

Dust in the Wind

May 2025

From the President



Dive Deep, Swim Far

I was in my third day of preparing for a new class curriculum and I declared to my husband, "I don't think I'm going to teach anymore after this quarter. It is just so much work, and it takes me away from my painting." He sweetly smiled and said, "Whatever you feel is right for you, but you will do a great job."

it was not about the time or the effort. It was about fear. I was suffering from a bout of 'Imposter Syndrome'

"Be not the slave of your own past-plunge into the sublime seas, dive deep, and swim far" Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Wendy, put on your big girl underwear and get to work!" (Yes, I actually said this to myself every single day when I started my business back in 2001) I knew it was simply a good indication that I was embarking on a situation that would help me to grow.

I kept PREPARING: Thinking through my painting process, seeking the 'why' in photo references, practicing thumbnails, trying out different color combinations, laying in underpaintings, painting small studies, and finally distilling all this into a PowerPoint and handouts.

When I was done, I was reminded of the 'why' behind 'why' I was teaching - to share knowledge with others as they travel on their own journey.

But there was another unexpected benefit to all that work. I was reminded that when we are willing to try new things, to make riskier choice, that's when we set the stage for new discoveries. And when it comes to our art, maybe even creative breakthroughs.

Suddenly with all the emphasis on fundamentals, several ideas that had been brewing seemed possible.

It is never easy to learn new things (whether by our choice, or outside our control) but growth seldom is. Regardless of the outcome, those new skills get added to our resume and knowing that we pushed through our fear, bring confidence that we can face new challenges.

Is there something that's been holding you back from taking the next step in your artistic journey? Is there a little bit of fear that is a cue to drive over that speed bump and keep going? Take it from me: You can do it.

Wendy

PS: The class went very well and I signed on for another quarter of teaching. My husband was not surprised.

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	1
Upcoming events	2
Members meeting	3
Workshops	4
Exhibition	6
Articles	9
Challenge	10
Member News	11
Calendar	14

Upcoming Events

May 15, THURSDAY – Lorenzo Chavez Live Demo

New Brighton Community Center room 224, 7pm – 9pm

Lorenzo, our workshop artist, will be giving a live demo of his work and technique.

Please note that this is Thursday, not our usual Tuesday meeting day.

Lorenzo Chavez was born and raised in the southern most point of the Rockies in New Mexico. His first inspirations and foundation as a young artist were formed by the local landscape and the art history in New Mexico. Using pastel and oil mediums, his hope is to carry on the art traditions of American painters such as the Taos Society of Artists and the American Impressionists.



Lorenzo is a nationally known Fine Art instructor who has taught numerous workshops across the United States since 1993. Lorenzo is represented by many major fine art galleries and many private and corporate collections both nationally and internationally. Currently there are nine art books featuring his works of art around the world. You don't want to miss this great opportunity!

July 8 Paint Out, Tuesday from 4pm – 7pm.

This coming July join us for our annual Paint Out, or you may call it our annual plein air event. We are planning our event just north of Forest Lake at Paradise Park. It is located in Chisago City. There is a beautiful lake, wonderful large trees, a beach, shelter, a children's play area, and of course, bathrooms. You have many options to choose from for an outdoor scene. It will also be a great chance to learn from others about techniques and the process of preparation for outdoor painting itself. Directions are: (Think Taylor's Falls) Take I-35 to County Road 8, and turn east driving past Wyoming to a street in Chisago City called Olde Towne Road. (Your GPS unit may refer to it as Benet Road.) Take a right turn to Stinson Ave., which is about a block, then you'll see the sign for Paradise Park and a right turn into the parking lot. Hope to see you there.

September 9, Kathe Drake demo on Still Life.

New Brighton Community Center, Room 224, 7pm – 9pm

Kathe Drake is an award winning pastel and oil painter. Like many artists, she has been creating art since childhood. She graduated from the University of Minnesota with a minor in art and furthered her studies at the Minnesota River School of Fine Art, where she went on to teach pastel painting. She has also taken a number of workshops from well known artists at the Scottsdale Artists' School.

