



April 2026

P.O. Box 4631  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596  
www.californiawatercolor.org

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### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT! CWA 57th International Exhibition

CWA Workshop Series  
Plein Air

# California WATERCOLOR Association

ZOOM Demo for Members and Guests on Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 7:00 pm PDT.



## April ZOOM Demo Artist Uma Kelkar

There will be a **ZOOM General Meeting and Demo** by Uma Kelkar for CWA members and friends to participate, on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, from 7:00–9:00 pm PDT.

**Here is the ZOOM link and passcode** which will remain the same for all future General Meetings.

To join, simply click on the **Join Icon** on the right.

**Meeting ID:** 810 0987 0399 **Passcode:** 383542

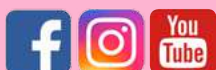


.Join



Uma Kelkar is a watercolor artist, urban sketcher, and engineer based in San Jose, California; originally from Pune, India. She sketches in ink, gouache, watercolor, and digitally on the iPad, and is the author of *Drawing with the iPad: Urban Sketching*. Uma has taught worldwide, at Madeline School of Art, at five Urban Sketchers International Symposiums (2017, 2018, 2019, 2024, 2025) and for patrons of CWA as well. She served as Secretary on the Urban Sketchers Executive Board from 2019 to 2022. She holds signature status from CWA, NWS, CSPWC. She has taught more than 50 workshops worldwide, sharing her belief in cross-pollination between disciplines to elevate creative work. Trained as an electrical engineer with an MS from Stanford University, Uma brings a structured yet expressive approach to both her art and teaching. She is also the founder of Vivify, an AI-powered visual collaboration platform designed to support creative professionals.

Artist's website at [www.umakelkar.com](http://www.umakelkar.com)





# The Drawing Board

Each month a different member of the CWA Board of Directors has the opportunity to write an art-related article for our members.

## Value Studies, Notans and Chiaroscuro by Lis MacDonald

Value—the range of light to dark—is one of the most important elements in creating visually compelling artwork.

A value study focuses on the full range of values (light-mid-dark) to guide the composition and darkness within an image. By removing color, the artist evaluates the composition using only grayscale values, ensuring clear separation between light and shadow. Watercolor artists commonly begin with a value study to establish composition and determine the focal point. Artists such as Andy Evansen and Gary Tucker rely on this process for every painting.

The value study— not the reference photo—guides the artwork, allowing the artist to choose any color palette while maintaining accurate value relationships. The value study, although it seems like extra work, is essential for creating an effective painting. Areas of greatest impact are when the darkest value surrounds the lightest light. Watercolorists must plan for the lights as they paint from light to dark whereas oil and acrylic painters can paint light over dark.

Having stressed the importance of darks and lights, most of the painting (80%) should predominantly be a range of mid-values. These areas unify the painting design and the remaining 20% is where the focal area and visual interest reside.

Creating a value study also allows the artist to alter the image design for a better composition by either adding or omitting forms or shapes from the original image.

Keep in mind that watercolors always dry lighter (up to 30%) and may need additional layers of darker colors to achieve the desired value.

However, one can paint a high key painting containing only light and mid-tone values.

Conversely, a low-key painting, such as a nocturne will contain primarily dark values and very few light or mid-values.

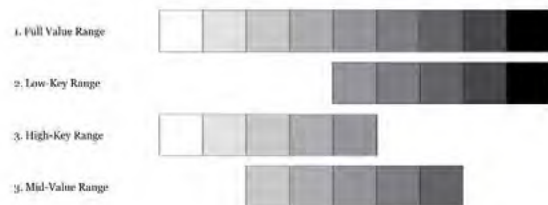


Example of high-key painting



A low-key painting (Childe Hassam)

### Tools to help your value studies. Create your own value scales using black, sepia, or other dark colors.



Top line – full value scale, low key value scale, high key, and mid-value scales



Or you can purchase a gray scale and value finder shown here

*The Drawing Board continues on page 12*

# CALIFORNIA WATERCOLOR ASSOCIATION

# 56 INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

## By the Numbers

The 56th International Exhibition was a huge success! Check out the photos from the opening reception. See the happy faces and stunning paintings. If you missed the 56th International Exhibition at Arts Benicia, [click here](#) to view the online catalog.



