

South Bay Watercolor Society

Newsletter

May/June 2025

www.southbaywatercolor.com

www.facebook.com/groups/456206742942684

Next Meeting:

Monday May 12, 2025, 2:00-4:00 pm. In-person at Destination Art

A Word From the President



Fellow SBWS Members,

Seems our 2024 Member Show just came down, and plans have already been made for the 2025 show. While the board considered other venues with timing earlier in the year, Destination: Art (DA) remained the preferred venue and was not able to offer a significant time change. The 2025 show will open November 20th and will end when DA closes for the holidays.

By eliminating the January weeks of our 2025 show, the DA 2026 calendar can be shifted. The DA Board will meet later in May to consider a 2026 calendar which gives SBWS a 4-week May-June show.

The SBWS Board also decided to alter and to detail the prospectus requirement that has just said "original artwork." The board has concluded that our members need not be held to the all the standards of the National Watercolor Society (NWS). With the availability of copyright-free photos on the Internet, we will be allowing reference photos that are copyright-free or that the photographer has given the artist permission to use. In no case may you copy a painting, even if it is copyright-free. Other details will be in the prospectus and will remain similar to NWS rules.

We are fortunate to be in an area that has so many opportunities to show our art. The DA Associates Show is taking entries now. Gallery of Hermosa and Esperanza Gallery are places to show and sell. A number of our members belong to other art societies that have galleries and shows including the San Pedro Art Association and Palos Verdes Art Center.

Art Tip from Parrish Hirasaki – Evaluate your composition using grayscale. Our cell phones make this easy to do. I always have my composition fully developed before I paint and look at the reference in grayscale. Then, I photograph my painting in progress to see if the dark-light pattern is as strong as the reference. Many of you have a creative process where you create your composition as you paint. A grayscale photo of your painting will help you see if the composition has strong enough value patterns.

Keep painting,
Parrish Hirasaki

PRESIDENT

Parrish Hirasaki

VICE PRESIDENT

Robert Reinhardt

TREASURER

Linda Thompson

RECORDING SECRETARY

Suzanne Kuuskmae

MEMBERSHIP

Sylvia Smullen

PUBLICITY

Sharon Ratterree

EXHIBITION DIRECTOR

Parrish Hirasaki

PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

Debbie Abshear

WORKSHOP COORDINATOR

Debbie Abshear

WEBSITE COORDINATOR

Ettore Andreani

NEWSLETTER

Alvin Takamori
alvintaka@att.net

MONTHLY RAFFLE

Jocelyn Cole

ARMSTRONG THEATRE

Bill Wassenberg

Douglas Castleman - May 12th Demonstrator



Douglas Castleman



Douglas Castleman is a professional watercolor and oil painter. He also works as a freelance illustrator. He specializes in landscape, aerospace and marine painting, and the occasional wildlife subject.



Douglas is an Artist Fellow Member of the American Society of Aviation Artists, an artist member of The International Association of Astronomical Artists, the Los Angeles Society of Illustrators. He has won numerous awards for his art, including many best of show and first place awards, from local, national and international art shows, and the City of Torrance, California, where he resides. Hundreds of his paintings are in private and corporate collections, five at NASA, and two at the Pentagon. From 2000-2018 he taught watercolor painting for Yosemite National Park, but that ended when the program was halted. He teaches both oil and watercolor to many private clients. He has been invited to demonstrate both his oil and watercolor techniques to many local art groups and regularly teaches art to adult students at Destination: Art, where he has a studio/gallery. Many of his paintings have been published. He has earned a Bachelor Degree in Art from California State University, Northridge and a computer graphics degree and another degree in multi-media from Platt College, Cerritos, California.



Anne Kupillas - March 10th Demonstrator



Anne Kupillas



For the March SBWS meeting, artist Anne Kupillas demonstrated how she creates paintings of pets. In this case a painting of a dog. Starting with a photograph, Anne converts the image to black and white and enlarges it to the size she wants the painting to be. She then prints it in reverse (flipping left to right). Using tracing paper on top of the black and white print, Anne traces the features she wants to use to guide her painting. She likes the tracing paper at Michaels because it's very transparent.

