



Hot Press News

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Exhibit at Biggs Museum of American Art

Thirty-three works of art from twenty-three DWS artists were selected by awards judge, Alexis Lavine. Museum personnel were impressed by the quality of the show and proud to host it. If you were not able to attend the opening reception the exhibit will be on display through January 3, 2023, it is well worth the visit.

Awards were presented by President Marjorie Wuesnter to the following artists, First Place, Winifred Way, Second Place, Joan Judge, Third Place, Brad Hastings, and Merit Awards to, Anna Bellenger, Isabel Pizzolato, and Cathy Walls. DWS extends its sincere congratulations to all.

Alexis Lavine's juror's comments were informative and helped viewers understand the thought process behind her selections.

Very special congratulations to artist, Winifred Way whose painting "*Working at Spencer's Auction*" was purchased by the Biggs Museum for their permanent collection.



"Daisy Chain"
Joan Judge



"Semaphore Morning"
Brad Hastings



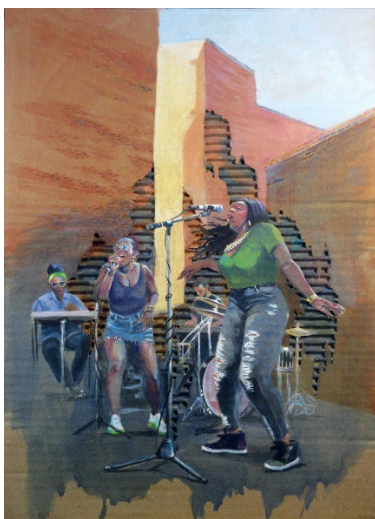
"Working at Spencer's Auction"
Winifred Way



"Child's Play #1 – Marble Maze"
Anna Bellenger



"Time Keepers"
Isabel Pizzolato



"Fantastic Noise at the Lady Bug Music Fest"
Cathy Walls

Two Davids - Two Techniques

DWS hosted two Zoom demonstrations, the first presented by David Daniels the second by David R. Smith. Both presented unique techniques and approaches to watercolor and captivated the attention of the participants.

David Daniels' demonstration began with the mounting of his watercolor paper to an aluminum surface, creating a rigid surface that will not buckle and provides more open time for painting. Once his painting is finished, he seals, varnishes and frames his painting. The varnished surface eliminates the requirement of glass to protect the image. Daniels did mention to read exhibit entry requirements carefully as many organizations do not accept varnished watercolors.

David Daniels also emphasized three major breakthroughs that influenced his painting and made him a better artist: Think in shapes, not objects; think in value not color; and have a color plan before starting.

David R. Smith willingly shared his knowledge and approach to watercolor. Painting a misty scene was the topic of the day and was successfully achieved as he kept the attention of the participants.

Smith began with a short overview of the tools he uses and why he selected Arches 140lb cold press paper for this subject. He walked the viewers through the initial sky and water washes, emphasizing soft edges to accomplish the desired effect. The "thirsty brush" was an important tool used throughout the demo. These washes were allowed to dry and followed by a succession of layers of trees while maintaining the misty effects.

Both artists have an online presence so be sure to look them up for more details about their art and offered classes.



The completed painting by David R. Smith

Workshops

Spaces are still available for Robin Poteet's "Creative Backgrounds" three-day watercolor Zoom workshop, January 30, 31 and February 2, 2023.

This workshop will focus on creative backgrounds for any subject. To quote Robin "We have all done it. We've painted a great subject and have avoided the background until the last minute. Now What? We end up painting a washy, safe, background that does little to enhance the subject. NO MORE! In this workshop students will learn how to combine realism and abstraction to take their work to the next level." Join Robin and other artists and "jazz up your backgrounds."

Day One – Introduction, demonstration, and group exercises.

Day Two – Demonstration followed by participants working on their own, with instruction, if needed.

Day Three – Demonstration followed by participants working on their own, with instruction. Sharing and wrap-up during the final hour.

The application is available on our website www.delawarewatercolorsociety.org. This workshop is limited to twenty participants. DWS members \$195, non-members, \$235. Daily recordings will be provided.

