



## Watercolor Artists Of Sacramento Horizons

**WASH Newsletter**

**January/February 2026**

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:**

Happy New Year.

Thank you all for having the confidence in my ability to lead this great team for the next two years. While this will be a new experience for me, I think I have the passion to lead us into two years of fun, great art and a sense of belonging to a great organization.

I want to thank the people who are leaving the board for their years of service, Chris Knopp, our former president, Sally Bostley, our membership chair, Susy Soulies our show co-chair. We hope to see you all at the general meetings and the great new art you will now have time to do.

One of the first challenges in taking on this job is to find new volunteers for the vacant positions. I hope that those of you who have not volunteered take the time to see where you can help out. This is an all-volunteer organization. It has been successful because of you and can only continue with your continued help. I look forward to talking with you all, and seeing where you can help us stay vibrant in the future.

Again, Happy New Year!

BJ Taylor- President of WASH

The following WASH members were accepted for the upcoming CWA International:

- ★ Barbara Kempe
- ★ Jo Kopp
- ★ Steve Stein
- ★ Steve Walters
- ★ Anthony Rogone
- ★ Kristi Warren

**Congratulations, all!**

Membership has it's benefits! Did you know that [MerriArtist.com](http://MerriArtist.com) gives us a 10% discount? I've purchased supplies from them in the past, and delivery was really fast, considering they're in Oregon...not South Carolina. Simply use the code WASH at checkout.

**Get 10% off anytime!**



As a thank-you for your support, MerriArtist gives all WASH members 10% off!



## HOUSEKEEPING:

*Note from your Newsletter Editor: The WASH newsletter is published and emailed to all members in January, March, May, July, September, and November. The deadline for the **March/April** newsletter will be **February 20**. Photos are especially appreciated. Thank you!*  
ronnierector@yahoo.com

Be sure to send any **address, phone** and/or **email changes** to Membership Chair **NOLA SMITH** at [knit2n@gmail.com](mailto:knit2n@gmail.com).

Follow us online at:

Website: <https://washsfac.org/>

Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/WASH.WatercolorArtistsofSacramentoHorizons)

WASH.WatercolorArtistsofSacramentoHorizons

Instagram: @wash\_sacramento

## YOUR 2026 OFFICERS:

President	BJ Taylor
Secretary	Teresa Edwards
Treasurer	Cordi Sogge
Program Co-Chairs	Alyssa Gorman Rose White
Membership Chair	Nola Smith
Show Chair, Interim	Kristi Warren
Workshop Chair	Steve Stein
Newsletter Editor	Ronnie Rector
Webmaster	Chris Triplett
Media Coordinator	Help Wanted!
SFAC Liaison	Help Wanted!
Scholarship Co-Chairs	BJ Taylor, David Kalbach, Tom Adams, Chris Knopp

## BECOME A MEMBER!

<https://www.sacfinearts.org/membership193bc6ca#join>

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Please welcome our newest WASH members:

**MYRA RAMOS CHAVEZ**, Colusa

**NOLA SMITH**, Carmichael

**SANDRA WARNE**, Carmichael

Happy New Year! I would like to introduce the new WASH Membership Chair, **NOLA SMITH**, who just joined WASH October first. You Please stop and introduce yourselves when you pick up your name tags at the meetings.

Artist Stella Canfield will be presenting the demonstration for our January meeting. You can find out more about her from her website, <https://www.stellacanfield.com/> To the right is just one of the many pieces included on her website. Come in person or via ZOOM!