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STEVE BUDAS

LCPS Program Chair

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Members Meeting

Recap of the March 11 Presentation

Andy Sturdevant from Springboard for the Arts, gave a presentation on how to start your own business. He began with a brief history of his own artistic endeavors, which included working with pastels. He began with the question: Why would you turn your artistic work into a business? It would help to increase your income through sales, not grants. The other question posed was: Am I a hobbyist or professional and why? The difference is how one approaches losing money. As a professional you must create the mind set of making a profit. A professional thinks in terms of NOT losing money.

With the profit motive in mind, one has the option of choosing to be registered as an LLC (LIMITED LIABILITY CORPORATION) or DBA (DOING BUSINESS AS). Your first priority would be to determine a name for you business (and website or other social media platforms). You can do both a state wide search for any business that has that name already, and a national search. This will help you decide on the official name. Once you have a name, you register first with the state and get a state ID number. Then use that information to acquire your federal ID, or EIN for tax purposes. A business planning document, or tax planning document helps you manage the business throughout the year. Most sales will require that you pay taxes, so using an e-commerce website will help you manage those taxes. Cash sales get tricky and it is easier to manage the records using checks, credit cards or doing sales online. It is important to keep track of your monthly list of activities related to your business. It will help you (or whomever does your taxes) at the end of the year. Andy responded to all questions as the discussion continued through the presentation. In the end he handed out a form that was the beginning of a business planning sheet. He also mentioned the services that Springboard offered, all of which were free to artists. He was very encouraging about the whole project. He mentioned that having an email list of your buyers, or people interested in your work, was the best way to encourage future sales of your work.



STEVE BUDAS

LCPS Program Chair

Minneapolis, Minnesota

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art materials

FRED SOMERS WORKSHOP OCTOBER 13, 14 & 15, 2025

‘Paint what you love, walk in the light.’

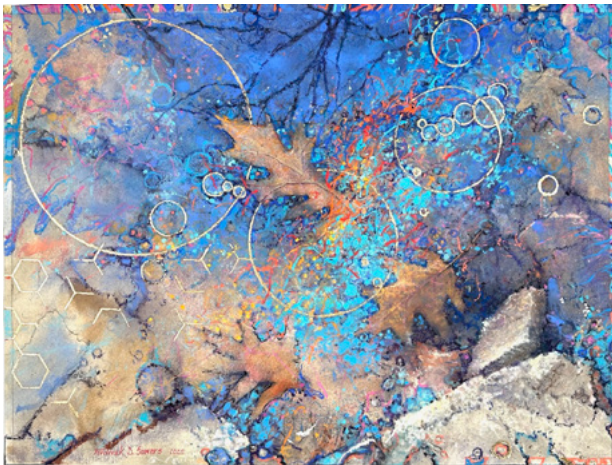
~Fred Somers

The Lake Country Pastel Society is excited to announce that our very own Fred Somers will be teaching a three day in-studio workshop on Monday - Wednesday, October 13-15, 2025. It will be held in his home studio near Northfield, MN.

Fred has painted in pastels for almost 50 years and has been a member of LCPS since its beginning 25 years ago. After teaching drawing, painting and printmaking at St. Olaf and Carlton College, he moved to his farm home studio and began his adventure as a freelance artist, painting in pastel and oil. His paintings, known for their peaceful sensitivity, reflect themes from the land. In Fred’s words, “I love painting woods, fields and streams, interpreting vistas and intimate views.” His pastel paintings of the Big Woods State Park, which is near his home, were chosen for the 1996 Minnesota State Park permit design. Fred continues painting as well as teaching workshops throughout the US and in Sweden.



His numerous awards include the 2020 induction into Pastel Society of America Hall of Fame. An IAPS Master and Eminent Pastelist, Fred is also a signature member of the PSA and an Associate of Oil Painters of America. He has been named American Swedish Artist of the Year and Great River Greening’s Landscape Artist of the Year. Fred’s pastel paintings have been featured in many books, magazines and journals.



This will be a hands-on workshop with demonstrations, slide presentations and plenty of one-on-one instruction. Fred will introduce unique materials and techniques that he has developed. You’ll explore new ways of seeing that can enhance your individual style. Working in Fred’s studio and gallery, you will be surrounded by his beautiful paintings and immersed in his creative space. An inspiration in and of itself, this will truly enhance the learning process. Each student will have a limited amount of space with a small table.

