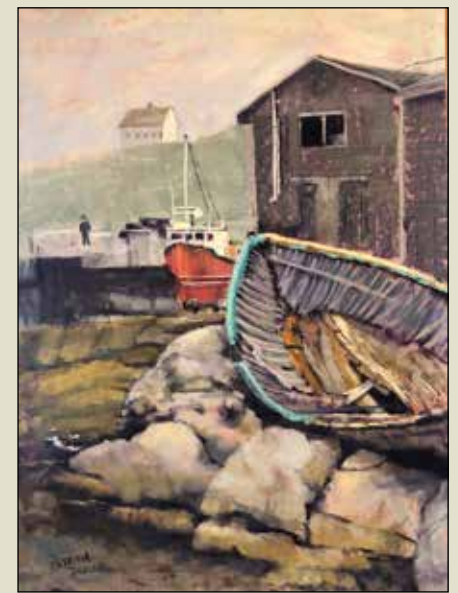
**White Bear Center for the Arts Northern Lights Show** received an Award of Excellence for the piece “Peggy’s Cove, Nova Scotia”. The show is currently closed to the public. There is a current listing of the award recipients on the White Bear Center for the Arts website. (There is no virtual show of all the artwork on their website.)

**Earth Arts Spring Tour** has been cancelled for the first weekend in May (1st - 3rd) due to the Covid19 situation. The front cover and back had my painting “Color Vibration” featured,. My studio and gallery would have been open to the public. I am looking forward to opening my studio and gallery to the public on a regular basis once the Covid19 concerns have been lifted.

Lastly I had two pastel paintings accepted into the **North Carolina Statewide show** (“Tucked Away” and “Color My World”). The acceptance for this exhibit is through the Piedmont Pastel Society and the juror was Allen Picard for selecting the entries. To get access to the show, it will be on all 3 websites in North Carolina. (Piedmont Pastel Society, Appalachian Pastel Society, and the Pastel Society of North Carolina.



*Waiting My Turn* Pat Duncan



*Peggy's Cove, Nova Scotia* Pat Duncan



*Color My World* Pat Duncan



Winter Farm Stubble

Art Weeks

### News From Art Weeks

Art received an Award of Excellence at the Minnesota Artists Association (MAA) spring show at the Banfill Locke Art Center in Fridley, Minnesota.

"Winter Farm Stubble" is 9" x 13", pastel on Ampersand Board. Because of the "Stay at Home" mandate by Governor Walz, there was no reception. Awards were announced in the MAA Newsletter.

### New From Rita Kirkman

Rita Kirkman won Second in Show at the Pastel Society of Colorado 2020 Online Show VISIONS with "Intent", a 6x6 portrait of her cat, Mewler. See the show here <https://pscshows.com/annual-online-show.html>

Rita's "Intent" also won Second in Show at the Austin Pastel Society 2020 Annual Juried Member Exhibition 'Celebrating Pastels!' See the show online here through the end of April, and cast your vote for People's Choice! <https://www.artframingservices.com/Art-Art-List.php?eventId=18>

See Rita's progress photos of "Intent" here: <http://ritakirkman.blogspot.com/2020/01/intent.html>

Rita is also featured in the Pollak Interview in the PSWC Magazine Spring 2020 issue (pages 58-67.) Download your copy here! [https://issuu.com/pswcnewsletter/docs/pswc\\_magazine\\_spring\\_2020](https://issuu.com/pswcnewsletter/docs/pswc_magazine_spring_2020)



Intent

Rita Kirkman

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## Lake Country Pastel Society 2020 Calendar

### May 12

5:30 p.m. Board Meeting via Zoom  
Member meeting cancelled

### June 8 & 9

Pickup of artwork, Paradise Center for the Arts will be Monday June 8, 9am-noon & Tuesday June 9, 10am-5pm. 321 Central Avenue North; Faribault, MN

### June 15

July Newsletter deadline

### July 14

Tentative date for our Member Paint-Out



### 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](mailto:christinetierneystudio@gmail.com)

## Reminder — 2020 Membership Renewals are now due

Remember to get your membership renewals in. Dues need to be paid in order to get the discounted fees for workshops and to be eligible to show your work in our upcoming exhibits.

*" Nature is painting for us,  
day after day,  
pictures of infinite beauty"*

*— John Ruskin*