1 New gallery space, Arts Benicia  
1 Exhibition Curator, Celeste Smeland, Arts Benicia



1 Entry Juror, Pat Mosuek  
1 Awards Juror, Dongfeng Li

549 Entries  
84 Paintings selected  
22 Award Winners

1 People's Choice Award winner:  
*Creek Morning* by Z. L. Feng



\$17,551 Awarded in prizes, donated by  
28 Award Sponsors

2 New Signatures Members  
1 New Master Signature Member  
1 Catalog Cover,  
painted by Z. L. Feng

628 Reception Attendees  
2,378 Exhibition Attendees  
6 Gallery tours led by Benicia volunteers



7 Paintings sold  
11 International Exhibition  
Committee Members



37 CWA Exhibition Volunteers  
9 Months until the opening of the  
57th CWA International Exhibition  
to be held at Piedmont Center  
for the Arts, from January 16–  
February 14, 2027



### 56th International Exhibition Catalogs

A limited number of catalogs is still available for \$20 each! You can take home all 84 paintings in this 28-page full-color catalog commemorating the 56th International Exhibition. We also have a limited supply of catalogs from previous years. [Click here](#) to purchase.



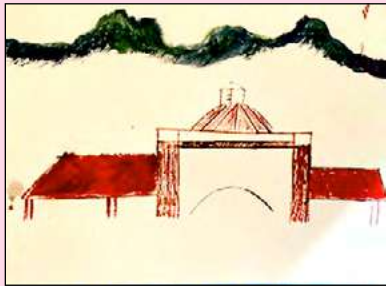


# Community Outreach — Oakland Veterans

## Experimenting with Edge and Flat Stamping à la Bud Shackleford



Diana's Japanese Temple



Matboard and cardboard tools



Stamps on sample test paper



This month's gathering was a blast! Instead of just paint brushes, we made marks using sponges, edges of 300 lb. watercolor paper, corrugated cardboard, a credit card, bubble wrap, and any manner of items that many would consider rubbish. We brushed thick paint onto a tool, then pressed it onto the paper.

To begin everyone worked on a test sheet. Seeing what shapes and effects we could achieve and liked. The edge marks were very clear and decisive, but could be blurred by stamping onto wet paper and shifting or scraping with the tool. Then we transitioned to a quarter-sheet watercolor paper and drew the composition we wanted from the source featuring cactus, a hacienda and mountains. With that agreed upon, we all relaxed.

It was a very engaging process and hard to stop playing around. Just one participant almost finished her piece. She knew that she wouldn't be at the next session. She did an original twist to the subject matter. The cactus became pine trees and the hacienda became a Japanese temple. It had a whole different feel. We all enjoyed this session and the new possibilities it opened up to us. I don't think that we'll be abandoning our brushes anytime soon, but the combination is intriguing. We left the group feeling lighthearted.

*Sheila Cain*

Co-Director, Community Outreach



# Community Outreach — Martinez VA

## Painting from the Heart

The painters at the VA in Martinez are enjoying interpreting pencil sketches in watercolor, which is resulting in more focus and creativity. One painter created a piece reminiscent of Jackson Pollock.

*Maggie Metcalf &  
Darlyn Phillips*  
Community Outreach



**Call Maggie at  
(925) 899-9185  
to join us!**

## Signature Membership Status — How to Apply

To apply for Signature Membership, an associate member must submit a petition to the Board through the Membership Director via the **Contact Us** page. This petition should include a letter detailing participation in CWA activities and must be accompanied by copies of the "Service Hours Record," along with show flyers or acceptance notices if necessary. The applicant is responsible for providing documentation, and acceptance is subject to Board approval.

### Signature Membership (CWA)

To qualify for Signature Membership, an applicant must fulfill the following requirements:

- Be a member in good standing.
- Have acceptance into three CWA National/ International Exhibitions; OR
- Have acceptance into two CWA National/ International Exhibitions and completed a minimum of 60 volunteer hours.

For each service performed, a "Service Hours Record" should be filled out by the volunteer and signed by the individual overseeing the activity. This record documents the service provided.

