

Next Meeting:

Monday July 14, 2025, 2:00-4:00 pm. In-person at Destination Art



A Word From the President

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alvintaka@att.net

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Fellow SBWS Members,

Good news for our 2025 Member Show which will open Thursday, November 20, is that Destination Art is having its 2025 anniversary celebration the first weekend our show is up. We will have our reception in December, so our show will effectively have two receptions.

The board members have come up with some new ideas for the show and the reception. We will be discussing them at the July meeting and are looking both for feedback and for additional ideas.

- Small paintings wall that is not part of the competition
- Portfolio stands at the reception with unframed art for sale
- Reception quiz that has attendees finding paintings that match clues
- People's Choice Award

At my request as Exhibition Director, Destination Art has made space for our 2026 show in the spring. It will begin in April and run 4 weeks ending in May. This means only 5 months between the two shows...Yikes!

Some bad news for SBWS, Debbie Abshear will only be Workshop Director in 2026 and will not continue as Programs Director (all these wonderful demo artists she has brought us). It is a critical position, and Debbie and other board members will help the new Programs Director. Is this something you could do?

One reason I do so much for SBWS is that 3 art groups that I belonged to disbanded because not enough members took on responsibilities. Torrance Art Guild, Pacific Art Guild and Culver City Art Group had all been around for decades. At the meeting, there will be a list of tasks related to the show that need volunteers, and soon we will be looking to fill other 2026 board positions. Is it time for you to be more active in SBWS?

Art Tip from Parrish Hirasaki – Are you finding time to paint? Attending painting groups twice a week really helps me keep painting. I had a nice vacation this spring and returned with many painting-worthy photos to add to my very large collection. Left on my own, I doubt I would have started a painting from the trip. Thanks to the definite times to paint, it seems I will have several new paintings to select from to enter in our member show. Of course, one of the best things about the painting groups is the new friends I have made.

Keep painting,
Parrish Hirasaki

Kevin Davidson - July 14th Demonstrator



Kevin Davidson



do with traditional rag paper. It's like working in opaque oils with all the qualities and spontaneity of watercolor. Southern California is probably the world capital of

scenes to paint in Plein air. We have an astounding variety of landscape: mountains, a seemingly infinite species and colors and shapes of trees, water, beaches, marinas, desert scapes, quaint buildings in old towns, old mining ghost towns, and, along with great weather most of the year round, this is a plein air artist's dream.

Kevin Davidson

website: www.watercolorypo.tumblr.com

email: kj.davidson@earthlink.net

phone: (714) 797-6007

I remember I began drawing around the age of three. I continued drawing and painting all the way through school. In junior high, I started a watercolor sketchbook, and in high school, my parents saw my talent and enrolled me in a commercial art correspondence course. After graduating from high school, I joined the Navy as an Illustrator Draftsman. I had all the art materials and time to work on my own projects after work. After the Navy, I went to an art school in Seattle for a year, and then enrolled in Art Center College of Design as an illustration major. After graduating in 1973, I joined an illustration/design studio in Newport Beach. I continued on my own as a freelance illustrator for a few years. Recognizing the world of print media was changing, I began transitioning into fine art. Just after the millenium, I started taking a watercolor class where I found out about watercolor on Yupo. About that time I joined Southern California Plein Air Painters Association. I also joined Orange and San Clemente Art Associations. Around 2007, I joined Laguna North Gallery and Mission Fine Art Gallery. After a few years, I have begun concentrating more on oils, doing mostly plein air and some studio work during the pandemic.

I approach plein air painting with the philosophy that I am not there to record the scene so much as get inspired by the scene in front of me. I always have to keep in mind that there never will be a perfect, ready to paint scene in front of me. So after arriving at my chosen location, I take elements from all around me, editing as I go, changing skies, moving trees, mountains, buildings, and water as the need arises, and combining years of experience to achieve the finished result that I already have in my head before I even start. If I can't visualize the framed finished painting, I move on to a better location.