Once she has her sketch on tracing paper, she flips it over and transfers the lines to a sheet of watercolor paper. She likes Arches cold press 140lb paper. Hot press paper is good for more accurate photorealism, but Anne prefers the painterly quality of cold press paper.

Anne's primary paint of choice is Daniel Smith. But whatever your choice, it's a good idea to have a sample piece of paper to test colors before you use them. The initial coat of paint is a thin layer leaving lots of white space. She is always conscious of making sure she softens edges. Brands of brushes that she uses are Princeton Aqua Elite and Rosemary and Co. She feels like they hold paint well.

For portraits of animals or people the eyes are the most important feature. Anne starts her paintings with a focus on the eyes, nose and mouth. If they look wrong, she can start over without having invested too much time. For small corrections Mr Clean Magic Eraser is effective for removing a tiny spot of paint.

If the subject is light in color, Anne will paint in the background before the face and body, but she'll leave extra space around the edges because she wants to avoid shrinking her subject early in the process. However, many of her clients like a white background. Sometimes she'll paint a halo effect, or she'll paint an abstract background. Paintings don't always have to replicate the photograph. Sometimes a pet will have a colorful collar, and Anne will tone down the brightness so that it won't be distracting.

Halfway through the painting process, she'll erase some of the pencil lines especially in light areas; however, she doesn't mind if a few pencil lines show.

Subsequent layers of paint darken areas. She wants to keep shadows transparent, not opaque. Indigo blue is a good color for dark sections. Applying too much paint can break the fibers of the paper, and then it doesn't look as fresh.

Anne wants to avoid outlining. Broken lines are better. The viewers' brains will fill in gaps, and it looks more natural. For random strokes, hold the back end of the brush handle. For more precision and control, choke up on the brush handle. Anne recommends you create detail only in the places you want to focus on, like the face. Too much detail throughout a painting becomes distracting and has the effect of an overall pattern.

Anne is a volunteer watercolor painting instructor at CSULB's OLLI program and leads a free weekly Watercolor Happy Hour Zoom class on Fridays from 4-5pm PST.

An avid plein air painter, she also leads small groups of plein air artists on retreats and workshops with her company, EatPaintLive.

@annekupillasfineart
AnneQPdraws@gmail.com

www.anneQPdraws.com www.eatpaintlive.com



SBWS Raffle

Anita Dixon won a painting from Anne Kupillas

March 10th Winners!



1st Place
"My Amy"
Linda Thompson



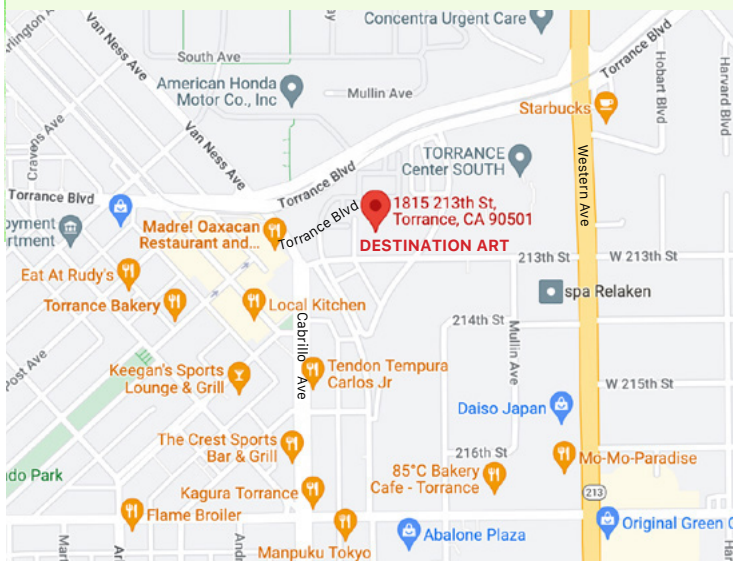
2nd Place
"King Arthur"
Bill Wassenberg



3rd Place
"Sunday Sail"
Janice Bock

SBWS General Meeting Monday May 12, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

