

Coming Soon

October 27, 2025

ArtChat Zoom - Tips on exhibition entries.

February 1, 2026

Begin accepting entries for the 2026 TnWS Biennial Juried Exhibition

March 1, 2026

Entry deadline

May 12, 2026

Workshop with Sterling Edwards

May 16, 2026

Opening day of exhibition activities

May 16, 2026

TnWS General Meeting



Where Far Thoughts Go Floating
by **Jillie Eves**

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President's Message

Members,

It's time to set your sights on one of the most exciting events in our Society—the **2026 Biennial Juried Exhibition**, to be held **May 9 through July 19, 2026**, at the beautiful **Customs**

House Museum in Clarksville. Our Biennial Chair, **Wendy Latimer**, and her dedicated team are working hard behind the scenes to make sure all the details are in place. My role is simple: to cheer you on and encourage you to **paint, prepare, and participate!**



This is your moment—so start now. Gather your supplies, choose your inspiration, plan your composition, and get painting! Need a spark of motivation? Join us for our next **ArtChat on Zoom, October 27 at 5 PM CST / 6 PM EST**, when your host, **Vickie Montgomery**, presents past Best of Show winners to share their art and creative process. These artists know exactly what it feels like to be in your shoes and to excel.

Once the Prospectus and guidelines are posted online, study them carefully—know the framing requirements, size limits, and shipping details. And while you're planning, here's a friendly nudge: **think big!** A quarter sheet or larger is often beloved by galleries, and if you usually work small, this could be the year to step outside your comfort zone.

Whatever your process, be aware that **the use of AI in the creation of your submission is not permitted**. Lean into your own ideas and creativity and leave the computer time for email.

And don't miss the extraordinary opportunity to learn from **Sterling Edwards in his upcoming workshop**. With only 23 seats available, it will fill quickly—and Sterling has hinted that this may be his final workshop. What a gift to study with such a master!

The Biennial isn't just an exhibition—it's a celebration of our shared passion, persistence, and creativity. Let's fill Clarksville with the brilliance of Tennessee watercolor and make art happen.

Brushes up, friends—let's make this exhibition one to remember.

Warmly,
Cheryl L. Massey
President, Tennessee Watercolor Society

From the Editor

Should you enter a painting in the Biennial Exhibition...or not? For

many of you out there, entering an art competition can feel daunting and uncomfortable. Your art is going to be judged. It will be seen by many. Just the thought of your work being out there does not give you a warm, fuzzy feeling. You might wonder whether your art measures up to everybody else's.

Egads, it's daunting to think of putting your work out there and having it scrutinized. The thought of it being judged...of seeing your piece next to someone else's. It generates some trepidation, feelings of being exposed, unprotected, maybe some anxiety over not being able to be there to explain why you painted it.



But, what if, instead of seeing competition as a scrutiny by others that you might fail...you see it as an opportunity for improvement? How can that be - you might ask your batty newsletter editor? When you start seeing the exhibition as a step toward growing your vision, skills, and talent, you are on the path to victory. You try to see what the jurors see, you study the winners, you study the winners of other exhibits, and you might study the jurors' art. And suddenly, your eyes see things they did not see before – your vision is sharper, maybe more focused. You start creating art with a purpose. The deadline forces you to make decisions instead of “paralysis by analysis”!

You might start producing your most powerful paintings to date! You might even take home the Grand Prize!

Mike Hill
Editor

A Special Announcement about the 2026 Biennial Juried Exhibition

Announces

**The 2026 Biennial Juried Exhibition #39 and
the 55th Anniversary of TnWS**

Dates of Exhibit: May 9 – July 19, 2026

**Hosted by The Customs House Museum and
Cultural Center**

**Our Juror: Internationally celebrated
watermedia artist, Sterling Edwards**



Customs House
MUSEUM & CULTURAL
C E N T E R

200 S Second Street, Clarksville, TN 37040
<http://www.customshousemuseum.org>

One of the most photographed buildings in Tennessee, the Customs House Museum & Cultural Center was first used as a post office and customs house in 1898 to accommodate the flourishing tobacco trade. The brick exterior features decorative terra cotta around all openings and on the corners, and the building boasts twenty dormers. The Clarksville Montgomery County Museum began operations in 1984 in the historic Customs House building, where it collects, preserves, and interprets the community's history and culture.