- 60 Hours Per Year of Service: Board Members, Webmaster
- 30 Hours Per Year of Service: Hospitality Chair, Video Chair
- 10 Hours Per Year of Service: Show Chair

### Master Signature Membership (MCWA)

To qualify for Master Signature Membership, an applicant must fulfill the following requirements:

- Achieve acceptance in three CWA National/ International Exhibitions after acquiring initial Signature Membership.
- Petition the Membership Director using the **Contact Us** page, selecting "Membership Director" from the drop-down menu, and providing proof of acceptances in the form of show flyers, acceptance notices, or show catalog pages.

Signature members may use the initials "CWA" or "MCWA" after their signature on water-based media work if they desire. However, no member may use these initials until their petition has been granted by the Board. The use of these initials is contingent on continued membership with CWA.

## Birgit O'Connor Within the Flower

**3-Day Online Workshop | April 15–17, 2026**

**All Skill Levels Welcome\***

CWA Members \$250 Non-Members \$310

Discover how to paint flowers that are both unique and striking, with imaginative forms and complex centers, which set them apart from traditional floral compositions. Bringing focus to the intricate details of each flower's core, using layering of color and delicate brushstrokes to highlight textures and depth.

Artist's website at [birgitoconnor.com](http://birgitoconnor.com)



## Geoff Allen Watercolor Essentials for Landscape Painting

**3-Day In-Person Workshop  
May 4–6, 2026**

**Beginner & Intermediate\*\***

CWA Members \$350 Non-Members \$410

Discover the joys of capturing the moment, color, and impressionistic mood in watercolor, whether from a photo or en plein air. Geoff will teach basic watercolor handling techniques to accelerate your process, encourage relaxation, and improve your success in painting outdoor scenes.

Artist's website at [geoffallenart.com](http://geoffallenart.com)



## Stan Miller Painting the Portrait and Landscape in Watercolor

**3-Day In-Person Workshop  
June 13–15, 2026**

**Basic Understanding of Watercolor**

CWA Members \$375 Non-Members \$435

Each day, Stan will demonstrate both a portrait and a landscape. Students can choose to paint either the landscape or the portrait, with guidance from Stan. Students are also welcome to work on their own subjects. The workshop will also cover technique, color, choosing paintable subjects, composition, and design.

Artist's website at [stanmiller.net](http://stanmiller.net)



## Thomas W. Schaller The Power of Design and Imagination

**3-Day In-Person Workshop  
October 2–4, 2026**

**Intermediate**

CWA Members \$500 Non-Members \$560

The reason we paint is more important than what or how we paint. His work explores contrasts: light and dark, vertical and horizontal, warm and cool, and the real and the imagined. Thomas enjoys designing with conflicting elements, allowing them to find balance and resolution on the paper's surface in surprising and expressive ways.

Artist's website at [thomaswschaller.com](http://thomaswschaller.com)



CWA is dedicated to offering our students some of the best workshops with top professional artists. We invite you to join in the fun and look forward to meeting you. Recordings of the entire workshops will be available for 30 days. In-person workshops will be held at the Danville Ranch Clubhouse, 1895 Ridgeland Circle, Danville, CA 94526.

For detailed workshop descriptions, pricing, and online registration, please visit <http://www.californiawatercolor.org/classes.php>.

For additional information, please visit [www.californiawatercolor.org/contact.php](http://www.californiawatercolor.org/contact.php) and choose **Workshops** from the **Recipient** drop-down menu.

## CWA Member Show

# The Wild & The Still

June 1–27, 2026

### Entry Deadline

May 13, 2026

### Jurors

TBD

### Awards

1st Place — \$150, 2nd Place — \$100,  
3rd Place — \$75, and 4 Honorable Mentions — \$35

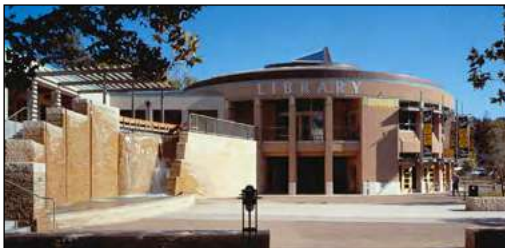
### Show Calendar (Save these Dates)

April 1	Entry opening
May 16	Notification to accepted artists and posted on the CWA website
May 26	Deadline for receiving shipped paintings
May 30	Artwork drop-off at the Art Gallery at the Orinda Library
June 1	Gallery show opens
June 6	Awards to artists at reception, and posted on the CWA website
June 26	Show closes
June 27	Pick up paintings at the Art Gallery at the Orinda Library

[Click here for Prospectus](#)

### To Enter

Log in to the Members home page at [www.californiawatercolor.org](http://www.californiawatercolor.org), choose **Shows/Exhibitions**, then **Member Shows** and choose **2026 The Wild & The Still**. Confirm your information, add your painting details and upload your images. Entry Fee is \$25 for one or two images, \$35 for three images.



