



Dust in the Wind

MARCH 2021

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

On finding inspiration to paint during adversity

We all find our inspiration to create from different sources, I tend to find my muse outside in nature, especially in long, warm sunny days. Winter is my least productive time for painting. I am adept at finding excuses for postponing facing the cold. The fact that our

house is over 100 years old and very drafty doesn't help.

After reading Cynthia Kath's Facebook post, I realized that I needed to push deeper to find my inspiration to paint. I made a list of my self-inflicted restrictions that were limiting my creativity. There were a lot! I began to see a pattern to this squashing of my creativity. I decided to look through my failed paintings that I keep in my flat file in order to reuse their surfaces, or finish later, or to "cook" before I finish them.

And sometimes I forget them. I pulled a painting out at random and pulled off the glassine paper. This painting was started some time in 2008-9. The painting below is called Coon Creek because the creek flowed through the Coon Rapids neighborhood I grew up in. After not seeing the painting for decades, I realized that even though failed, it showed me everything that inspires me to paint: trees, water, sky reflections, and light. I continued to open more paintings, and found something that inspired me in each of them.

I am deeply grateful to Cynthia Kath for posting her in inspiring journey. She has inspired me to dig deeper into myself and gave me a new way to look at my work.



Rene

Welcome our newest Board Member - Ann Solyst

Ann will be assuming the role as our Membership Chair. We have asked Ann to share a little about herself.

- **In one sentence – what is your role on the board?**

I keep track of membership data and am the one sending out those emails to remind you to renew your membership.

- **What is your favorite thing about the pastel medium? How long have you been painting with them?**

I love how portable and accessible pastel is. I have been painting with pastels for about 7 years.

- **Do you use other mediums on a regular basis?**

I also paint with oils.

- **How often do you get to paint?**

I paint most days for at least an hour.

- **What are you most looking forward to in 2021?**

Hopefully having a couple in person summer art shows.

- **What was one of your favorite “events” through LCPS in the past?**

Last year was my first year as a LCPS member so I haven't attended any events yet but I am really looking forward to being more involved as the new membership chair.

- **Tell us anything funny, interesting, scary, sad, or exciting about yourself.**

I live with my husband, our alaskan malamute, Rocky, and our tortoise, Rosie.

We love taking walks and exploring nature and being creative. With some of our free time during covid we started a blog called Woods and Goods and are excited to share our creative experience with the world. <https://woodsand-goodsaz.blogspot.com>



Dakota Art
Pastels
your pastel specialist!

888.345.0067
WWW.DAKOTAPASTELS.COM

2021 PURE COLOR

5th Annual
ONLINE

International Juried Exhibition of Pastel Paintings

September 1, 2021 – September 30, 2021

Juror of Selection

ISABELLE V. LIM, PSA-MP, IAPS/MC, SPF-MP
Judge of Awards

NANCIE KING MERTZ, PSA-MP, CPP-MP, IAPS-MC&EP

OVER \$3000 in Cash Awards

Best of show	\$1000
1st	\$700
2nd	\$400
3rd	\$300
Herb Slapo Memorial	\$200
Honorable Mention	4 at \$100each
Merit	6 at \$50 each

Calendar of Events

Online Entry Opening	June 1, 2021
Online Entry Deadline	August 1, 2021
Notice of Acceptance	August 21, 2021
Online Show goes LIVE	September 1, 2021
Online Show closes	September 30, 2021



Prospectus at onlinejuriedshows.com

Wet Paint

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

GET INVOLVED! BOARD MEMBER OPENINGS

We are excited and hopeful for 2021 and the return of many fun events, workshops and the opportunity to make new friends.

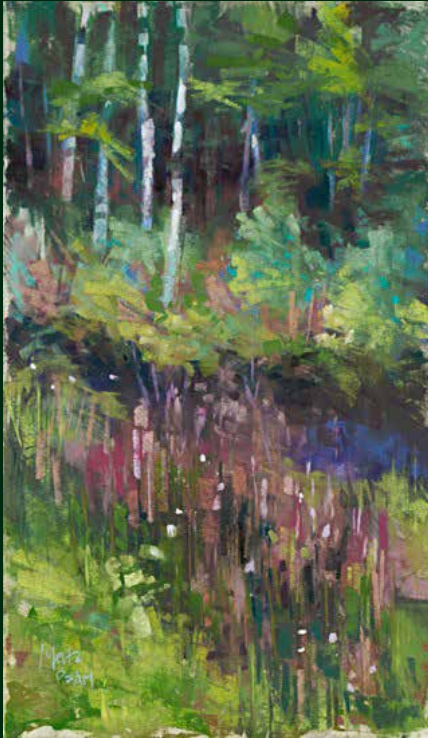
Please consider joining the board of LCPS!