You can attend the meeting in-person at Destination Art, located at **1815 W. 213th Street, #135** in Torrance. Meetings are free for anyone to attend. However, to participate in competitions, the member show, the Facebook page, and to receive this newsletter and discounts on workshops, you need to become a SBWS member by paying the \$30 annual fee. If you'd like to help set up tables and chairs for the meeting, arrive around 1:00 pm.



Join the SBWS Facebook group

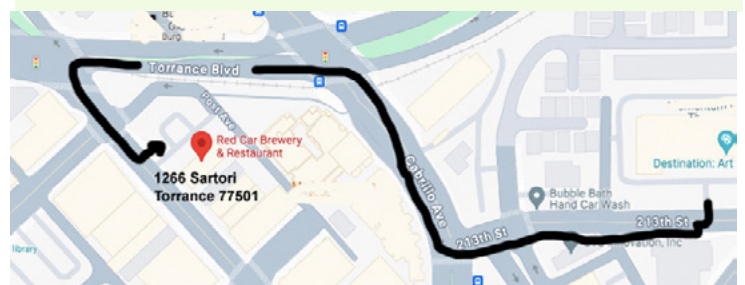
Follow the SBWS Facebook page to get event information and to see what other members are painting. The very creative name of the page is "South Bay Watercolor Society," so it is easy to find.

www.facebook.com/groups/456206742942684

Join SBWS members for lunch

On the day of the SBWS General Meeting, usually ten to twelve members have lunch at the Red Car Brewery & Restaurant around 12:15 pm. The restaurant is located at 1266 Sartori Ave., Torrance.

RSVP to Parrish Hirasaki
parrishh@verizon.net
310-367-1998



SBWS Member News

Robert Reinhardt had a solo exhibition at Organically at Your Best in April.

Jen Chan exhibited a collaborative piece she created with artist Kimie Joe in the “Symbiosis” show at Resin Art Gallery/Indivisible Arts in April

Sharon Towle won a “Fifth Award” in the 2025 San Pedro Community Exhibition at the National Watercolor Society Gallery for her painting, “Outside the Safeway, Avalon.”



Claudia Kazachinsky has been very busy. She is in the, “Figure This” Art Show at the Chemers Gallery in Tustin. The Show ends May 10th with artists from the show creating art in front of the gallery.

Claudia also won first place in the contemporary art category with The Reader. Her painting was the first to sell in the show.



She also attended the L.A. Times Festival of Books with author Gretchen Webber for the book, “Beanie the Weenie” which **Claudia** illustrated.

Janice Bock sold her painting, “Imagine Memory Lane” and **Parrish Hirasaki** sold her painting, “Kyoto Steps,” in “The Spirit of Omoide Yokocho (Memory Lane)” art show at the Gallery of Hermosa.



Janice Bock



Gretchen Webber and Claudia Kazachinsky

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APC Fine Arts & Graphics

Watercolor Class

Tuesdays 1:00–3:30 pm

\$25 single session/\$20 each for multiple sessions

Taught by Ron Libbrecht

1621 Cabrillo Ave., Torrance

(310) 328-0366

Art Supply Warehouse

Life Drawing

Wednesdays 1:00–4:00 pm & 6:00–9:00 pm

\$15 per session

Uninstructed

Seascapes: Step by Step in Acrylic

Thur., May 8, 2025, 6:30–8:30 pm

\$45 materials provided

Taught by Sarah McCourt

Pet Portraiture

Sun., May 11, 2025, 10:00 am–1:00 pm

acrylics

\$50 materials provided

Taught by Sarah Lew

Watercolor Basics

Sun., June 8, 2025, 10:00 am–1:00 pm

\$45

Taught by Anne Kupillas

Catalyst, 6630 Westminster Blvd.