Art Gallery at the Orinda Library / Lamorinda Arts Council  
26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563  
[info@lamorindaarts.org](mailto:info@lamorindaarts.org)

Questions: Contact us at [shows@californiawatercolor.org](mailto:shows@californiawatercolor.org)

# CWA

## 56 INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION



### People's Choice Award

The winner of the CWA International Exhibition People's Choice Award is:

**Creek Morning**

by Z. L. Feng

— \$250 Prize —

## Congratulations!

## CALL FOR ART

# Wonder of Watercolor

## CWA SIGNATURE & MASTER SIGNATURE MEMBERS SHOW

June 6–28, 2026 at Piedmont Center for the Arts

Open to all current CWA Signature and Master Signature members\*

### Entry Deadline

May 1, 2026

### Juror of Selection and Awards

Michael Reardon

### Awards

1st Place — \$700, 2nd Place — \$500, 3rd Place — \$300

### Show Calendar (Save these Dates)

May 1, 2026, 5:00 pm DST	Entry deadline
May 8, 2026	Acceptance notification
May 22–June 2, 2026	Receive shipped paintings
June 4, 2026, 9:00 am–1:00 pm	Hand-deliver paintings
June 4, 2026, 3:00 pm	Awards selection
June 6, 2026	Exhibition opens
June 6, 2026, 2:00–4:00pm	Artist Reception and Awards Ceremony
June 28, 2026	Exhibition closes
June 30, 2026, 1:00– 4:00pm	Pick up hand-delivered paintings

### To Enter

Log in to the Members home page at [www.californiawatercolor.org](http://www.californiawatercolor.org), choose **Shows/Exhibitions**, and choose **2026 Signature and Master Signature Members Show**. Confirm your information, add your painting details and upload your images. Entry Fee for Members (nonrefundable): \$45 for one image, \$5 for each additional image (maximum of three images, \$55 total). Entry fees are payable via PayPal using a credit, debit, or individual account.

[Click here for Prospectus](#)

**Questions:** [SigShowPiedmontquestions@californiawatercolor.org](mailto:SigShowPiedmontquestions@californiawatercolor.org)



*\*Membership status must be current for Signature and Master Signature members to enter.*

### Gallery Info



The mission of Piedmont Center for the Arts, Inc. (the “Center”) is to enable artists and students in various artistic disciplines — including music, dramatic arts, visual arts, and literature — to perform and display their works for residents of Piedmont and surrounding communities.



The Piedmont Center for the Arts staff is delighted to host the CWA Wonder of Watercolor Exhibition and look forward to meeting the talented artists and the many guests that are sure to visit this extraordinary exhibit.

### Piedmont Center for the Arts

801 Magnolia Avenue

Piedmont, CA 94611

[www.piedmontcenterforthearts.org](http://www.piedmontcenterforthearts.org)

### Gallery Hours:

11:00 am–2:00 pm, Saturdays & Sundays.

Open to the public. No admission fees.

Closed holidays.

[Click here for info on current events and exhibitions.](#)



### Mailing Address

California Watercolor Association  
Post Office Box 4631  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596 USA

### To Email a Board, Staff or Committee Member Go To

[www.californiawatercolor.org/contact.php](http://www.californiawatercolor.org/contact.php)  
and choose a recipient from the drop down menu.

### Membership/Data Manager

Make changes to your address, phone number and email on the members home page, under membership when you're logged with a current membership account. Email [datamanager@californiawatercolor.org](mailto:datamanager@californiawatercolor.org) if you have trouble logging in.

### General Meetings

Monthly General Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month from 7:00 pm–9:00 pm, DST, via Zoom, unless otherwise specified.

### Newsletter Distribution

To receive this newsletter electronically please contact the Webmaster with the email address at which you wish to receive the newsletter.