[General Meeting Zoom Link](#)



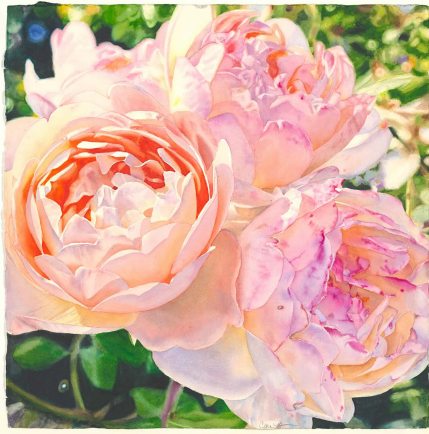


## WORKSHOP NEWS

We have an incredibly talented set of guest artists scheduled for workshops in 2026. By registering now you will have an opportunity to work hands-on with nationally recognized artists to explore plein air painting, learn techniques to infuse your work with luminous light, and improve your expressive use of lost and found edges.

Full details, including pricing and registration are available on the [Coming Workshops](#) page of the WASH website or click on any of the artist names below.

***Class size is limited so sign up early to become a better painter in 2026!***



“Beckoning”  
by Cara Brown

**5 Seats Left**

### [Cara Brown Workshop](#)

\$245 Members/\$265 Non-Members

January 25 - 26, 2026

10 am – 4 pm each day

About the Workshop: Cara has curated a special 2-day session based on her [Watercolor Basics and Beyond](#) workshop. In this interactive studio workshop, Cara will share her techniques for creating soft edges, fuzzy backgrounds and luminous light. Students will be working their own photographs and there are no specific subject matter assignments. Paint what you are inspired to paint! It is recommended that the main subject in your source photo be illuminated brightly with some strong contrast between foreground and background. Be sure to bring all of your usual painting supplies but the most important one is good paper. Cara’s methods are best on 300 lb. paper.

### [Dongfeng Li Classroom Series](#)

\$225 Members/\$275 Non-Members

Every Friday Afternoon on March, 2026

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm



“Sacramento River”  
by Dongfeng Li

**9 Seats Left**

About the Workshop: Using traditional still life as a method for instruction, Dongfeng Li will help guide students to:

- ✓ Identify and simplify complex shapes.
- ✓ Find the ‘drama’ in compositions.
- ✓ Keep colors, washes and brush strokes fresh and expressive
- ✓ Observe and practice color mixing and application methods
- ✓ Color temperatures observation and practice
- ✓ Handle water consistency and timing on the paper
- ✓ Manipulate brush strokes and washes to form a personal language for your watercolor

**LIMITED TO 14 STUDENTS**



## WORKSHOP NEWS, CONTINUED



“5 O’Clock Shadows”  
by David Savellano

**3 Seats Left**

### David Savellano Plein Air Workshop

\$245 Members/\$265 Non-Members

April 16 - 17, 2026

9:00 am - 3:00 pm each day

About the Workshop: In this *plein air* workshop, David will share his methods for mastering watercolor timing—knowing when the paper is wet enough but not too wet, or when it’s the right moment to add the next wash, and mixing colors directly on the paper, so that they melt into one another. We will begin with a half-day demonstration in the SFAC studio and then move to a nearby location (TBD). The second day will be entirely on location and wrap up with a critique of your work. Students will receive personalized feedback and tips tailored to your skill level, helping you develop your own voice in watercolor.



“Curses and Blessings”  
by Geoff Allen

**2 Seats Left**

### Geoff Allen Still Life Workshop

\$365 Members; \$395 Non-Members

May 19-21, 2026

9 am to 3 pm

About the Workshop: Join award-winning watercolorist Geoff Allen for a three-day still life workshop focused on painting fruit and flowers from life. Each day begins with foundational lessons in watercolor handling, including the relationship between brush mixture and paper moisture, and the expressive use of lost and found edges.

This class is designed for students with some watercolor experience through intermediate level. Through a combination of demonstrations and hands-on exercises, students will explore color mixing, contour drawing, and brush handling while observing natural forms and light firsthand.

Geoff’s goal is to help you grow as a painter—and to see the beauty of light, form, and nature in a whole new way.