Westminster

Artists Magazine

Artists Magazine's 42nd Annual Art Competition

Early Bird deadline: May 20, 2025

\$25 members/\$35 non-members

Final deadline: July 8, 2025

\$30 members/\$40 non-members

5 categories: Animal/Wildlife

Abstract/Experimental

Landscape/Cityscape

Portrait/Figure

Still Life/Floral/Interior

19th Annual Over 60 (years old) Art Competition

Super Early Bird deadline: May 6, 2025

\$15 members/\$25 non-members

Early Bird deadline: Aug. 26, 2025

\$25 non-members/\$35 members

Final deadline: Oct. 21, 2025

\$30 members/\$40 non-members

Splash 27: The Best of Watercolor Art Competition

Super Early Bird deadline: May 13, 2025

\$15 members/\$25 non-members

Early Bird deadline: Oct. 14, 2025

\$25 non-members/\$35 members

Final deadline: Dec. 19, 2025

\$30 members/\$40 non-members

Chemers Gallery

Figure This

Sat., April 26th–Sat., May 10th, 2025

Mon.–Fri., 10:00 am–5:00 pm,

Sat., 11:00 am–4:00 pm

Figure This Painting Demo

Sat., May 10th, 12:00 am–4:00 pm

17300 Seventeenth St., Suite G, Tustin

info@chemersgallery.com

Destination Art

Creative Awakenings

2025 Spring Gallery Artists' Show

Currently on display until Saturday, May 17, 2025

Thurs.–Sat. 11:00 am–4:00 pm

Associate Member Artists' Exhibition 2025

Thurs., May 29–Sat., July 5, 2025

Register: Now–Wed., May 21, 2025

\$38

Registration link and prospectus at www.destination-art.net

Elements of the Landscape: A Watercolor Journey - Buildings in Landscape

Wed., May 7, 2025, 9:00 am–12:00 pm

\$65

Taught by Fatemeh "Aya" Kian

Assemblage and Retablos - Series III, Class #2

Sat., May 10, 2025, 9:00 am–12:00 pm

\$50

Taught by Lynn Mikami

Elements of the Landscape: A Watercolor Journey - Q&A and Final Touches

Wed., May 14, 2025, 9:00 am–12:00 pm

\$65

Taught by Fatemeh "Aya" Kian

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Capturing Light and Shadow in Plein Air Watercolor

Thurs. & Fri., May 15–16, 2025 9:00 am–4:00 pm

Planned locations; Redondo Harbor and 389 Paseo Del Mar

\$365

Taught by Geoff Allen

Assemblage and Retablos - Series III, Class #2

Repeat

Sun., June 15, 2025, 11:00 am–3:00 pm

\$50

Taught by Lynn Mikami

Paint-Ins

Tuesdays, 10:00 am–3:00 pm

Work on your own projects with your own supplies \$15, or \$10 for Associate artists. Drop in, no registration needed.

Register for classes at www.destination-art.net 1815 W. 213th Street, #135 Torrance

Esperanza Gallery

“Nurture” Art Show

Sat., May 3, 2025–Sun., May 25, 2025 Reception: Sat., May 10, 2025, 3:00–7:00 pm

Painting Landscapes

Sat., May 24, 2025

Hours: 9:00 am–2:00 pm

\$150

Taught by Vahe Grigorian

includes two pre-sketched 12”x16” canvases

“Roses” Paint Party

Fri., May 9, 2025

Hours: 6:00–8:30 pm

\$45 includes 11’x14’ canvas

\$5 upgrade to 16”x20” canvas

Taught by Esperanza Deese

Register at esperanzagallery.com

113 West Torrance Blvd, Redondo Beach

Located on the top area of the Pier

Gallery Hours: Thurs.–Sun., 1:00–6:00 pm,

Gallery of Hermosa

“The Spirit of Omoide Yokocho (Memory Lane)” Art Show and Sale

Sat., April 5, 2025–Sun., May 10, 2025

11:00 am–4:00 pm

Pickup art: Sun., May 11, 11:00 am–4:00 pm

Mon. & Tues., May 12 & 13, 11:00 am–2:00 pm

Honoring the journeys and cultural contributions of the Japanese diaspora.

