### LAKE COUNTRY





May 2024

## 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



## Flourishing



marked by vigorous and healthy growth (a flourishing garden); very active and successful (a flourishing career).

How I see it, when you are flourishing, you are curious, creative, and

open to new experiences. You are caring for yourself and connecting to others. You are hopeful and optimistic about the future.

From the book Your Brain on Art: How the Arts Transform us - research shows us that arts engagement increases our longevity. Living longer is one thing. Living fully and well over the course of your life is another. The arts and aesthetics are the conduits for a full and vibrant life. Especially when coupled with curiosity, wonder and life-long learning.

"One of the top three great experiences of humankind is our capacity to learn" - Galileo

Andy J. Pizza states in his podcast, Creative PepTalk, that the key to healthy growth of your art practice is "A positively curious relationship with yourself." This includes learning your likes and dislikes; paying attention to what you think, and trusting your instincts and your personal taste. I could argue these are the same guiding principles for a flourishing life.

What curiosities are you currently following? What activities are you engaging in to spark your creative fire? How are you sharing and connecting with others? What role does your art play in your life? What lights you up?

"What you learn today, for no reason at all, will help you discover all the wonderful secrets of tomorrow" - Norton Juste

When speaking of ART, I don't just mean our painting practice. I mean all the arts – books, music, theater, movies, dance, gardening, cooking, and so much more. The aesthetic experience - all things that light up your brain and open your heart.

One of my favorite conversation starters is "What are you reading?" I'm a voracious reader. Year to date I've read over twenty books including a few standouts: Living Color by Natalie Goldberg, The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo, The Traiter & the Spy by Ben Macintyre and To Kill a Mockingbird (yes, again) by Harper Lee. These seemingly unrelated books are all part of a continuum. With every book I read, it seems that three more pop up on my radar. And from information learned, I'm often surfing the internet to learn more.

Seeking out your passions and trying new things is what makes life so darn interesting. Sharing what brings you joy and what you find beautiful in this world is a tremendous gift to others.

I chose flourishing as the topic for this article because of how thankful I am to have found the Lake Country Pastel Society and the pastel medium back in 2019. It was like walking through a door into a vast and beautiful new world. My artistic life is the center of a venn diagram that includes the circles of "Really Interesting People", "New Experiences", and "New Knowledge". I recently read someone described as "he exemplifies the essence of a flourishing life through the arts. Living in joy, in heartache, and in wonder, and forever opening, opening, like a blossoming, into the fullness of self and communi-ty". Wow, who wouldn't want that in life?

I hope you are blessed with the opportunity to spend your life looking forward and filled with wonder in your personal flourishing garden.

Wendy

Additional Prompts:

What if?

What are you afraid of? Fear is often an indicator that we are onto something brilliant. And it is essential to finding your voice.

Come up with three words that describe the person you want to be - then brainstorm on how to become that person.

\*Interested in my reading list? It's on my website - https://www.wendypeterson.com/blog

## TOUCH OF COLOR LCPS 2024 JUDGED EXHIBITION – WHITE BEAR CENTER FOR THE ARTS, WHITE BEAR LAKE, MN

As of publication of the newsletter we have 23 member artists registered and 53 paintings scheduled for display. It's not too late to get your entry in! IMPORTANT DATES

#### MAY 1, 2024 – ENTRY DEADLINE – FORMS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MAY 1. So yes, you can send it in today!

JUNE 1, 10:30-2:30 – DROP OFF ARTWORK FOR SHOW
JUNE 8 - JULY 26 – SHOW IS OPEN. There will also be an online show through the WBCA website after the opening reception.
JUNE 20, 6:30-8:30 PM - AWARDS CEREMONY AND RECEPTION. Everyone is welcome!
JULY 27, 10:30-2:30 – PICK UP ARTWORK

## Members Meeting

### Recap of the March 12 Members meeting: MaryAnn Cleary on Tonalism

MaryAnn's presentation began with a slide presentation, starting with her personal journey on painting. She had a good background in art while attending Mesa College in Arizona. Her images were mostly about life and portraits, showing samples of her early works.