Now the largest general museum in Tennessee, this architecturally unique structure showcases both permanent and rotating award-winning exhibitions. Among the museum's collections is the Boehm porcelain collection, one of the largest in the Southeast, featuring dozens of beautifully detailed birds and flowers. Located in the heart of historic downtown Clarksville, Tennessee, the Customs House is open Tuesday through Sunday.

Terri Jordan, Curator of Exhibitions, states: "We are thrilled to be hosting the TNWS Exhibition again. It is always an impressive and fan-favorite exhibition of our audience."

2026 Sterling Edwards Workshop

Registration Information

Registration Begins on October 18, 2025 through December 15, 2025 for TnWS Members

For more information about the workshop, please [email Yuson Yi \(Workshop Chair\)](#).

Sterling Edwards, our juror and judge for the

Workshop Detail

Sterling Edwards will teach a workshop from **Tuesday, May 12, 2026 through Friday, May 15, 2026**. The theme of the workshop is "Expressive Watercolors." In this workshop, Sterling will be exploring an expressive style of painting where the artist takes artistic license to embellish the form and movement of a subject and uses colors that the artist likes as opposed to the local color. The intent is to create a totally unique piece of art that reflects the artist's unique voice and creative mind.



2026 exhibition, will hold the 4-day workshop in May 2026 as part of the **TnWS** Biennial Exhibition. Sterling is an internationally recognized artist, author, and instructor—Sterling Edwards, TWSA, NWS, CSPWC, WPA. His work has been accepted in many acclaimed venues and, most recently, selected to join the *Royal Collection Trust of King Charles III*. His was one of twenty-five paintings selected in a special international watercolor competition hosted by the Canadian Society of Painters in Water Colour in celebration of their 100th Anniversary. These paintings will be housed in Windsor Castle.

Please visit Sterling Edwards' website www.sterlingedwards.com to learn more about the artist and discover his fabulous artwork.

Workshop Dates

May 12-15, 2026
Tuesday through Friday, 9 AM – 4 PM CDT

Fee: \$400 member – \$475 non-member
(Open to non-members December 16, 2025)

Participant Limit: 23

Location: Customs House Museum & Cultural Center, Clarksville, 200 South 2nd Street, Clarksville, TN 37040 (931-648-5780)

Register/Pay Online: www.tnws.org/

Pay through PayPal*

Registration Period: October 18, 2025, through December 15, 2025, for Members

Open **December 16, 2025**, to both Members and Non-members.

Please **email Yuson Yi, Workshop Chairperson at yusonyi.art@gmail.com after your online registration/payment, to confirm with Yuson that you registered.*

Cancellation Policy

We understand that emergencies can happen and urge you to find another artist* to take your place so you may receive a full refund. Cancellations made within two weeks of the workshop, with no replacement, will result in a loss of the fees paid.

**We maintain a waiting list from which you could be selected as a replacement.*

Lodging: If you are planning to attend the 2026 TnWS Biennial Exhibition Workshop and/or the associated activities in Clarksville from out of town, a block of rooms has been reserved at the Doubletree by Hilton Clarksville Riverview Hotel (50 College St., Clarksville, TN 37040) at a discounted rate of \$145.00/night, which includes free breakfast and free parking. Call the hotel directly at 931-919-5044 and ask for the Tennessee Watercolor Society block of rooms.

For more information about the workshop, please **email Yuson Yi (Workshop Chair)**.

2026 Exhibition Team Report

The TnWS Board and Exhibition Team are excited about our venue, the Customs House Museum & Cultural Center (CHM). CHM is such a large and well-appointed building that we will have everything we need for the Exhibition, Workshop, and Opening Day Activities, all under one roof.

We are also excited about Sterling Edwards serving as our Exhibition Juror, Judge for Awards, and as our Instructor for the Four-Day Workshop. Visit his website at [Sterling Edwards Fine Art](http://SterlingEdwardsFineArt.com).