This workshop is bound to fill up fast, so though it’s months away, don’t hesitate to register! You’ll find forms below.

Becky Jokela and Gwen Solberg
Workshop co-chairs

Initial Registration Form

FRED SOMERS WORKSHOP – LAKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY – OCTOBER 13, 14 & 15, 2025

Name: _____

Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Other: _____

E-mail: _____

Amount enclosed: _____ \$100 Down Payment OR

_____ \$415 Full Payment (\$455 non-members)

Make check payable to **LAKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY** or **LCPS** and mail to:

Gwen Solberg, LCPS Workshop
1033 Tamarack Lane
Lino Lakes, MN 55014

FRED SOMERS WORKSHOP – LAKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY – OCTOBER 13, 14 & 15, 2025

*Return this portion with balance by **SEPTEMBER 13, 2025***

Name: _____

Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Other: _____

E-mail: _____

Amount enclosed: _____ \$315 due if initial payment was \$100 (\$355 non-members)

Make check payable to **LAKE COUNTRY PASTEL SOCIETY** or **LCPS** and mail by **09/13/2025** to:

Gwen Solberg, LCPS Workshop
1033 Tamarack Lane
Lino Lakes, MN 55014

Upcoming Exhibition

Lake Country Pastel Society – 2025 Judged Exhibit

July 19, 2025 to August 23, 2025

Hosted by: Frameworks Art Gallery – Highland Park, St. Paul

Mandy Madsen owns a framing business in St. Paul, but she also uses the space for exhibiting many fine artists. This year she has agreed to allow Lake Country Pastel Society to exhibit there this coming summer. This show will be our judged show for 2025.

Show information will be publicized through the local news outlets, their own email list and Mandy will print and distribute over 6,000 postcards promoting our exhibit.

Entrants, their family members, and friends are strongly encouraged to attend the reception on Saturday, July 26 from 6:00-8:00 pm. Fruit and Vegetable appetizers will be available, along with soft drinks and wine

PROSPECTUS CALENDAR

- June 15, 2025 – Entry Deadline. Forms and payment due. (No Late Entries Accepted)
- July 14 or 15, 2025, between 10am and 7pm, - Drop Off your Artwork

July 18 and 19, Judging will occur.

- Saturday July 26, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm - Opening Reception
- Saturday, August 23, 2025, 10:30 am – 6 pm - Pickup of Artwork

Paintings must be picked up and dropped off during listed times. (If unavailable on list drop off arrangements must be made with other LCPS members for drop off at the stated date/time. Put this on your calendar now.)

We will try to organize a list of volunteers to drop-off and pick-up paintings if you are not able to do so on the scheduled dates. But it is always best to reach out to another member directly.

Two weeks after show closes, checks are mailed out, from Frameworks Art Gallery, to those who had a painting sold.

ELIGIBILITY AND RESTRICTIONS

Must be a current Member of LCPS (Membership renewals can be made online.)

Exhibit entry fee is \$20 for 1 piece; \$25 for 2 pieces; \$30 for 3 pieces.

All exhibition sales go through the Frameworks business, with a 40% commission. Artwork does not have to be for sale.

- Paintings must be 85% soft pastels, no oil pastel.
- Artwork must be completed within 2 years of the exhibit's start date.
- Work must not be completed under supervision or classwork.
- Paintings from past exhibitions are not eligible.
- No title or price changes after submission.
- Paintings must be framed, under glass, and ready to hang with wires attached. (No sawtooth hangers).
- Artwork must remain until the end of the show.
- Paintings must be tasteful and respect family viewing. (No nudes).

INSURANCE AND LIABILITY

All Possible care will be taken with your artwork, however ,neither LCPS nor Frameworks Art Gallery are responsible for loss or damage to artwork at any time. Frameworks does carry basic insurance, however.

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STEVE BUDAS

LCPS Program Chair

Minneapolis, Minnesota

FRAMEWORKS EXHIBIT APPLICATION FORM

ENTRY PROCESS

1. Fill out and sign the entry form. Mail the entry form and check (Payable to LCPS), postmarked no later than June 13, 2025 to:

Wendy Peterson, 811 Hidden Lake Road, Roberts, WI 54023

2. Email a high quality jpeg (jpg) image file to wlpeteking@gmail.com. Please name your file: last name, first initial and title of the work. e.g. lastname_first initial_title.jpg.