MaryAnn's Journey

David Cleveland wrote a book on Tonalism and declared there were a minimum of 12 main characteristics of the art form. Following are his list of 12 attributes:

- Subtle color tones
- Aesthetic and expressive
- Stress is on symbolic form
- Atmosphere or unseen air
- Vibration and refraction of tones
- Expressive paint handling
- Employment of abstract and natural forms
- Use of soft edges, ambiguity, and mystery
- Emphasis on broad, graphic, and abstract reading of features, rendering an emotional response
- Poetry of the landscape
- Contained a spiritual dimension
- Feeling or mood evoked by the arrangement of the elements

The main seasons interpreted through Tonalism are spring and fall. Many of the paintings are plein air featured, sketching is also quite numerous.

Sometimes just the colors are taken down during plein air, for actual painting in the home studio. Tonalism is a precursor to Modernism. MaryAnn then showed samples of well-known tonalist artists, such as Whistler, Albert Pinkman Ryder, John Henry Twachtman, and others. She shared variations of their influence on the art form as well as common traits between them. This was followed by samples of modern tonalist painters. These included Paul Palmer, Kim Lordier, Wolf Kanm, Loriann Signoir and others.

Her first award came in Rush city from the Winslow Art Challenge. When she came across Tonalism, she did extensive research on its history, which began after the civil war in the 1880s, into 1900.

Her favorite tonalist influence is John Henry Twachtman. Impressionism had dominated the scene back in those years, so Tonalism was downplayed. In the beginning the focus was on landscapes, but eventually the style opened to interpreting poetry, photographs and other items. As an art technique it remained irrelevant until about 1972.



Comparison between pastel and oil Samples of Tonalism



Sample of tonalism



More samples of tonalism

She wrapped up her presentation by explaining her approach to Tonalism. Explained how to mix her own grounded pastels for her paintings. Sometimes she uses pumice gesso for her own work. She explained the process of reusing fixative sprays to layer her pastels. Her preference for paper is using gator board and not foam boards, due to how the foam boards curl when they dry. She had visuals of her paintings in the slide show and explained them while showing the process she used in the painting. There were lots of samples of her work available for people to view after the presentation. She then showed a short video about tonalism at the end of her presentation. After the session, she left some pastels and treated paper in the back of the room for any attendees to test her papers with paint strokes. Different textures on papers she intentionally created for us to experiment with.

STEVE BUDAS LCPS Program Chair Minneapolis, Minnesota

## **Upcoming Events**

### Members May 14 Meeting: Demo by Aline Ordman

New Brighton Community Center, Community room A (first floor), 7-9 pm.

Hey, we have a great demo for you coming up, presented by our workshop instructor Aline Ordman, an award-winning artist. Aline has received numerous accolades, including PSA Master Pastelist, Eminent Pastelist with IAPS and is a Signature Member of the American Impressionist Society. She has won awards several times in the Top 100 Pastels issues of Pastel Journal and was a featured artist in this year's February issue.

She is also a highly recommended instructor and teaches workshops throughout the country and in Europe. Her website is <u>www.alineord-man.com</u> and she maintains a blog at <u>http://alineordmanartwork.</u> <u>blogspot.com</u>.



### July 9, Bryant Lake Park, 4 – 7pm.

**CORRECTION - NEW DATE FOR PAINT-OUT!** Come join us at Bryant Lake Park for a great time to do some pleineair painting. The location is west of Minneapolis, so those near the area can participate and not worry about long drives. Last year we had a wonderful time at Keller Lake, as you can see in this photo. Don't miss out on this one!