### CWA Photo Notice

CWA may be taking photos or videos at CWA events. Your attendance at CWA events constitutes your "permission, consent, and release" to be photographed without compensation whatsoever in perpetuity. Images may be used online and in print exclusively by CWA explicitly for publicity, information, and promotion.



 **Plan Ahead!**

Submissions for the newsletter must be received by the 15th of the month prior to publication!

**May Newsletter  
Deadline is April 15th.**

**Click here to make a submission.**

## CWA Member Show

# Splendid Surroundings

March 12 - May 10, 2026

## Join Us!

**Awards Presentation and Reception with Live Music**

**April 11, 2026, from 1:00–3:00 pm**

Awards will also be posted at [californiawatercolor.org](http://californiawatercolor.org)

### Jurors

Juror of Selection: Susan Avis Murphy, AWS, BWS

Juror of Awards: Jeff Ishikawa, CWA

### Show Closes, and Artwork Pick Up

Livermore Valley Arts/UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery on May 10, 2026

### Venue

**Livermore Valley Arts/UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery**

2400 First Street, Livermore, CA 94550

[livermorearts.org](http://livermorearts.org)

### Questions

Email [shows@californiawatercolor.org](mailto:shows@californiawatercolor.org)

## March Demo Recap — Ken Goldman by Lis MacDonald

Ken Goldman outlined his art background with a slide show of paintings and sketches of birds that he had done over the years including murals for the San Diego Zoo and books he had authored and illustrated. He showed the anatomy of herons and egrets, demonstrating his method of drawing and painting. He likes to use the Cretacolor Nero black pencil and the Itoya double-headed calligraphy pens for drawing and painting. The Itoya pens are initially water soluble and come in several colors. He used 140-pound Arches paper and his Quiller palette is filled with paints from multiple vendors; he cannot recall each color as most were given to him as prizes. Ken's website is Goldman Fine Art with his wife Stephanie who is also a fine artist.

Ken and Stephanie's website at [GoldmanFineArt.com](http://GoldmanFineArt.com)

Online Courses: *Mastrius Mentors* (currently full) and the *Artefacto Expressive Watercolor Course*

Upcoming: *Developing Landscape Painting Class* with Redpoint, a China-based company  
Books: *Essential Human Anatomy for Artists* (2023)



# Member News



## Ruth Miller, MCWA

Ruth is the featured artist at the Valley Art Gallery, with an exhibition titled "Capturing the Light" running from April 21 to May 30, 2026. The show will feature fourteen paintings in watercolor and acrylic.

Valley Art Gallery  
1661 Botelho Dr., Suite 110  
Walnut Creek, CA 94596



Ruth's work is also featured in the National Watercolor Society's Associate Member Online Show, running from May 1 to June 30, 2026, with the piece titled *Don't Rock the Boat*.

[Click here](#) to view.

Artist website at  
[ruthmillerwatercolors.com](http://ruthmillerwatercolors.com)

## Larry Cannon, CWA

Larry won the "BEST WATER" award at the January 2026 PleinAir Salon Art Competition, by Plein Air Magazine, for his painting, *Malibu Lagoon*.

Artist website at  
[www.cannonwc.com](http://www.cannonwc.com)



## Welcome New CWA Members

Christopher Vasquez, Mugdha Patil,  
Janice Amenta, Melissa Thomson,  
Susan Cole, Vidya Pradhan,  
Esther Nichol

[Click here](#) to email membership, then choose **Vice President & Membership Director** from the **Recipient** drop-down menu. [Click here](#) to join or renew today!

## Attention Members!

The CWA Board of Directors has announced that the CWA annual dues has increased from \$45.00 to \$50.00 per year, as of November 1, 2025. The CWA annual dues have remained at \$45.00 per year since 1999, and the costs of doing business and maintaining programs and services to our members have increased. This increase will be effective on your renewal date.

## Follow CWA on Social Media

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to stay updated on our activities. CWA Social Media is your go-to resource for information, promoting the CWA, our members, events, and more.

We invite you to contribute to our CWA Instagram and Facebook feeds.

[Click here](#) to follow us on Instagram

[Click here](#) to follow us on Facebook

[Click here](#) to submit content.



