



# Hot Press News

Jan. – Feb 2022 No.1

PO Box 984, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

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

## Happy New Year and Best Wishes to All!

We welcome the start of the new year with congratulations, a hearty thank-you, and sincere appreciation to the 2021 board of directors and to those who have been elected to serve, support and direct the goals of the Delaware Watercolor Society in 2022.

Marjorie Wuestner - President  
Brad Hastings – Vice President  
Charlotte Hughes – Secretary  
Patricia Hoey – Treasurer  
Joan Fabbri – Exhibitions Director  
Wendy Leddy – Workshop Director  
Isabel Pizzolato – Communications Director

## A Quick Review of 2021

2021 continued to be a challenging year for all. However, a recap of the year shows we remained active and provided many opportunities for our members to share their love of watermedia.

- As the Covid threat diminished, three live exhibitions were held at the Vineyards at Nassau Valley, The Rehoboth Art League and the Art League of Ocean City. The success of these exhibitions was apparent through multiple sales of artwork.
- Re-establishment of the DWS Facebook Page. A sincere thank you to Melissa McLean who took on this assignment.
- Member, Christine Heyse, AWS, NWS, DWS presented a virtual workshop to members focused on “Reflections in Watercolor”.
- A Zoom outreach program, teaching various watercolor techniques, was presented by Elizabeth Collard to members of the Lewes Public Library. A large donation was also made to Westside New Beginnings in Rehoboth for their youth art programs.

- A plein air paint-out was held at Lavender Fields in June.
- “Design for Success”, a virtual workshop, hosted by DWS and presented by Alexis Lavine was enjoyed by our members and guest artists from several states.
- Two new signature members were added to our ranks, Judy Olsen and Wendy Leddy.
- Our board continued to meet on a regular basis and the bi-monthly newsletter published.
- A free demo by artist Kathleen Conover, explaining her “ice crystal” technique as a start to creative painting, was presented at the annual meeting that was attended by twenty-eight members.



Many thanks to all the members who helped to make this year a success through planning, participating in, and supporting DWS activities.

## Looking Forward to 2022

Plans for 2022 include:

A new updated, user-friendly website. Designing a website to include all the needs of the members proves to be quite extensive. Suggestions are greatly appreciated and will be taken into consideration during the planning phase. Please send any suggestions to [delawarewatercolorsociety@gmail.com](mailto:delawarewatercolorsociety@gmail.com).

Members who renewed by December 31, 2021, will be treated to a free, virtual, two-hour

demonstration by Kim Johnson Nechtman on January 12, 2022.

Three exhibitions are scheduled: Nassau Valley Vineyards and Winery, May 2 through May 31; The Lewes Library, August 1, through August 31; and The Biggs Museum of American Art, October 5, December 5, 2022. Plan to exhibit and start your paintings now!

Awards have been expanded to include three merit awards in addition to first, second and third place awards.

Several artists have been contacted to present virtual and in-person workshops. As contracts and logistics are finalized announcements will be made to the membership.

### Use your Photographs as Inspiration for Creativity



Make a list of five items that attract you to a specific photo. Is it the shape of a building, the sky, the foreground, an old automobile, a pathway? Then list the qualities that appeal to you, the mood, emotion, contrast, color, shape, the intangibles.

Review these two lists and narrow it down to one clear meaning, the concept of your painting.

The “dreaded thumbnail sketch”. Make three thumbnail sketches; a middle or long-range view of the subject, place the subject front and center, and create a close-up of some part of the subject.

Once these are complete continue the planning phase and consider the following:

1. Changing the color.
2. Changing the center of interest.
3. Changing the value.
4. Think of adding imaginary elements.
5. Changing the center of interest.
6. A seasonal change or change of weather. What if a stormy sky or bright

sunshine was added, how would this impact on the subject?

7. A change of lighting. How would a diffused, light, soft light or strong contrast enhance the subject?
8. Color choices, high-key, muted, warm, cool. Which would best enhance the concept of your painting?
9. Now that majority of the work has been done, enjoy the process of painting!

Using your imagination and a little forethought, the same subject may be interpreted many ways resulting in many interesting paintings. Think of creating a series using different aspects of the same photograph.

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Please send member news, marketplace items or article suggestions for the newsletter to [izpizz@comcast.net](mailto:izpizz@comcast.net).

*“The principle of true art is not to portray but to evoke”*

*- Jerzy Kosiski*