3. Fill out ID tags to match entry information and attach to the upper left corner of the back of the painting before drop off. The ID tag must have the following information: Name, Title, Medium, Size and Price (or NSF) in that order.

Questions: Contact—Wendy Peterson, President, wlpeteking@gmail.com, 651-247-4405

Entry Form for the Lake Country Pastel Society 2025 Judged Exhibit

DUE JUNE 13, 2025

Name_____

Address_____

City_____State_____ZIP_____

Phone_____

Email_____

_____I am willing to hold and deliver pieces to or from Frameworks Art Gallery.

I AGREE TO ALL THE TERMS SET FORTH IN THE PROSPECTUS

Signed_____Dated_____

Entry #1

Title_____

Medium _____

Price (including 40% commission) _____

Not for Sale_____ (Insurance Value) _____

Unframed Dimensions: Height_____ Width_____

Entry #2

Title_____

Medium _____

Price (including 40% commission) _____

Not for Sale_____ (Insurance Value) _____

Unframed Dimensions: Height_____ Width_____

Entry #3

Title_____

Medium _____

Price (including 40% commission) _____

Not for Sale_____ (Insurance Value) _____

Unframed Dimensions: Height_____ Width_____

MAIL TO:

Wendy Peterson

811 Hidden Lake Road

Roberts, WI 54023

ARTICLE ON JUDGE

Suzann holds a Bachelors of Fine Arts degree from Moorhead State University, Moorhead MN, studied portraiture for 3 years with Jeffery Hurinenko who apprenticed with artist Charles Kapsner who trained at Studio Simi, Florence Italy. Suzann has been studying figure since 2017 with nationally-known draughtsman Michael Mentler, Dallas, Texas, who is viewed by many as a living embodiment of Leonardo DaVinci. As an award-winning oil and pastel portrait painter, Suzann is a sought-after portraiture instructor, serves as an Ambassador for the Portrait Society of America, and organizes the Minnesota Portrait Network, a resource for the Minnesota members of the Portrait Society of America. Suzann works primarily from life in her Northeast Minneapolis studio where she works with her own apprentices as well as teaching at multiple area art centers in the Minneapolis area and St. Cloud, MN.

Suzann Beck is a Minneapolis-based fine artist working in realism with the mediums of oil, pastel, and charcoal. She specializes in portraiture, with her subject matter ranging from commissioned portraits to figure, still life, and landscape. Suzann is particularly influenced by the Renaissance painters and Russian Itinerants of the 19th century including Repin and Kramskoi.



Suzann says: “This art journey has changed my life in ways I could never have foreseen, and as I came to it later in life and found that age does not determine what you can achieve, I am all the more dedicated to pass on what I’ve learned in my short painting journey. There’s a certain healing that happens when you can give others the opportunities and tools you wish you had in your past journey, and a gift you give to the world when you unlock and nurture the potential students didn’t know was possible.”



Challenge

APRIL CHALLENGE-SPRING STILL LIFE

Stillness is the foundation of understanding and insight - Thich Nhat Hanh

Spring is often thought of as the time of renewal and activity. "Spring Cleaning" is the act of clearing out to welcome the new season and each day brings changes in the landscape. But before we rush into the busy seasons, let's take one last opportunity to appreciate the joy of stillness.

This month's challenge was to paint a still life. Either a traditional still life or something that conveys a stillness or peacefulness.

Five artists sent in the eight entries below.



Betsy Midthun



Gildersleeve - Clara Rose



Johnson - The Promise of
Renewal



Betsy Midthun



Betsy Midthun -
Tulips Yearning for Spring



Jokela - Bowl of Pansies



Gildersleeve - Flowers



Peterson - Forgotten

One name was drawn for this month's prize - a 3-1/2" x 5-1/2" Stillman & Birn Zeta Series Softcover Sketchbook (\$13 value) and the winner is Becky Jokela!

Watch for our next challenge in June!

Member News

Jan Johnson

Here's my exciting news:

This winter I spent a lovely week in residency at the Grand Marais Art Colony. The entire Founders Hall (a renovated church) was mine 24/7! It is featured on Instagram @gmartcolony



Wendy Peterson

wendypeterson.com

UPCOMING CLASSES

All classes are held at the White Bear Center for the Arts. You can register online at whitebeararts.org.