No matter what your skills, background or talents, this is your chance to be part of this great organization.

Open positions are listed at the end of the newsletter.

Please contact Rene Ellis, President, for more information. 651-494-4039

All members are invited to submit questions, ideas, or information that you would like to have addressed to the board. Please send your contributions to our discussion to Rene Ellis at reneellis101@gmail.com by March 8th. She will forward your information to the other board members and add them to the agenda for the March 9th meeting.



Workshop

Description

Struggling with structures? Master & Eminent Pastelist, Nancie King Mertz will help you find the way to include structures in your landscapes and to 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.

2021 May Workshop with Nancie King Mertz

**We are now taking reservations for the
Nancie King Mertz workshop
on May 10, 11 and 12.**

Nancie is an award-winning artist noted for her frequent urban paintings but she also has an extensive portfolio of landscapes from her many 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 was the Guest of Honor for the French Pastel Society.

Check out Nancie's website to see her beautiful paintings!
nanciekingmertz.com

Due to continued uncertainties with the COVID 19 pandemic and concern for the health and safety of all, the workshop will be held online. Throughout this time of COVID, Nancie has taught many Zoom workshops. Although second best to meeting in person, participants have given positive feedback to this format. Here is Nancie's description of the workshop structure:

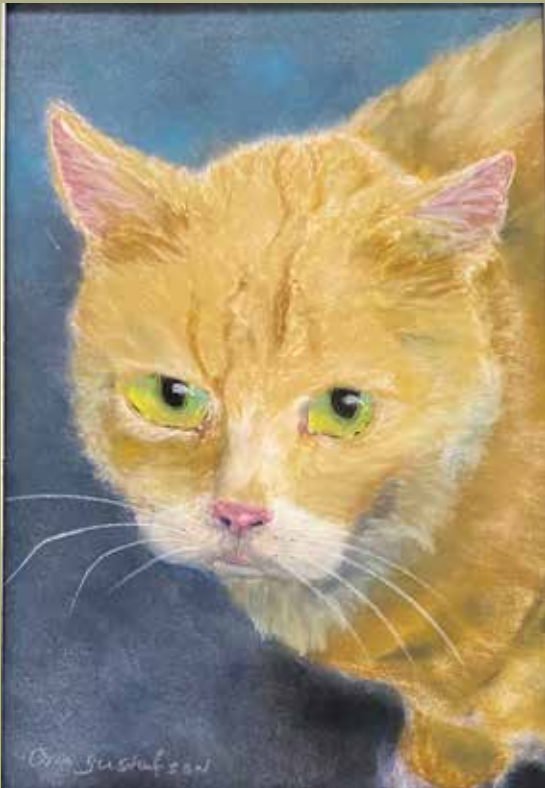
"We start at 10 central time with a demo for approximately 1.5 hours (My husband reads the questions in chat that I answer while painting), then a short break for setup/ lunch. The demo is recorded and sent to each student each evening.

Students then paint from approximately noon to 4. They send me their work in progress and ask questions along the way. I move their image into procreate and correct with my Apple pen and return corrections in a time-lapse video. It helps them see what corrections are needed in a step by step format. At 4 we have a group critique until about 5. We have fun during the critiques and everyone is very supportive."

The fee for this three-day workshop is \$300 for members and \$325 for non-members. Registration forms are on the following page. Include a non-refundable deposit of \$100 made out to LCPS, and send to the address on the form. Full payment will be due on April 20.

Becky Jokela, LCPS Workshop Chair

Ona Gustafson



Sherbie is 8x10 on pastelmat using panpastel and pastel pencil.



Somewhere near Mimbres

Michelle Wegler

After the passing of Elizabeth Mowry I felt compelled to do something. I decided to do a series of paintings inspired by her teachings and created a blog about my project. Check out my link below to see more.

I know many of you have been inspired by her as well.

[Michelle's Blog](#)



Memories



Change in the Air

Ann Solyst



Flutterpig



Sea Squirrel

For a few years I have been working on a series of imaginary creature paintings inspired by medieval bestiaries. These creatures are whimsical combinations of different animals meant to be comical, strange, and evocative. My goal is to eventually publish a bestiary of my own for a young adult audience.