Curious? View Robin Poteet's work on her website at www.robinpoteet.com.



"In Full Bloom"
Robin Poteet

2023 Exhibitions

Nassau Valley Vineyards - May 2023

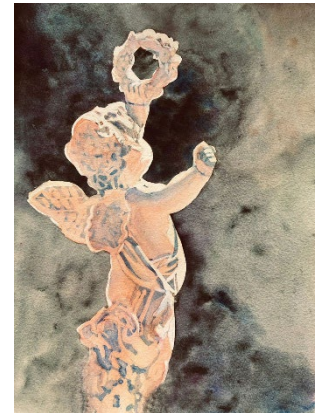
The Peninsula Gallery – August 2023, Signature Members Themed Exhibition, "Sunrises and Sunsets."

The Art League of Ocean City – November 2023.

Members News

Welcome new member **B. Joan Judge** of Lewes. Joan's talent was evident as she secured the second Place Award in the current Biggs Exhibition. Congratulations, Joan.

Congratulations also go to **Cindy Strouse** our newest Signature Artist. Cindy met the DWS requirements for submission, her work was judged by an independent panel, and we were happy to inform her of the winning results.



"Chubby Cherub"
Cynthia Strouse

Annie Strack won honorable mention in the Georgia Watercolor Society Juried Members Exhibit, Commissioner's Award in the Worcester Plein Air in Maryland, and People's Choice Award in the Cohansey River Plein Air in New Jersey. Her paintings were also juried into Philadelphia Watercolor Society 122nd International Exhibit, Pennsylvania Watercolor Society 43rd International Exhibit, American Artists Professional League 94th National Juried Exhibit, Northeast Watercolor Society 46th International Exhibit, 10th Annual Plein Air

Brandywine Valley, Garden State Watercolor Society 52nd Exhibit, Society of Watercolor Artists National Exhibit, and Arizona Watercolor Society National Exhibit.

From the Board

It will soon be time for our next annual meeting and election of officers and directors. The Vice President and Communications Director positions will be open, so please consider joining the DWS team and help move our organization forward. Your Board works to continually provide members with demonstrations, workshops, exhibitions, and communications. Join this dynamic and friendly team. Mentoring and support will be provided for as long as it is needed.

Membership renewals are in the mail and soon to arrive, updates to the bylaws. Please take the time to review the updates and renew your membership. As a gift to those who renew prior to January 3, 2023, DWS will provide a free online demonstration, January 4, 2023, from 1:00pm to 3:00pm with artist Rick Surowicz. View his website at rsurowiczart.com.

Coming in 2023, a new website design that will allow for member renewals and exhibit registrations, links to members websites and easily accessible galleries. We are excited and looking forward to an up-to-date and user-friendly site.

Begin the New Year by Organizing Your Studio or Workspace

We all put off organizing our studios and, if you are like me, don't tackle the clean-up until there is no space left to work. After all, it is so much more gratifying to paint than to clean. Here are some tips to help you start the year off in the right direction.

- Use technology to your benefit. Use the photo program to organize your photos instead of searching through boxes of images. An added benefit, you may use the photo program to crop, and edit your photos and cut down on multiple thumb nail sketches. Photograph your painting during progress to help locate problems and determine your next steps.

Record and keep track of your paintings. Include date completed, title, size, price and date sold. Create a mailing list.

- Sort through and organize your art materials, eliminate non-essentials. It's time to get rid of those worn-out brushes. How many do you really need? Think of donating materials you no longer use to local organizations, art leagues, shelters, senior centers and schools.
- Sort art materials and store like items together. Keep every-day items within easy reach and readily available. We all know watercolor requires us to think and react quickly, having your tools within easy reach can make all the difference.
- Bookcases for the many references we seem to accumulate. Share the books you no longer use or have outgrown with newer artists.
- Think of usable storage solutions. Flat files to store papers and other items, bins for paint. (I find a plastic photo storage box, designed to organize photos works well to organize tubes of color.)



So, pledge to start 2023 with an organized workspace.

***“You can't use up creativity.
The more you use the more you
have.”***

-Maya Angelou