I work on Yupo synthetic "paper", which leaves great flexibility for the watercolorist to edit and make changes as the painting progresses, something that is very hard to



Douglas Castleman - May 12th Demonstrator



Douglas Castleman



Douglas Castleman demonstrated how he paints a watercolor of a sailboat. He started with a basic composition following the “Rule of Thirds.” The horizon, in this painting the water line, is placed at a distance one third from the bottom of the paper. The subject, the sailboat, is placed at a distance one-third from the right edge of the paper.

He masked the sailboat using Windsor Newton liquid mask. In his opinion, some masks are too gummy. If you use a hair dryer to speed up drying times, you have to be careful because too much heat from dryers can damage masks. Doug applied a light wash for the sky and the ocean, then because he had to speed things up for the demonstration, he carefully used a hair dryer to dry out the initial layer of paint.

For watercolor paint, Doug uses Daniel Smith, Holbein, and Windsor Newton. For this demo, he was using a #14 Richeson brush and a size 4 Windsor Newton Series 7 brush. He mentioned that he also likes Stephen Quiller tools.

After a couple of more steps of applying layers of paint to darken and drying in between and making sure the water reflected the sky, Doug made sure the painting was dry before removing the mask. He applied paint to some of the masked edges to soften them and used an exacto blade to scrape areas where he wanted to remove some paint, being careful not to expose pure white.

Next, he painted in details of the sailboat. He used ultramarine blue and crimson for the darkest part of the hull. The strongest contrast in dark and light is in the subject to draw focus to it.

SBWS Raffle

Meredith Grenier won a painting from Douglas.

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/southbaywatercolorociety/>

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

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

May 12th Winners!



1st Place
"Light From Above"
Margaret Mohr



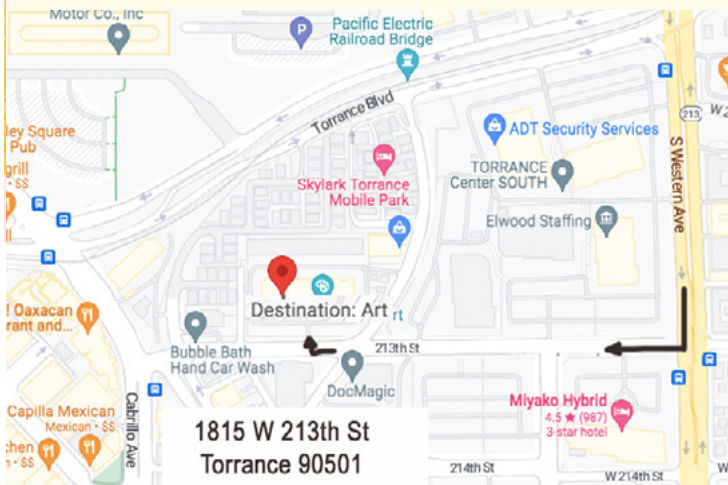
2nd Place
"Embellished Koi"
Vickie Myers



3rd Place
"Country Road"
Jeanne Townsend

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

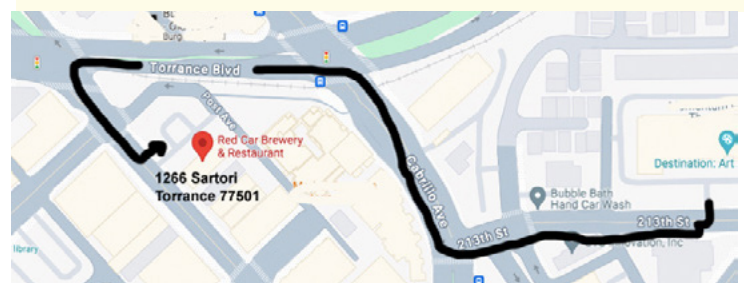
Follow the SBWS Facebook page to get event information and to see what other members are painting. The very creative name of the page is "South Bay Watercolor Society," so it is easy to find.