Introduction to Pastel - May 10 - 9:30-12:30, July 8 - 9:30-12:30

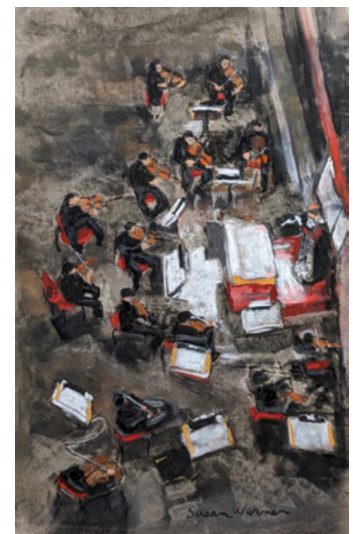
Beginning Pastel Painting - Level 1 - Two-day class building on Introduction to Pastel, this class begins to explore the pastel painting process. Two Wednesdays June 11 & 18 - 9:30-12:30. July 9 and 16 - 9:30-12:30.

Pastel Painting - Developing your Skills - All Levels - This two-day class will build on the skills and concepts outlined in the Beginning Pastel classes while allowing for more painting time with individual guidance. Two Wednesday June 11 & 18, 1:00-4:00 pm. July 9 and 16, 1:00-4:00

Susan Warner

I am thrilled and honored that my painting “A Night at the Opera” has been accepted into the 2025 IAPS Juried Webshow – 46th Open Division. This piece was inspired by a visit to the historic opera house in Catania, Sicily, where we had a Birds’-Eye view of the orchestra during the Opera “Marriage of Figaro”. I’ve always loved watching the musicians perform, and from this vantage point, I was struck by how they moved and breathed as one — like a single, fluid organism shaped by the music of Mozart.

The Webshow is really great, so be sure to take a look at all of the amazing pastel paintings, from all over the world.

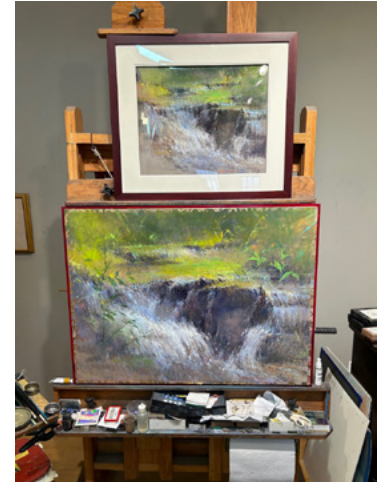


Fred Somers

Current work enlarging smaller paintings changing mediums from oil to pastel and pastel to oil. when a concept has been finished enlarging the painting concept design will have already been done now it's just making larger with a different medium. Pastel has size limitations and some clients want work with our glass. I've had many doors open when I was able to make an oil look like a favorite pastel or a favorite pastel look like and oil. so working on a 9x12 oil doubles to 18x24 pastel and then a 36 x 48 oil. Here are two examples first one.

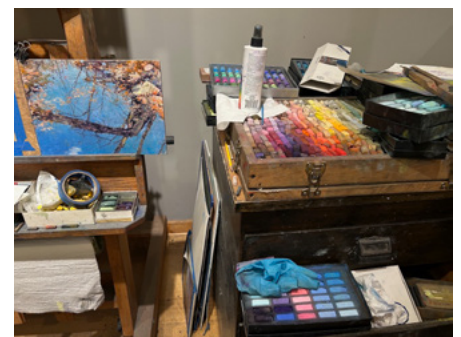
"Ancient Fountains rising"

30x40 oil on linen and 23 carat gold
The study piece was a smaller 16x20 pastel

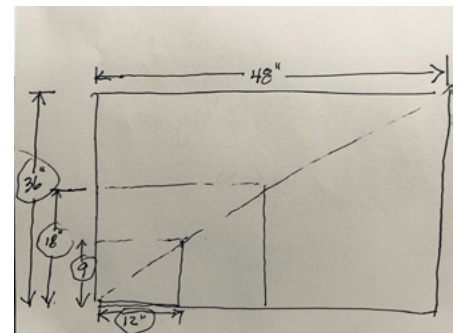


The second work is on my easel now I'm getting materials together for the last step of making a 36x48 oil on linen painting for corporate client. So you see the 18x24 pastel on Stonehenge and the 9x12 oil on linen.