I've also been working on a blog with my spoon carving husband, called Woods and Goods that you should all check out! It is an arts and crafts blog where we share our expertise in woodworking, painting, sewing, and just moving through the world as artists.

<https://woodsandgoodsaz.blogspot.com>

I have slowly but surely been putting drawing and painting tutorials up on my YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-bAgddMMwY37XPdkXQpcfA>



I am also excited to be represented by Athena Art Studio!

<https://athenaartstudio.com>

I also have an in person workshop at Eden Prairie Art Center called Pastel Owl, April 30, 6-8 pm. This is a low-key class where I teach students of any skill level basic pastel techniques, finishing the class by leading students through a step-by-step owl painting.

Frog-mouse

Rita Kirkman



A
"Frog Prince"
Paint-Along!

March 13, 1pm CST

This St. Patty's Day
Nothing says "Green"
like a Tree Frog!

Come paint this cute frog with us
Saturday, Mar 13, 2021

(Registration link
in description)

A "Frog Prince" Paint-Along with Rita Kirkman

\$20

Join us Saturday March 13 at 1pm CST for a fun frog Paint-Along! Register here: <https://www.ritakirkman.com/workshop/26717/a-frog-prince-paint-along>

This St. Patrick's Day, nothing says "Green" like a Tree Frog! ("Cute enough to kiss!")

Register EARLY to have time to prep your drawing! I will send you the Zoom invitation, the reference photo, some surface prep info and tips that include alternative underpainting methods in case you don't have what I use.

Hope you can come!

Best of Show

Rita Kirkman won Best of Show win at the Austin Pastel Society Juried Member Exhibit, with her latest large figurative piece "Cousins" 32x32.

The show is online at <https://www.artframingservices.com/Art-Art-List.php?eventId=19> and in person at the Austin Fine Art Gallery, Austin TX, Feb 8 - Mar 31, 2021.

You can vote for People's Choice online! Detail views of Rita's painting are viewable here: <https://www.ritakirkman.com/workszoom/4023807#/>



Cousins

Wendy Peterson & Carol Pruchofski

Wendy and Carol enjoyed a few hours painting together in Carol's studio.



Pat Ducean

In the Special Competition Issue of the Pastel Journal (Spring, 2021), I am thrilled, honored and humbled to have this piece "Nature Takes the Credit" (12 x 16) chosen for an Honorable Mention award in the Landscape section. I would like to thank the Judge, Tony Allain (British artist) and Ann Hevener for this opportunity to be a part of this honor in this edition of the Pastel Journal.

I remember this day well as it was a warm and bright sunny day in late August. A quiet and contemplative moment to observe and take in all the beauty that nature gives us. This Plein air painting was done on our property in the beautiful St. Croix Valley of Northwest Wisconsin. (Bone Lake, near Luck, Wisconsin)



Nature Takes the Credit



Our Sacred Earth

I am honored and grateful to receive word today that this Plein air pastel painting "Our Sacred Earth" (24 x 30) has been juried into the Arizona Pastel Artists Association National Show. Thank you to Nancy King Mertz and Terri Ford, the jurors for selecting the artwork images for this online exhibit. The judge for the awards will be William Schneider. The show will be available for viewing online after March 31st at <https://APAA.wildapricot.org/>.

Lisa Stauffer



I have a class coming up at Grand Marais Art Colony, 6 participants, masked and distanced.

Registration Information: [Painting In Pastel Registration](#)

Information on local accommodations can be found at: <https://grandmaraisartcolony.org/student-resource-page/>.

Grand Marais Art Colony
www.grandmaraisartcolony.org

Travel Tales from 2020. Lisa Stauffer

My painting pal, Cheryl LeClair-Sommer, and I took a trip the first weekend in January 2020 before we knew about the pandemic. We had a whirlwind three day adventure, we flew in to New York City Thursday evening. First thing Friday we saw the Sargent Charcoal Portrait show at the Morgan Library, amazing! The permanent collection is fascinating too, many manuscripts and letters displayed on a rotating basis.



John Singer Sargent
Eva Gauthier ca. 1920
Seeing this in person I felt like this woman was so alive she was breathing!



John Singer Sargent
Gertrude Kingston. ca. 1909



John Singer Sargent
Helen Dunham ca. 1895

Then we headed uptown to see the special Impressionist show including pastels at the Metropolitan Museum Of Art. We dashed through the permanent Impressionist exhibit, the exhibits around them, and saw the American wing, fabulous! A Dutch Masters special exhibit included many Rembrandts- wow! We then walked to the nearby Neue Gallery and Museum, this houses a permanent collection of Klimt's paintings including Woman In Gold (title is actually Adele Bloch-Bauer I); this painting's recovery is documented in the movie of the same name. It is so amazing to see his work in person, the texture and subtleties are not captured in print (true for all paintings). We closed the Neue down (open until 8 the first Friday of the month), staring at Woman In Gold, then capped off that great day with a fun Italian meal at Lidia Bastianich's Eataly, yum!



