

Hot Press News



May 2026 No. 5

P.O. Box 984, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

delawarewatercolorsociety.org

Upcoming Opening-“It’s a Shore Thing” Exhibition

DWS is thrilled to host a Spring Exhibit titled “It’s a Shore Thing” at the Lewes Library (111 Adams St, Lewes, DE 19958). The exhibit, judged by artist Mick McAndrews, features forty paintings by 29 artists from DWS. The opening reception is open to all and takes place on Friday, June 5th, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Christine Heyse Workshop Sept 16-18 2026 Loosen Up!

This three day workshop with award-winning artist Christine Heyse will show you how to paint fresher, livelier, and more confident watercolor with that “wow” factor. Learn how to plan the right way so you can paint faster and with more confidence, create mood and atmosphere that grabs your viewers attention and gives a sense of mystery. Paint loose, but not sloppy.

If you’ve ever wondered how you might change a painting to make it better or what it needs to take it from good to great this workshop is for you!



Each day will begin with a lecture and demonstration in the morning then participants will work on their own paintings and get individual help as needed. You are encouraged to bring less successful paintings to try again using these new skills. These can be opportunities to practice new techniques or to plan for new improved versions.

Featured Member-Annie Strack



I paint familiar places and things I love, as if they were my homes. Growing up on a small island in south Florida, I learned to swim, sail, and surf at a young age.

Since then, I've traveled and lived in various coastal locations worldwide, which has influenced my maritime-themed paintings. These paintings transport me back to exotic coasts and carefree moments of my youth.

I invite viewers to immerse themselves in my paintings, feeling the sand on their toes, swimming in my oceans, and cruising on my boats. My goal is to evoke the sensations of the ocean, such as the wind in their hair and the taste of salt spray.

I'm a classically trained artist with experience in various mediums, but I primarily paint in watercolor. The medium's translucency allows me to create paintings with multiple layers of washes and glazes, each adding depth. I travel extensively to capture the light and mood of my subjects, taking photographs and painting on location. My paintings chronicle my travels across the US, Caribbean, and Pacific Rim. Each painting is a captured memory, a visual history of a moment, place, and emotion.

I strive to use my skills and talents to contribute to society. As an Official Authorized Artist for the US Coast Guard, I accompany units during excursions and training exercises to gather reference materials. The Coast Guard uses fine art as an outreach tool to educate diverse audiences about their goals, missions, and heroes.



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My formal art school training began in high school after I graduated at 14. I completed graduate-level coursework in an accelerated art program and advanced placement college courses. My encouraging teachers warned against pursuing a career in the arts, citing limited career opportunities and steady income. Despite this, I never considered an art career, though I continued painting. I'm dedicated to sharing my skills to help emerging artists realize their potential and improve their skills. Since 2005, I've been a feature writer and contributing editor for Professional Artist Magazine, the premier business magazine for professional visual artists. I enjoy writing for the magazine and am thrilled when readers say my advice has impacted their careers. It makes me feel like I'm making a difference in the art world by helping artists improve their lives. Another way I contribute is

by teaching dozens of painting workshops each year. Through my painting lessons, I share the information and techniques that artists need to improve their work and create better paintings. I also inspire emerging artists through my lectures and seminars on art business and marketing, and provide them with the tools they need to follow their dreams and aspirations.



To learn more about Annie Strack and her workshops visit her website

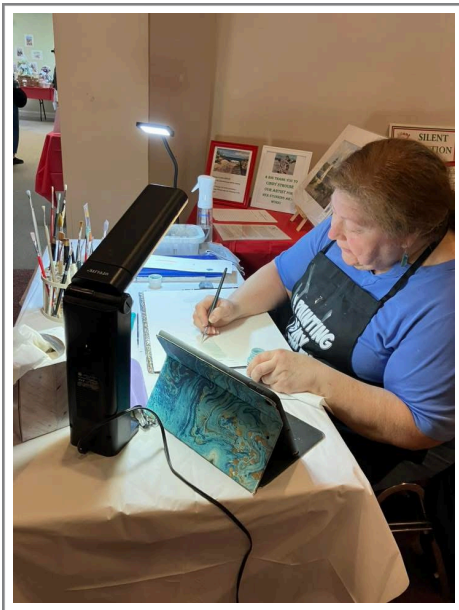
AnnieStrack.com

Member News

Cynthia Strouse's artwork, *"Live the Stream,"* has been accepted into the National Juried Exhibition at The Delaplaine Arts Center in Frederick, MD. The exhibition will be held from May 5 to July 12.

Furthermore, *"Revolution from a Child's Perspective"* has been accepted into the Rehoboth Art League's upcoming exhibition, "Revolutionary: A Member's Juried Showcase." The exhibition will be held from April 3, 2026, to May 3, 2026

Cynthia also painted "Alla Prima" resulting in two paintings which were then donated to the sons of Italy St. Joseph's Festival in Ocean City MD. The photos below show Cynthia Painting and the beautiful results.



Annie Strack, DWS, had two paintings juried into the North Star Watercolor Society 2026 National Exhibition

I'd love to hear any watercolor painting tips you have for the DWS membership!

Please reach out to me at:

(In My Experience :Tips for the Watercolor Journey)

mclean.melissa@rocketmail.com

DWS Communication Director

Please submit all member news and recent achievements to
Melissa McLean
mclean.melissa@rocketmail.com
by May 20th

DWS Executive Board and Board of Directors

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I HAVE NATURE AND
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AND IF THAT IS NOT ENOUGH,
WHAT IS ENOUGH?

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