“Discovery” Art Show and Sale

Sat., June 7–Sun., July 6, 2025

11:00 am–4:00 pm

Reception: Sat., June 7, 2025, 5:00–8:00 pm

Entry Deadline: Wed., May 14th, 2025

\$20.00 Entry Fee

\$5.00 Additional Image Fee

3 submission max.

Setsuko Hayashi Spring Silk Dye Workshop

Sat., May 10, 2025, 2 sessions: 12:00–2:00 pm & 3:00–5:00 pm

\$65 materials included

register online at GalleryofHermosa.com

Bob Burridge Workshop & Art Show

Mon.–Fri., May 19–23, 2025, 9:00 am–4:00 pm

Reception: Fri., May 23, 2025, 5:00–8:00 pm

Exhibit of art from the workshop: Fri. May 23, 5:00–8:00 pm, Sat. & Sun., May 24 & 25, 11:00 am–4:00 pm

\$925

Abstract acrylic painting and collage taught by Robert Burridge

138 Pier Ave., Hermosa Beach

info@galleryofhermosa.com

www.galleryofhermosa.com

(323) 364-6606

Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute

2025 GVJCI Art Show

Entry Deadline: Sat., Aug. 24, 2025

Exhibit: Sat., Sept. 27, 11:00 am–5:00 pm

Sun., Sept. 28, 10:00 am–4:00 pm

Theme: The Nikkei (people of Japanese ancestry) experience in America. Think about the intersection of Japanese food, art, culture, celebrations, history, etc. in America. Artwork submitted needs to be approved.

Entry form on the website: jci-gardena.org

No Entry Fee

Tomo No Kai (senior) Watercolor Paint-In

Hours: Wed. 10:00 am–12:00 pm

Anyone at least 50 years old can join Tomo No Kai for

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\$12/year. Members have access to any Tomo No Kai class including the watercolor class.

\$3 per class, room #207 at the GVJCI. Open to artists of any ethnicity, and skill level.

1964 W. 162nd St., Gardena

www.jci-gardena.org

(310) 324-6611

National Watercolor Society

2025 National Watercolor Society Member

Online Exhibition

Exhibit: May. 1–June 30, 2025

2025 NWS 105th International Open Exhibition

Exhibit: Wed., Oct. 1–Sun., Nov. 2, 2025

Hours: Fri.–Sun., 11:00 am–3:00 pm

Entry Deadline: Fri., March 23, 2025, 4:00 pm

www.nationalwatercolorociety.org

Palos Verdes Art Center

PVAC Annual Student Art Exhibition

Exhibit: Fri., May. 2–Sat., May 24, 2025

Hours; Mon.–Fri., 9:00 am–5:00 pm,

Sat. 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

5504 Crestridge Road, Rancho Palos Verdes

Malaga Cove Art on the Lawn Show

Sat. & Sun., May. 10 & 11, 2025

Sat. & Sun., June 14 & 15, 2025

Hours: 10:00 am–5:00 pm

Malaga Cove Plaza, Palos Verdes Drive West between Via Chico and Via Corta

Summer Art Academy

Mon., June 9–Fri., Aug. 8, 2025

Half-Day 9:00–11:30 am or 12:30–3:00 pm

Full-Day 9:00 am–3:00 pm

Eight one week sessions for children ages 5-7 or 8-12

\$280 Half-Day, \$360 Full-Day

5504 Crestridge Road, Rancho Palos Verdes

(213) 444-6013

pvcartcenter.org

Redondo Beach Art Group

South Bay Credit Union Monthly Featured Artist

Macro Magic Exhibit

Reception: Fri., May. 30, 2025, 6:30 pm–8:00 pm,

May Artist: Cristine Wolfe

312 N. Pacific Coast Highway, Redondo Beach

Outing at South Coast Botanical Gardens featuring “Bamboozled” (bamboo sculpture) exhibit

Sat., June 14, 2025, 11:00 am–1:00 pm,

26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes Peninsula

Portrait Workshop with Claudia Kazachinsky

Sat., Aug. 23, 2025, 10:00 am–12:00 pm,

First United Methodist Church

243 S. Broadway, Redondo Beach

San Pedro Art Association

New SPAA Gallery at Crafted at the Port of L.A.