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



CURRENT ART NEWS

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

Vibrant Panoramic Landscapes

Sat., July 19, 2025, 10:00 am–1:00 pm

acrylics

\$60 some materials provided

Taught by Joe Oakes

Paint Lavender and Hydrangea in Maimeriblu

Sat., July 19, 2025, 2:30-4:30 pm

watercolor

\$10 materials provided

Taught by Cara Olsen

Watercolor Pouring

Sat., July 26, 2025, 10:00 am–1:00 pm

watercolor

\$50 some materials provided

Taught by Buffy Kaufman

Watercolor Basics Pt. 2

Sun., July 27, 2025, 2:00 pm–5:00 pm

\$45

Taught by Anne Kupillas

Scraped Watercolors

Thurs., Aug. 14, 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

Final deadline EXTENDED: July 15, 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

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

Early Bird deadline: Oct. 14, 2025

\$25 non-members/\$35 members

Final deadline: Dec. 19, 2025

\$30 members/\$40 non-members

Destination Art

Experimental Artists of the South Bay 2025 Show

Currently on display until Sat., Aug. 16, 2025

Reception: Sat., July 26, 2025, 3:00–5:00 pm

Thurs.–Sat. 11:00 am–4:00 pm

Bloom & Blur: The Art of Soft Petals

Wed., July 16, 2025, 10:00 am–1:00 pm

\$65

Taught by Fatemeh “Aya” Kian

Vase Visions: Simple Shapes, Stunning Shadows

Wed., July 23, 2025, 10:00 am–1:00 pm

\$65

Taught by Fatemeh “Aya” Kian

Creative Conversations

A True Craftsman Vintage Home - A Homeowner's

Labor of Love to Authentic Restoration

Sun., July 27 2025, 3:00 pm–5:00 pm

\$25

Taught by Joey and Leslie Chavez

Dancing Daffodils: Movement in Watercolor

Wed., July 30, 2025, 10:00 am–1:00 pm

\$65

Taught by Fatemeh “Aya” Kian

Garden Glow: Layering Light with Color

Wed., Aug. 6, 2025, 10:00 am–1:00 pm

\$65

Taught by Fatemeh “Aya” Kian

Art for Everyonem -

Introduction to Gelli Plate Printing

Thurs., Aug. 7, 2025 9:00 am–12:00 pm

\$25r

Taught by Karen Doyle

Elegant Arrangements: Composition in Bloom

Wed., Aug. 13, 2025, 10:00 am–1:00 pm

\$65

Taught by Fatemeh “Aya” Kian

Bloom Finale: Expressive Florals with Confidence

Wed., Aug. 27, 2025, 10:00 am–1:00 pm

\$65

Taught by Fatemeh “Aya” Kian

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

“Summertime” Art Show

Sat., July 12, 2025–Sun., Aug. 17, 2025

Reception: Sat., July 12, 2025, 3:00–6:00 pm

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

“Five Muses”

Thurs., July 10, 2025–Sun., Aug. 3, 2025

11:00 am–4:00 pm

Reception: Fri., July 18, 2025, 5:00–8:00 pm

Exhibit of works by Fumie Coello, Debbie Giese, Jen Hellman, Eileen Oda, and Anabella Rainer

“Infinite Possibilities”

8x8 Show and Benefit Sale

Fri., Aug. 8, 2025, 8:00 am–8:00 pm,

Sat. & Sun., Aug. 9 & 10, 2025

11:00 am–4:00 pm

Entry Deadline: Sun., July 27, 2025

Every art piece is a donated 8”x 8” to be sold for \$64.00. A portion of proceeds support Young at Art, a non-profit bringing art to kids in the South Bay. download submission form at GalleryofHermosa.com

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 \$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 NWS 105th International Open Exhibition

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

Hours: Fri.–Sun., 11:00 am–3:00 pm

www.nationalwatercolorssociety.org

Palos Verdes Art Center

The Summer Show

Exhibit: Sat., July 19–Sat., Aug. 16, 2025

Hours; Mon.–Fri., 9:00 am–5:00 pm,

Sat. 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Reception: Sat., July 19, 2025, 7:00 pm–9:00 pm