### SEPTEMBER 10, Ink Line Drawing, New Brighton Community Center, room 224

Art Weeks is an award-winning artist in a variety of mediums including pastel, oil, acrylic and watercolor. He is active in the Lake Country Pastel Society, Minnesota Watercolor Society, Outdoor Painters of Minnesota, and North Star Watermedia Society among others. He is also on the faculty of the Minnetonka Center for the Arts and teaches Pastel Landscape and Watercolor Foundation on a periodic basis. A retired architect, he holds a B.A. in architecture from the University of Illinois and led many successful projects in the private and public sector during his career. He enjoys pastels as an artistic medium because of the rich color and combination of drawing and painting skills the medium requires. (Include same two images as last time)

### October 1 - Lyn Asselta Demo - New Brighton Community Center, 7-9pm.

Pastel, as a medium, seems to be a perfect metaphor for her relationship to these landscapes... vibrant, expressive, exuberant, and tactile; pastel allows Lyn to hold a piece of color in her hand and to capture the essence of the wild, untouched beauty she finds in the world.

Lyn is a Pastel Society of America Master Pastelist, an International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS) Eminent Pastelist, and a member of the Salmagundi Club of New York City.

She is the founder and past president of the First Coast Pastel Society (FL) and is a Southeastern Pastel Society Member of Excellence. Her award winning paintings have appeared in shows and exhibitions throughout the United States, and in invitational exhibitions in France and China. Her work has been featured in several books on the pastel medium, as well as in Pastel Journal magazine, Pratique des Arts magazine, and Plein Air magazine.



#### FALL WORKSHOP

"A painting should speak to your soul" ~Lyn Asselta

The Lake Country Pastel Society is excited to host instructor and award-winning artist, Lyn Asselta for our fall workshop. It will be held on September 30, October 1 and 2, 2024 at the New Brighton Community Center, New Brighton, MN.





Choosing pastel as her medium, Lyn Asselta creates vivid, thoughtful images of places that tug at her heart. These images are often purposefully meant to make her viewers feel as though they have stumbled upon a place of quiet strength and solitude. She chooses to create a narrative in her images, but welcomes and encourages you to create your own.

Her workshop goal is to guide you through new experiences with pastels in ways that are both challenging and informative. With an extensive background in teaching, she prides herself on being able to offer new ways to approach your artwork, and will give the inspiration needed to get out there and paint with more confidence!

Involved in fine art and fine craft for the past 30 years, Lyn Asselta is an award-winning artist and a sought-after instructor. She is a Pastel Society of America Master Pastelist, an International Association of Pastel Societies (IAPS) Eminent Pastelist, and a member of the Salmagundi Club of New York City. She is the founder and past president of the First Coast Pastel Society (FL) and is a Southeastern Pastel Society Member of Excellence. Her award-winning paintings have appeared in shows and exhibitions throughout the United States, and in invitational exhibitions in France and China. Lyn has had the honor of being an Artist in Residence for the National Park Service at Acadia National Park in Maine. Her work has been featured in several books on the pastel medium, as well as in Pastel Journal magazine, Pratique des Arts magazine, and Plein Air magazine.

In 2018, Lyn published her first book, Seeing the Landscape, a collection of her paintings and prose. Lyn has traveled extensively to teach both studio and plein air pastel landscape workshops and she currently writes Saturdays at the Cove, a newsletter on life and art, from her studio each Saturday morning.

Lyn hails from a small village in mid-coast Maine and is inspired daily by new landscapes and changes of seasons. Check out her website at: <u>www.lynasselta.com</u>

You may register for her workshop by sending the form below and payment to:

Becky Jokela, LCPS Workshop

37429 65th Ave.