A new gallery opened on Feb. 8, 2025

Fri.-Sun. 12:00–6:00 pm

Free admission

112 E. 22nd St., San Pedro

sanpedroart.org

Torrance Art Museum

Main Gallery: Body Counts

Highlighting how figurative art, in many forms, can reflect on issues of representation, trust, group dynamics, alienation and social capital.

Gallery Two: David DiMichele - Envirotechnology

An immersive light art installation exploring the relationship between environmental issues and technology.

Dark Room: Erin Cooney - Aire Libre

A single-channel video installation about environmental injustice in South Los Angeles.

Sat., March 29–Sat., May 24, 2025

Reception: Sat., March 29, 2025, 6:00–9:00 pm

Museum Hours: Tues.–Sat., 11:00 am–5:00 pm

3320 Civic Center Drive, Torrance

www.TorranceArtMuseum@TorranceCA.Gov

Valley Watercolor Society

Two-day Workshop with Kim Johnson

Sat. & Sun., May 17 & 18, 2025

9:00 am–1:00 pm

Online via Zoom

Non-Members \$180

VWS Members \$140

kj-art.com

Monthly Meeting with Demo by Moh'd Bilbeisi

Thurs., June 12, 2025

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7:00 pm–9:30 pm

Online via Zoom

Two-day Workshop with Moh'd Bilbeisi

Sat. & Sun., June 21 & 22, 2025

9:00 am–1:00 pm

Online via Zoom

Non-Members \$180

VWS Members \$140

MohdBilbeisiArt.com

Register at: www.valleywatercolorsociety.org

VEFA Gallery

Surreality 101

Now–Sat., May 24, 2025

California Art Club Annual Gold Medal Exhibition

Sat., June 14–Sat., Aug. 9, 2025

Hours: Wed.–Sat., 12:00–8:00 pm

21825 Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance

vefagallery.com

SBWS Instagram Post

For your painting image on the SBWS Instagram home page -

Instagram makes the posts on the home page square by cropping. Go see:

[https://www.instagram.com/](https://www.instagram.com/southbaywatercolorsociety/)

[southbaywatercolorsociety/](https://www.instagram.com/southbaywatercolorsociety/)

Your entire painting will show on the click-through screen. If you do want your entire painting to display on the home page but it isn't square, Parrish can put borders on two sides to make it square. Just let her know when you send your image. She'll "fix it" in Photoshop and let you approve.

Send your brief bio or artist statement. On that you should include any links to your work - Facebook page, Instagram, website, etc.

Mary Arakawa is our Instagram director, but Parrish Hirasaki is assembling the posts. Send image and bio to Parrish.

Parrish Hirasaki

310-367-1998

parrishh@verizon.net

Armstrong Theater Lobby Display

SBWS has a continuous exhibition in the lobby of the Armstrong Theater in the Torrance Civic Center. The rotation is 3 artists showing paintings for 2 months. Paintings can be very large, as the wall area can accommodate them.

It's a great opportunity to show your work to people who attend live performances.

Bill Wassenberg is the chair for this project. Just let him know that you want to be on "the list." He'll contact you when your name comes up. Bill will make the labels. You do not need to help with hanging, but of course, you can if you wish.

Bill Wassenberg - (310) 539-2463 wwassenberg@yahoo.com

SBWS Website www.southbaywatercolor.com

If you have a webpage for your art, you can put the link on the SBWS website. The Members page is where the links are located: www.southbaywatercolor.com/members.htm

Send the URL to Etty Andreani, the Website Director: eandreani25@gmail.com