Mike Ishikawa: Pastels & Ink

Exhibit: Sat., July 19–Sat., Aug. 16, 2025

Hours; Mon.–Fri., 9:00 am–5:00 pm,

Sat. 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Reception: Sat., July 19, 2025, 7:00 pm–9:00 pm

Artist Demo: Sat., Aug. 2, 2025, 1:00 pm–3:00 pm

75 % of sales proceeds to benefit PVAC

5504 Crestridge Road, Rancho Palos Verdes

Malaga Cove Art on the Lawn Show

Sat. & Sun., July. 19 & 20, 2025

Sat. & Sun., Aug. 16 & 17, 2025

Hours: 10:00 am–5:00 pm

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

(213) 444-6013

pvartcenter.org

Redondo Beach Art Group

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

Thurs.-Sun. 12:00–6:00 pm

Free admission

112 E. 22nd St., San Pedro

sanpedroart.org

Torrance Art Museum

Tryst Alternative Art Fair & Nomad

Sat. & Sun., July 12 & 13, 2025

12:00 pm–6:00 pm

Free admission

Del Amo Crossing

21535 Hawthorne Blvd, Torrance

Main Gallery: SUR Biennial: Curator's/Staff Picks

Recent works by local and international artists
influenced by the cultures and artistic traditions of
Mexico, Central & South America and the Caribbean

Gallery Two: Affective Territories, Alternate Belongings

Video and multi-media artworks highlight technology as
an extension of humankind and its desire to transcend
coporeal identity.

Sat., Aug. 23–Sat., Sept. 27, 2025

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 Moh'd Bilbeisi

Sat. & Sun., July 19 & 20, 2025

9:00 am–1:00 pm

Online via Zoom

Non-Members \$180

VWS Members \$140

MohdBilbeisiArt.com

Monthly Meeting with Demo by Michael Holter

Thurs., Sept. 11, 2025

7:00 pm–9:30 pm

Online via Zoom

Two-day Workshop with Michael Holter

Sat. & Sun., Sept. 20 & 21, 2025

9:00 am–12:00 pm

Online via Zoom

Non-Members \$180

VWS Members \$140

Michaelholter.com

Monthly Meeting with Demo by Milind Mulick

Thurs., Oct. 9, 2025

7:00 pm–9:30 pm

Online via Zoom

Two-day Workshop with Michael Holter

Sat. & Sun., Oct. 18 & 19, 2025

9:00 am–12:00 pm

Online via Zoom

Non-Members \$180

VWS Members \$140

Michaelholter.com

Register at: www.valleywatercolorssociety.org

VEFA Gallery

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

Watercolor West

57th International Juried Exhibition

Sat., Aug. 23–Sat., Nov 29, 2025

Hours: Tues.–Sat., 10:00 am–5:00 pm

Hilbert Museum of California Art at Chapman University
167 Atchison St., Orange

watercolorwest.org

SBWS Member News

In the Destination Art Associate Artists' 2025 Exhibition, several SBWS members won awards. **Robin Kirk** won Award of Excellence for emerging artist with her painting "Rainbow's End." **Mary Arakawa** won 3rd place for emerging artist with her watercolor, "Sun, Ocean, and Earth." **Janice Bock** won 2nd place for emerging artist with her acrylic work, "Night Stroll." **Parrish Hirasaki** won Award of Excellence for her surreal piece, "Rhapsody in Blue." **Caroline Cheng** won 3rd Place with her painting, "Afternoon Sunlit."



Alvin Takamori won a Bronze Award for Fine Art with his painting, "The Empty Space," in the Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation "TOCApalooza" on June 27th.

Friends of Redondo Beach Arts sponsored Reimagined Poetry Invitational Art Exhibition on the upper level of the Redondo Beach Pier in June. Among the participating artists were SBWS members **Jen Chen, Esperanza Deese,** and **Claudia Kazachinsky.**

Lori Pollack had a show of her watercolors at Unitarian Universalist Community Church in Santa Monica in June.

Debbie Abshear had a successful solo show "Evoking Emotions: A Visual Exploration" at the Maturango Museum in Ridgecrest and sold 2 dozen paintings.

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