## MEMBER NEWS:

David Peterson will be hanging art January 3-29, 2026 at the Elk Grove Fine Arts Center, with a First Saturday Public Reception on January 3, 4-7 p.m., featuring an artist talk and live music. David Peterson, NCA MP, has paintings in private collections across the country. Since 2002, he has been accepted into dozens of state-wide juried shows and has won over 100 awards. He portrays the familiar scenes of our neighborhood in a humorous and enigmatic way. David shows you California landmarks, including urban scenes, the American River, and our neighborhood differently, simply and in a unique manner.

The Center is located at 9020 Elk Grove Blvd. Suite 101 Elk Grove.

Shown below are two of his pieces, "Riverside," and "On the Road."



## EXHIBIT NEWS:

**WASH EC**  
**AWASH WITH COLOR**  
 Watercolor Artists of Sacramento Horizons

48<sup>th</sup> Annual Members Exhibition – Important Dates:

Friday, January 9th, 5:00 pm	Online Registration Ends
Monday, January 12th, 12:00 pm	List of Accepted Paintings Posted to Web
Friday, January 16th, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Receiving
Saturday, January 17th, 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Receiving
Tuesday, January 27 <sup>th</sup>	Show Opens
Saturday, February 14th, 5:30 - 7:30 pm	Reception/Awards
Saturday, February 14th, 7:30 pm	Pick Up Paintings Following Reception



## PAINTING OF THE MONTH



There were nine paintings on display for the November Painting of the Month. Steve Stein won the vote with his "Blake Gardens," which was on display at the gallery throughout the month.

**NEW for this year** (through November 2026), there will be a \$100 award for the winner of Painting of the Month!  
Rules follow:

### How to Enter Painting of the Month:

Bring your framed, signed, original watercolor painting to the monthly WASH Meeting.

### Who can enter?

Only current WASH Members may submit a painting.

The cash award is limited to one per calendar year per artist.

### Artwork Requirements?

Paintings must be original watercolors.

Any size is welcome.

The painting must be framed and ready to hang in the SFAC Gallery.

Must be available to hang until the next WASH General Meeting.

### Voting?

Voting takes place during the monthly meeting. All present may vote.

1st place award is \$100

If there is a tie, there will be two \$50 awards

The winning painting will be featured in the SFAC Gallery for one month, and will be featured on the WASH Website and WASH Newsletter.





## ART SELF-HELP BOOK REVIEW

Feeling that dreaded Artist's Block lately? You're not alone. Both AlysLynn Lemke and your Newsletter Editor have been fighting it. We were chatting about the problem, and she highly recommended a couple of books she has downloaded to her Kindle audio list. I bought the first one in hard-cover and have found it very useful. Then my family bought me 9 new books for Christmas, including "*Mona's Eyes*," so I've been reading about art instead of creating it. Oh well.

*The WAR of ART – Break Through the Blocks and Win Your Inner Creative Battles*, by Steven Pressfield.

AlysLynn says "Pressfield is a famous writer who fought writer's block for years and was able to conquer it by pushing through it, eventually becoming a historical expert and writing the novel and movie "Bagger Vance." He talks about the block as a spiritual part of you he has labeled "resistance," that will do anything to stop you from doing what you want to do. It's a quick read and I would recommend it to everyone. Now I need to do what it says to do - sit down and paint. I did three pages of a sketch book so far, I can't commit to a painting. Even writing this email would be considered "resistance!" OK, now I have to get to the studio, even if I just clean up."

Another audio book AlysLynn highly recommends is "*The Judgment of Paris: The Revolutionary Decade that Gave the World Impressionism*," by Ross King. She says, "It's a crazy good historical account of artists between 1850 and 1900 in Paris, comparing the most acclaimed artist of the day, Ernest Meissonier, to the struggling Edouard Manet and the other impressionists as they entered the Paris Salon. Very interesting politics involved and when listening you feel like you are there. Ross King also wrote a book about Claude Monet and the water lily paintings and one on Michelangelo, but the Judgement of Paris is my favorite."