"Door of Hope"



18x24 pastel on Stonehenge from a verse in old testament book of Hosea 2:14 Gods promise in the wilderness he will make the valley of trouble into a door of Hope. Such a message for my heart in this season. The last image is an hand drawn diagram of scaling a small work larger



"Paint what you love." walk in the light."

**DIANE TOWNSEND
ARTISTS' PASTELS**



Lisa Stauffer

I will be teaching a Plein Air class in Pastel, July 7-11 including a nocturne (weather permitting!)

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

I would be delighted to see your smiling face in class!

[Plein Air Painting in Pastel](#)

\$495.00

Workshop Dates: 7/7/2025- 7/11/2025, 9:30-4:30, may adjust hours around the nocturne painting

Location: Grand Marais, MN

To be announced, primarily outdoors

Grand Marais Minnesota 55604

United States

Class Description: Paint outside with pastel in beautiful Grand Marais. The basics of outdoor painting will be discussed throughout the week. You will learn to choose your own subject, improve your skills in design, composition and drawing, consider painting fundamentals, and more. Instructor demonstrations, personal assistance at your easel and group critiques will give us a chance to learn as we explore plein air (outdoor) painting in a fun and supportive environment.

Do plan to bring all the equipment you will need for your own painting set-up and comfort during our days of painting, watching my demonstrations and enjoying the beauty of Grand Marais and Cook County.

Contact me for registration information (you can mail a check, or pay with cash on the first morning. Feel free to call or email with any questions that you have about class.

lksart@aol.com

lisastauffer.com

218-720-5888 cell, please leave a message

When you register for the class you will receive a supply list to help with planning. You will want a car or transportation to get to our painting locations. We will need to be flexible if it is raining. We will try a dusk/sunset painting, the nocturne date may change if the weather dictates that. Location and timing details and supply list will be sent when you register.

I would be delighted to see your smiling face in class!



T E R R Y
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LCPS 2025 Calendar

May 2025

1 - newsletter

6 - Board member - 5.30PM-7PM -
Zoom

14-16 WORKSHOP - LORENZO
CHAVEZ

15 - Chavez Demo

June 2025

1-20 - Painting Challenge

4 - FREE MEMBER EVENT -
12:00-1:00pm - Artwork Archive
session on art business develop-
ment.

19 - Deadline to enter TOUCH OF
COLOR SHOW - LCPS ANNUAL
JUDGED EXHIBITION

July 2025

1 - Newsletter

1 - Board member - 5.30PM-7PM -
Zoom

8 - LCPS Member Meeting - Paint-
out - location TBD

14-15 - DROP OFF ARTWORK for
TOUCH OF COLOR SHOW

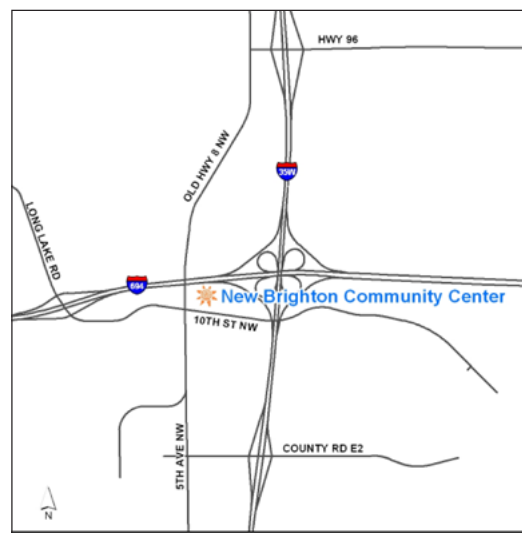
19- TOUCH OF COLOR SHOW
- LCPS ANNUAL JUDGED EXHI-
BITION

26 - TOUCH OF COLOR RECEP-
TION

August

1-20 - Painting Challenge

23 - TOUCH OF COLOR SHOW
ENDS



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, contact
Wendy Peterson