Attributed to Johannes Vermeer
Girl with a Flute
Dutch, 1632-1675

Saturday morning we continued the New York experience with a bagel for breakfast, and a quick trip to the NYC institution, the Strand Bookstore. We left hundreds of must see possibilities for the next trip and headed up to Penn Station for our train to Washington, D.C.

Upon arrival we checked in to the Pod Hotel (a newer hotel with smaller, less expensive rooms- bunk-beds!), then hit a highly recommended Turkish/Greek/Lebanese (Zaytinya) fusion restaurant enjoying the tasting menu- exotic and great food. Sunday morning we were off to the National Gallery to see the history of pastel exhibit- The Touch Of Color: Pastels At The National Gallery Of Art. What a spectacle for pastel painters, whee! We also saw more Dutch Masters including Vermeer, along with many of the rotating exhibits.



Mary Cassatt
The Black Hat, c. 1890



Childe Hassam
At the Grand Prix de Paris, 1887



Rosalba Carriera
Sir John Reade, Baronet, 1739



William Merritt Chase
Study of Flesh Color and Gold
1888



George Luks
Breadline, 1900



Edgar Degas
Two Women, c. 1878/1880

Flying back home our minds were exploding with all the visual information we had taken in these 3 days; we had so much fun that we promptly booked tickets back to D.C. for mid-March to see Degas At The Opera and True to Nature: Open Air Painting In Europe, 1780-1870. We would be able to see the Sargent portraits again, this time at the National Portrait Gallery.

Unfortunately for us, air travel was cancelled a few days before our second trip. We are so glad to have experienced the first one though!

The good news is that at the National Gallery's website, nga.gov, you can immerse yourself in a virtual tour of Degas At The Opera and the Plein Air show- True To Nature. Don't delay! The Morgan Library has a brief video about the Sargent charcoal portrait show online that is well worth viewing. The catalogs (books) on these exhibits, which can be purchased online, are really nice as well.

I urge you to visit to our fabulous museums, the inspiration is incredible.

The Smithsonian museums are amazing, you could spend weeks and not see enough, take advantage of this national treasure and happy travels soon! Lisa Stauffer

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608-738-5355

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Wendy Peterson
651-247-4405

**Lake Country Pastel Society
2021 Calendar**

Mar 13 - Board Meeting - Zoom
Member Meeting - TBD

May 10-12 Nancy King-Mertz
Workshop

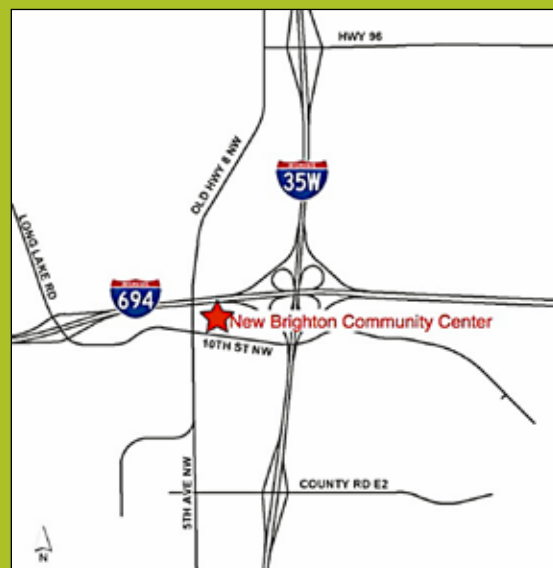
**RENEW YOUR
LCPS MEMBERSHIP**

Memberships run from January
1-December 31

To renew, click on the link or go
to the LCPS website at [HERE](#).
Select "Contact"

You can renew online using Pay-
Pal or mail in a check along with
the printed renewal form to:

Ann Solyst, Membership Chair
annpaintings@gmail.com



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 con-
tact people who don't have email.

If you have questions, call Rene Ellis
at 651-494-4039 or email [reneel-
lis101@gmail.com](mailto:reneel-
lis101@gmail.com)

"Creativity
IS
magic."

DON'T EXAMINE IT
TOO CLOSELY."

-EDWARD ALBER