## CWA Board of Directors

President	VACANT
Vice President/Membership	Sharon Hopkins
Secretary	Leslie Wilson
Director, Budget	Kathleen Catton
Director, Member Shows	Kathleen Stumpfel
Director, Communications	Jessica de Jesus
Director, Programs	Lis MacDonald
Director, International Exhibition	VACANT
Co-Director, Community Outreach	Sheila Cain
Co-Director, Community Outreach	Georganne Zaro
Director, Workshops	Joe Tringali
Member At-Large	Rekha Joshi
Member At-Large	VACANT

## CWA Support Personnel

Bookkeeper	Melissa Alva
Membership/Data Manager/ Webmaster	Adrienne Hefter
Newsletter Editor	Patricia Rosa

## CWA Volunteer Committees

Audio Visual Set Up	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>
Community Outreach	Sheila Cain Maggie Metcalf
Co-Video Librarians	Joe Tringali (Chair) Barb Bochenek Madeline Shelby
Co-Hospitality	Susan Scolnick Jean Holmes
56th International Exhibition	Jessica de Jesus Iretta Hunter Carol Husslein Pat Lauer Samantha McNally Marilyn Miller Ruth Miller Pat Moseuk Patricia Rosa Joe Tringali Leslie Wilson
Mail Distribution	Carol Husslein
Panel Rental	Carol Husslein
Plein Air	Nutan Singh
Workshop Registrar	Kirsten Theurer

## To Email a Board, Staff or Committee Member:

Go to [www.californiawatercolor.org/contact.php](http://www.californiawatercolor.org/contact.php) and choose a recipient from the drop-down menu.



Meghana Mitragotri

## DaintlyMade Mother's Day Special Open Studio

294 Scherman Way, Livermore CA 94550

Friday & Saturday, April 17-18, 10am-5pm

Sunday, April 19, 10am-2pm

- Studio Tour
- Original watercolor paintings
- Archival prints, cards & bookmarks
- Art-inspired gifts: mugs, totes, coasters, tea towels & more

*Shop local. Gift thoughtfully.  
For Mom, with love.*

*www.daintlymade.com  
Instagram: @daintlymade*



Meghana will open her Livermore home art studio to the public for a Mother's Day Open Studio, April 17-19, 2026. Visitors can tour her French-style cottage studio and view her collection of watercolor paintings featuring florals, birds, and landscapes painted in both realistic and impressionistic styles. Her backyard will be transformed into an open-air gallery for the duration of the event. The exhibition will include new original watercolor works, archival prints, greeting cards, and other art-inspired products perfect for Mother's Day.

Visitors may enter through the gate next to the garage. Additional street parking is available on Murdell Lane.

For more info, contact her at [meghana.ms@gmail.com](mailto:meghana.ms@gmail.com)

### Gamble Garden Spring Tour

Meghana will also have a fine art and crafts booth at the Spring Tour event on April 24 and 25, 2026, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, at Gamble Garden, 1431 Waverley Street, Palo Alto, CA 94301.

**Click here** for more information and tickets.

## The Drawing Board

continued from page 2

Notans and chiaroscuro are variations of value studies, but are used less frequently than the better-known value studies.

Notan is different from a value study (from the Japanese meaning light and dark) is like the yin and yang of a painting and has only two values. It is a high contrast value study of just light and dark and meant to define shapes and patterns rather than just the values. The shadows in an image are dark, and light areas are left white and the resulting image is then evaluated for its design.