Cannon Falls, MN 55009

Forward any questions to me at: <u>bjokela@gmail.com</u>

Becky Jokela

LCPS Workshop Chair

### Initial Registration Form

### LYN ASSELTA WORKSHOP - LAKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY - SEPT 30, OCT 1&2, 2024

Name:	
Address:	
Cell Phone:	Other:
E-mail:	
Amount enclosed:	_\$100 Down Payment or
	_\$445 Full Payment (\$485 non-members)
Make check payable to L	AKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY or LCPS and mail to:
	Becky Jokela, LCPS Workshop
	37429 65th Avenue
	Cannon Falls, MN 55009
	bjokela@gmail.com
	*Return this portion with balance by <b>AUGUST 26, 2024</b> *
Cell Phone:	Other:
E-mail:	
Amount enclosed:	\$345 due if initial payment was \$100 (\$385 non-members) or
	_\$445 Full Payment (\$485 non-members)
Make check payable to L	AKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY or LCPS and mail by <u>08/26/2024 to:</u>
	Becky Jokela, LCPS Workshop 37429 65th Avenue Cannon Falls, MN 55009

### Some Early History From Laura Irwin Schack

I met Barb Bjornson at an Artists del Norte member meeting 26(?) years ago, where she had come to speak about starting a new Pastel organization in MN.

At the time, I had already been using pastels for several years and was very interested in becoming involved. I started attending the early meetings and also began reaching out to other pastelists that I knew, several of whom also became members on the 1st board of directors.

I do recall all the many meetings we had (in person and by telephone/no cell phones) for up to a year before we were officially launched! Lots of hard ground work, research, decision making, information gathering, communication with other societies and public outreach was done. Many months, days and hours of personal time were put into this effort by our dedicated and focused team of volunteers. Barb was very good at keeping us focused on our goals and making sure we explored all the details before making final decisions. Everything we did was a "first" for our new society!

The rewards from those early years were many! I learned so much from participating on the board of directors and how an organization functions "behind the scenes". With the knowledge I gained about "everything pastels" through membership in the society, I grew as an artist and was enriched by the volunteer experience. I made several new and interesting art friends, as well as connections in the world of pastel art.

My experience with LCPS has been wonderful! I'm looking forward to continued membership and learning into the future.

Laura Irwin Schack

### STUDIO TOURS - 2024

A new program we started last year is called "Studio Tours." The main purpose of the tours is for those within the same region to get to know each other better. Many of you are not able to make the meetings due to distance, or not having them on a weekend, or not having them during the daytime hours. However, if you get an invitation to visit someone's 'studio', then you can meet someone nearby and make plans in the future to meet again. By 'studio' we may not mean actual studio, but the space in one's home that is used or dedicated to pastel painting.

Once you meet each other, you can plan future activities, like possibly car pool to the same event, schedule a time to paint together, ordering supplies together for better discounts, find out about nearby galleries to exhibit, or trade other tidbits of information about working with pastels. Let me know if you are interested in hosting one in your area. The guidelines are very simple. Steve can be emailed at steveb1339@usinternet.com.

STEVE BUDAS LCPS Program Chair Minneapolis, Minnesota

### What's The Deal With Pastels?

Thinking a bit of why I, like so many of us, love pastels.

Is it their vibrant colors? The immediacy of holding a piece of pigment and placing it directly on a substrate? The pretending to be a kid playing with the very best kind of "chalks"? I do not know.

It may be that pastels refuse to bow to age. Marks made by Edgar Degas, Mary Cassatt, and Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec look as though they could have ben made an hour ago. With no varnish to darken them, the colors remain fresh and vibrant.

Pastel pigments are patient. They will wait unchanged between studio visits. They will not dull or change color because of needed drying time. They will not form surfaces that must be re-activated when returned to for more painting.

Yes, they can be dusty, say no to one more layer, or get "muddy" from overworking - but these qualities are not enough for us to take up with a new favorite form of art supply! We will agree to try learning the lessons they are willing to teach.

Also, simply seeing how other artists organize their sticks in wide varieties of trays and boxescan give instant joy to eye and brain. Whether formed into pristine rows of rainbow colors or jumbled into bits and pieces cluttery clumps, our treasured pigments simply bring us joy.

Joy - that is reason enough for us to love pastels.

May our little chalky sticks and bits forever give us joy..

- Sue Rowe





## **Challenge: Spring Fling**

Don't fling that failed piece - have some fun with it!

