Hot Press News

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Opening Highlights “It’s a Shore Thing” Exhibition





“Shaved Ice”

. First Place - "Shaved Ice" by C. Mercedes Walls - This beautifully painted piece is well designed, leading the viewer throughout the painting so we can enjoy every detail, including perhaps some that we may not see right off. It is also a masterwork in storytelling, which is such an important component of the creative process. Viewers can easily and emotionally connect to the love and tender joy of a shared dessert. I love this painting and I applaud the artist on their well-deserved award.





“Salt Air”

Second Place - "Salt Air" by Mick Williams - Another beautiful painting using strong design and color harmonies to lead the viewer from the magical world of the foreground to the site unseen but well-understood wonders of a day at the beach. I can smell the salt air, and my memory is flooded with remembrances of beach days. Well done,
and congratulations to the artist on their well-deserved award.

Third Place - "Beach Hat" by Christine Heyse - One of the true joys of painting in watercolor is the idea of sophisticated simplicity, and this painting captures that idea perfectly. With a limited palette and sure, confident brushstrokes, the artist captures the magic of a day at the beach, specifically through the eyes of a child. Bravo to the artist and congratulations on your well-deserved award.



“Beach Hat”

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Merit Award - "Snowy Egret" by Lawrence Cordeiro - Beautifully rendered, this piece draws the viewer in to explore what might on the surface seem like yet another painting of an egret. But upon further examination, we see the intricacies of the reed grass in the background, the graceful beauty of the egret as it moves forward, and the stunning reflections which include the blue sky of a sunny day without any sky painted above.



“Snowy Egret”



“Addie Mae’s Sunset”

Merit Award - "Addie Mae's Sunset" by Doris Ingram - This painting is a tour de force in exploring the magic of watercolor. The sky, which may appear simple, is anything but as the artist captures the drama and explosive colors of sunset enhanced with the magical qualities of the medium. This is contrasted with detailed work on Addie Mae, making this painting a winner.

Merit Award - "St. Matthews Anglican, Nassau, Bahamas" by Brad Hastings - Wonderful how the artist has combined the loose, fresh sky and simple foreground with the complexity of detail in the mid-ground trees and church. This contrast captivates the viewer and keeps us focused on the painting longer than at first we think. Beautifully painted.



St. Matthew’s Angelican, Nassau Bahamas”

Christine Heyse Workshop-Loosen Up!
Sept 16-18 2026 10am-3:30pm

This three-day workshop with award-winning artist Christine Heyse, AWS, NWS, DWS, 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!

Christine is a Signature Member of the American Watercolor Society, the National Watercolor Society, the Baltimore Watercolor Society, Potomac Valley Watercolor Society, and the Delaware Watercolor Society. She has been painting in watercolors and teaching for over forty years. Her work has won many awards, and her painting, *Ferry Ride,* was recently acquired by the Biggs Museum of Art for its permanent collection.

The price of the workshop is $225 for members and $275 for non-members.







Sign up Here!

Featured Member-Joan Applebaum

My inspiration comes from nature: the woodlands and waterways of Coastal Delaware and Northern New York. I am fortunate to be able to divide my time between these two places, which provide me with endless subject matter, from boats on the water to trees reaching toward dramatic skies. Lately, figures have been finding their way into my paintings, and I love the challenge of capturing their spirit and, in many cases, integrating them into my landscapes.



"When Trees Rest"



"I'm Ready for the Beach"

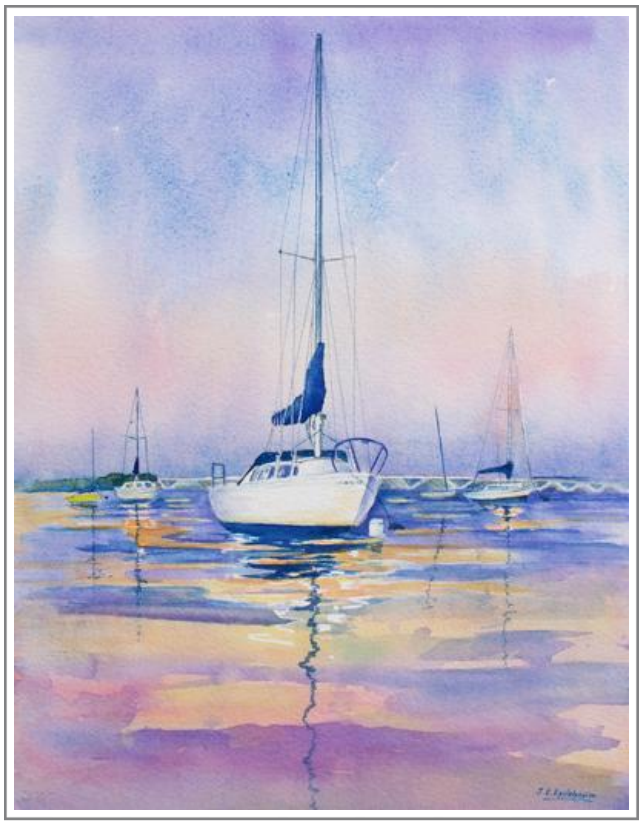


"Rainy Day, Alexandria Bay"

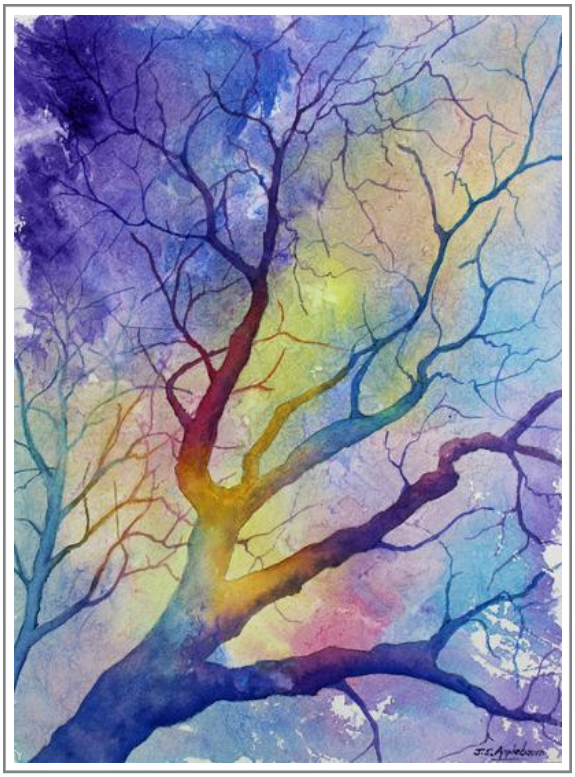
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“Lukas Puddle Jumper”



“End of Day”



“Daybreak”

This summer, Joan will be part of a two-person exhibit titled Heartbeat of Nature, Connected by Water, at the Iva Smith Memorial Art Gallery in Hammond, NY. The exhibit will deal with the impact of climate change on our landscape; specifically, how we as humans who inhabit the area share a responsibility for the acceleration of this change.

”It is my hope that my paintings will remind the viewer of their responsibility for the land and water and to ensure that our natural resources remain as beautiful for future generations.”
-Joan Applebaum

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 July 20th

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"Great art picks up where nature ends." – Marc Chagall