Example of value study



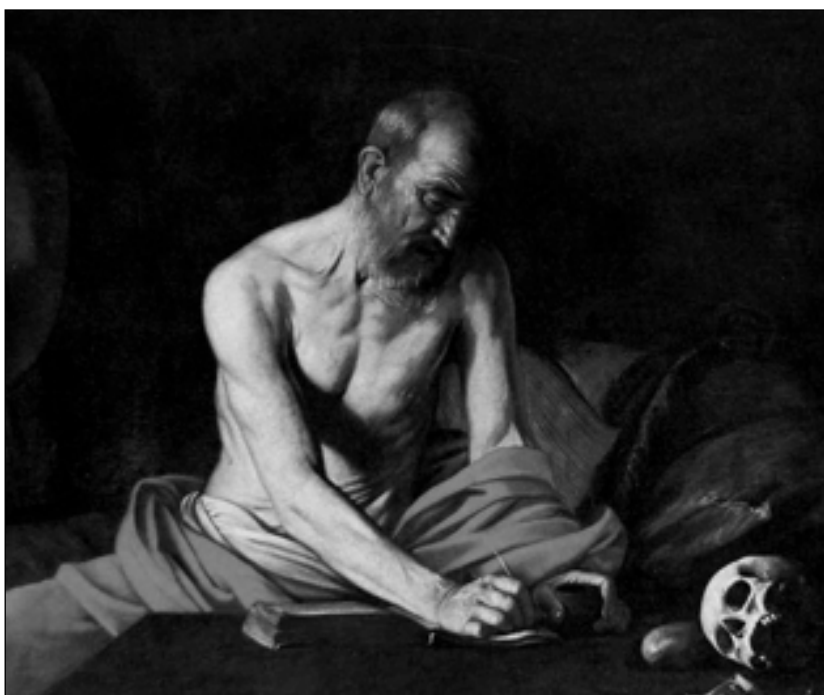
Example of Notan

Chiaroscuro, from the Italian (chiaro = light, scuro = dark), is the dramatic light and dark created from a single light source, first used by the Renaissance painting masters. It focuses a dramatic and emotional light on the figure (focal point) and surrounding it with deeper values.

Creating value studies has helped me become a better artist over time. I avoid painting just what I see and always do a value study before sketching onto my watercolor paper, and I encourage you to do the same.

*Lis MacDonald*

Director, Programs



Example of chiaroscuro (Caravaggio)

Information for this article came from multiple sources on the internet and art books *Mastering Color and Design in Watercolor*, by Christopher Schink, 1981; *WATERCOLOR, You can Do It!*, by Tony Couch, 1987.

## CWA Needs Someone Just Like You!

**Our volunteers are essential to the functioning of CWA. We depend on your support to make a positive impact in our schools, community, and organization. If you're able to help and haven't signed up yet, please log in and update your volunteer preferences on the right side of the Members' Home page. Thank you!**

### All board members are volunteers.

Every year, there are open positions available. If you would like to join the board, there are at-large positions that can help you get familiar with the board's activities and responsibilities.

### Volunteering has its benefits.

Volunteers earn credits that can be accrued towards items.

**Click here** for details.

### Opportunities:

The Outreach team, the International Exhibition committee, and the Member Shows committee are always in need of volunteers!

### Join us today!

If you are interested, please contact Leslie Wilson at [secretary@californiawatercolor.org](mailto:secretary@californiawatercolor.org).

# BENICIA *Plein Air* GALLERY



## Join the Benicia Plein Air Gallery's 2026 Paint Out!

This competitive paint-out, open to all artists, celebrates the spirit of plein air painting and will conclude with a public show at the Benicia Arts Festival on Saturday, June 6, from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Artists can paint in Benicia at their leisure from May 29 to June 5, 2026.

### **Awards:**

1st, 2nd, 3rd, Honorable Mention and People's Choice!

### **Juror:**

Carol Tarzier

### **Entry Deadline:**

May 15, 2026

**Click here** for details, entry form and prospectus.

Benicia Plein Air Gallery  
307 First Street  
Benicia, CA 94510  
[www.BeniciaPleinAir.com](http://www.BeniciaPleinAir.com)

### **Event Sponsors:**

**BLICK**  
art materials

 **WebPictureFrames**

  
M. GRAHAM & CO.

# CWA Member Resources



## Watch Us on YouTube!

Did you miss a general meeting demo? Want to go back and review part of a demo again? Watch now on YouTube.

Check out our YouTube Channel and subscribe to get notified of our latest demos from your favorite artists! Don't forget to subscribe to the channel!

Thank you, and enjoy!



CWA Michael Holter Demo



CWA Stephen Berry Demo



CWA 50th National Art Show at the Harrington Gallery



CWA 50th National Show 2020



CWA Roland Lee Demo



CWA Leslie Wilson Demo

And More!



**Click here to go to the CWA YouTube Channel, and don't forget to click the subscribe button!**

<https://www.youtube.com/c/CaliforniaWatercolorAssociation>



## CWA Video Library

Staying engaged and creative is easy...just go to the CWA website and view the library catalog, note the video that you are interested in, and send Madeline the catalog number in an email and she will check to see if it's available. She will let you know about its availability and mail it to you if available. It is your responsibility to return the video 30 days after receiving. It can be dropped off at Madeline's home or mailed. All you need to do is pay postage.