We asked you to dig that failed piece out of the garbage. Use the freedom from "it can't get any worse" and have some fun with it.

These artists took up the challenge! While the results are impressive, I personally loved the FEELING of "why not?" and the FREEDOM to do "whatever" was incredibly gratifying.

If you didn't have a chance to do this challenge in April, I encourage you to give it a try.

From our entries: this month's winners are Joanne Meierhofer and Sue Rowe!

They will each receive a box of Mr. Clean Magic Erasers and will be presented at the May Member Meeting or mailed if not in attendance.



Gwen Solberg Before



Gwen Solberg After



Tammy Lambas Before



Tammy Lambas After



Sue Rowe Before



Sue Rowe After



Joanne Meierhofer Before



Joanne Meierhofer After



Janice Johnson Before



Janice Johnson After



Wendy Peterson Before



Sandy Swerman Before



Wendy Peterson After



Sandy Swerman After

## **Member News**

## Wendy Peterson

Wendy Peterson is excited to be offering two classes at the White Bear Center for the Arts. The classes will be held during the same period as our annual Judged Exhibition in hopes that people viewing the show may be interested in learning more about the medium.

Introduction to Pastels - Thursday June 27, 2024 - 6:00-8:00pm and Saturday June 29, 2024 - 10:00am-12:00pm.

Pastels in Action: Underpainting - Thursday July 18 - 6:00-8:00pm and Saturday July 20, 2024 - 10:00-12:00pm. Additional information will be available in the Summer 2024 Catalog on the White Bear Center website shortly. <u>https://whitebeararts.org/</u>

## Rita Kirkman

Pastel Workshop with Rita Kirkman. Hosted by the Ozark Pastel Society. July 26-27 in Siloam Springs AR. Contact Diana Harshbarger, <u>Art.dianakay@gmail.com</u>. This workshop will teach you how to infuse your painting with the feeling of warm sunlight. You will learn to nail your values using an acrylic-based underpainting, then identify and utilize color temperatures to make your painting glow!

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Rita Kirkman's "Idol" (pastel, 12x12 inches) has won BEST OF SHOW at the Austin Pastel Society Annual Juried Member Exhibition Celebrate Pastels! 2024. Thank you to Judge Natasha Isenhour for her quote:

"There is so much to say about this painting. The composition in this format is so intimate. When you look at it you feel like you are part of what's happening. The name says it all about the gentle and reverent look on the cat's face, and the lighting shows you what the cat feels is the subject. The exquisite use of color to portray the powerful lighting is masterful. Hands down, my pick of the show."

"Idol" is painted from a photo of Mewler atop the bookcase where the cats like to hang out when the warm sunlight streams in on sunny mornings. The wooden carving is from a trip to Jamaica back in my single years. I like to sneak photos when they're not looking; sometimes I'm pleasantly surprised.



## Lisa Stauffer



I will be teaching <u>Plein Air Painting in Pastel</u>, July 1-5, including a nocturne and a chance to paint fireworks (weather permitting!) The class will be up in Grand Marais, MN. We will be outside for most of class time, moving inside for inclement weather and a few talks and painting reviews. Come up and join us this summer on the beautiful North Shore of Lake Superior, improve your painting skills and have lots of fun!

More details under workshops on my website at-lisastauffer.com

### Susan Warner

I will be participating in the Pine Harbor Studio Spring Open House Come visit this lovely gallery near Lake Wissota When: May 4th 9-5pm Where: Pine Harbor Studios 7157 185th St.

Chippewa Falls, WI 715-726-9166

Featuring handmade pottery, paintings, jewelry, glass, soaps, ice dyed clothing and accessories just to name a few! Perfect gifts for Mother Day!



Kinni Kayaker Susan Warner Pastel on Paper, 20W X 16H

### Patricia Duncan

I am honored to have two pieces juried into an exhibit at the Amerind Museum located about 77 miles south and east of Tucson, Arizona in Dragoon, Arizona. This is a beautiful museum of Native American art, history, culture and archeology. It's another part of Arizona's Native American rich heritage and culture. The show will be up from late May through November of 2024.