[Click here to view our entire catalog.](#)

It can also be found by going to our website and clicking the **About Us Tab** and following the link to **Video Library**.

**Checking out a video will be simple, please follow the steps below:**

- 1) You must be a Member
- 2) Once you find a video that you are interested in, note the **Catalog Abstract Number**.
- 3) Email me at [madlnshelby@aol.com](mailto:madlnshelby@aol.com), with the **Catalog Abstract Number** and I will check its availability. I will send you a verification if it is available or let you know if it is checked out.
- 4) If the video is available we will mail it to your home via USPS. Your address on your membership records will be used for shipping.  
Please log in and make sure your address information is up-to-date.
- 5) Your rental period is for 30 days. You are responsible to return the video to me. You are responsible for return shipping costs.

**Return Address:**  
**Madeline Shelby**  
**482 Broadmoor Blvd.**  
**San Leandro, CA 94577**

6) Members who return videos after 30 days must pay a \$5.00 Late Fee. Lost videos must be replaced at the video replacement value.

We are excited to offer this service and hope it will lead to your creative enjoyment.

*Madeline Shelby*



# 2026 CWA Calendar

## General Meetings & Demos

January 21, 2026 Dongfeng Li  
February 18, 2026 Robert Burridge  
March 20, 2026 Ken Goldman

**April 15, 2026 — ZOOM Demo**  
**Uma Kelkar**  
**(for Members & Guests)**

May 20, 2026 Sue Johnston  
June 17, 2026 Thomas Schaller  
July 2026 Summer Break—NO MEETING  
August 19, 2026 Qian Gao  
September 16, 2026 Michael Reardon  
October 21, 2026 Birgit O'Connor  
November 18, 2026 Brienne Brown  
December 2026 Winter Break—NO MEETING

Go to **Monthly Meetings** under the **About Us** tab at  
[www.californiawatercolor.org](http://www.californiawatercolor.org) for updates.

## CWA Member Shows

### *Wonder of Watercolor*

#### Signature & Master Signature Members Show

June 6–28, 2026 at Piedmont Center for the Arts  
[SigShowPiedmontquestions@californiawatercolor.org](mailto:SigShowPiedmontquestions@californiawatercolor.org)

### *Splendid Surroundings*

#### UNCLE Credit Union Art Gallery, Livermore

March 12–May 10, 2026

Awards Presentation & Reception with Live Music  
April 11, 2026, from 1:00–3:00 pm

### *The Wild & The Still*

#### Art Gallery at the Orinda Library

June 1 - June 27, 2026

Entry deadline is May 13, 2026

#### San Ramon City Hall Gallery

November 3–December 19, 2026

Contact [shows@californiawatercolor.org](mailto:shows@californiawatercolor.org) for more info.

## 57th International Exhibition



January 16–February 14, 2027

Piedmont Center for the Arts  
801 Magnolia Ave, Piedmont, CA 94611

Prospectus available soon.

## CWA Workshop Series

January 14–16, 2026 Dongfeng Li  
Watercolor Essentials for Portrait Painting (IN-PERSON)

March 1–3, 2026 Pat Moseuk  
Abstracts in Mixed Watermedia (IN-PERSON)

April 15–17, 2026 Birgit O'Connor  
Within the Flower (ZOOM)

May 4–6, 2026 Geoff Allen  
Watercolor Essentials for  
Landscape Painting (IN-PERSON)

June 13–15, 2026 Stan Miller  
Painting the Portrait and Landscape  
in Watercolor (IN-PERSON)

October 2–4, 2026 Thomas W. Schaller  
The Power of Design and Imagination (IN-PERSON)

Click to watch a preview of the  
**2026 Workshop Series**



To request additional information, go to  
[www.californiawatercolor.org/contact.php](http://www.californiawatercolor.org/contact.php) and choose  
**Workshops** from the **Recipient** drop-down menu.

## Plein Air



### Spring Break

See you in May!

Other Plein Air Opportunities  
**Contra Costa Plein Air**

Click [here](#) for posts of upcoming paint-outs on their blog,  
or [click here](#) to visit Contra Costa Plein Air on Facebook.