Honor the Harvest Plein air Pastel (24 x 30) Location: In the woods of Bone Lake near Luck, Wisconsin



Sunlit Path Through the Mesquite Trees Plein air Pastel (11 x 14) location Catalina, Arizona



Amerind Museum (Dragoon, Arizona)

### 2024 Wisconsin Earth Arts Spring Tour

Friday, May 3rd, 10:00 to 5:00

Saturday, May 4th, 10:00 to 5:00

Sunday, May 5th, Noon to 5:00

This Spring Art Tour has been an annual event for over 20 years in the beautiful St. Croix River Valley. There are several artists participating and showing their work at their home studios and galleries. I will be showing many of my Plein air pastel and oil paintings at my studio on Bone Lake. I hope many of you can come to enjoy a day or two visiting many of the artists.

I also am offering Wellness Through Art Retreats at our cabin on Bone Lake. I have these brochures available during the Earth Arts Spring Tour and I can also mail them to anyone interested. There will be 3 day retreats in July and August. Please contact me through my email for more detailed information.

mpatriciaduncan@aol.com



### Kristina Rodby

My first solo show hosted by a friend in Marine on Saint Croix, where my dream of being an artist was silently whispered to myself decades ago came full circle. It went really well, thrilling, in fact. I encourage you to try it if you haven't. The biggest change was in my mindset. After hearing the feedback on my work and how people responded with how it made them feel and what it made them think about. I definitely identify as all artist now and value my work.

### MaryAnn Cleary

Fresh from the press! Well, i got these news through e mail. It is fresh because I just learned today that:

I made it into the IAPS show: 2024 IAPS Juried PastelWorld - 44th open division

I cannot show a picture of it until the convention.

The next one is another painting of mine, A pastel, made it into the <u>American Women</u> <u>Artists online show</u>. (This one also made it into the Fav 15% for the Boldbrush contest with Fine Art Studio Online for March).



### **Board of Directors**

*President* Wendy Peterson 651-247-4405

*Vice President* OPEN

*Treasurer* Susan Warner 832-663-1815

*Secretary* Nancy Dahlof 952-544-8927

Program Chair Steve Budas 952-221-6285

Exhibit Chair OPEN

*Workshops* Becky Jokela 507-263-5681

*Public Relations* OPEN

*Mentoring Program* Eileen France *717-572-1205* 

*Membership Chair* Michelle Wegler 218-343-6887

*Historian and Newsletter Chair* Dian Dewi 612-999-3106

Past co-Presidents Christine Tierney 612-210-3377 Pat Duncan 612-644-6798

## Lake Country Pastel Society 2024 Calendar

#### May 2024

1 - Newsletter

6 - Board Member meeting 5.30рм-7рм - Zoom

13 - 15 WORKSHOP - Aline OrdmanNew Brighton Community Center, Community Room A (first floor)

14 - 7:00-9:00рм - Member Meeting -Aline Ordman demonstration - New Brighton Community Center, Community Room A (first floor)

#### June 2024

1 - Saturday - 10:30-2:30 - DROP OFF ARTWORK for LCPS Judged Exhibition - Touch of Color - White Bear Center for the Arts

1-15 - Monthly Challenge

8 - TOUCH OF COLOR OPENS -White Bear Center for the Arts

11 - 16 - IAPS Convention - Albuquerque, NM

20 - Thursday - 6:30рм-8:30рм - Opening Reception, Juror Talk and Awards Presentation - LCPS Judged Exhibition - Touch of Color - White Bear Center for the Arts

### July 2024

1 - Newsletter

2 - Board Member meeting 5.30рм-7рм - Zoom

9 - Member Paint-Out event - Bryant Lake Regional - 6800 Rowland Rd, Eden Prairie, MN 55344 Q

August 2024 1-15 - Monthly Challenge



#### 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 Wendy Peterson 651-247-4405.