The Exhibition Team and the TnWS Executive Board are working to develop all details which will be released later. In the meantime, below are the dates that we know for your 2026 calendars:

Exhibition dates: May 9, 2026, through July 19, 2026

Painting entry dates: February 1, 2026, through March 1, 2026

Exhibition entries sent to juror: March 5, 2026

Notice of selections: by April 10, 2026

Shipped art due: April 27, 2026, through May 1, 2026

In-person delivery to Clarksville: Wednesday, April 29, 2026, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Exhibition open to the public: May 9, 2026

Workshop: May 12, 2026, through May 15, 2026, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM CDT

Pre-opening day, Friday night social: TBA

Opening day activities: Saturday, May 16, 2026

Product demos by Jerry's Artarama of Knoxville

Lunch

General meeting

Opening reception with the Presentation of Awards

Customs House Museum Member's Reception: TBA

Last open day of exhibit: Sunday, July 19, 2026

Take down and pick up: Monday, July 20, 2026

Transfer of Traveling Exhibit: Thursday, July 23, 2026

2026 Exhibition Team

Exhibition Chair

Wendy Latimer: has4angels@aol.com

Exhibition Co-Chair/Liaison to Juror

Jan Ducharme: jan_ducharme@verizon.net

Entry Intake Chair

Pat C. Patrick: pat.c.patrick@gmail.com

Workshop Chair

Yuson Yi: yusonyi.art@gmail.com

Hotel Liaison Chair

Leah Foote: leahfoote7@gmail.com

Traveling Exhibition Chair

Anne Aiken: archiann51@gmail.com

Ann NEEDS a trainee for 2028

Traveling Exhibit New Protective Envelopes

Alston Beckman

Awards/Sponsor Chair

Ellen O'Kelley: ebok7078@gmail.com

Awards Team

Barbara Bouton and Wendy Latimer

Additional Volunteers Needed

Traveling Exhibit Chairperson for 2028 to train now with Ann.

Hospitality Chair for Opening Day: NEEDED

Hospitality Chair for Friday night dinner: NEEDED

Additional volunteers will be needed now as we get closer to the date and Opening Day. Contact Wendy at has4angels@aol.com for more information and choices.

TnWS 2026 Biennial Juried Exhibition Prospectus

Artist Eligibility

The exhibition is open to artists 18 years of age and older who reside in Tennessee or meet the requirements of membership.

Works of Art Eligibility

The artwork must have been completed since February 2022 and not shown in any previous juried TnWS exhibition, including online. Each artist may submit up to THREE images, but only ONE is eligible for inclusion.

Fees

Members: \$40 for the first entry, \$10 for the second, \$10 for the third (\$40, \$50, \$60)

Non-Members: \$80 for the first entry, \$10 for the second, \$10 for the third (\$80, \$90, \$100)

Painting Requirements

Originality: The painting must be completely the artist's own original work – idea, content and composition. Reference photos must be taken only by the artist. No copies of another's work or photos, published images, copyrighted material or "free online images". Paintings cannot be done under instruction, whether online or in person. **NEW:** The use of AI (artificial intelligence), in any part of the process, is not permitted as it is not the original artwork of the artist.

Watermedia: Water-based: watercolor, acrylics, gouache, casein, egg tempera, water-based ink (not water-based oil) applied in an aqueous manner (no thick paint or raised surfaces). Graphite and watercolor pencils must be dissolved. Drawing or pencil marks cannot be the main element of the painting, only as guidelines or details.

Substrate: Paper, synthetic paper like YUPO, or illustration board only.

Collage: Elements can only be hand-painted papers by the artist. Not to exceed 25% of the total surface. No metals, gold leaf, 3-D objects, giclées, fabric, or thread can be used.

Painting Image Size

New: Minimum IMAGE size is 11 inches, in any direction.

Maximum FRAMED size: The outside maximum size is 48 inches, in any direction.

Framing: Simple, un-adorned (no carving, decorations, filets, liners, etc.) wood or metal, in natural, gold, silver, or black finish. Maximum of a 2 inch wide frame should be used. Frame must be well constructed, especially for handling and shipping. The frame must be wired for hanging with flat hardware (no sawtooth hangers or screw eyes) with wire ends taped.

Glazing: Plexiglas is REQUIRED (for safe handling and for shipping), in good condition (no scratches or lint) and properly sized for the frame.

Mats: Acid-free white/off-white mat with white core is REQUIRED, minimum of 2 inches wide around all sides of the painted image. Multiple mats are okay. NO color liners.

Digital Entries

Prepare the image of your painting in the following manner: Take a high-quality (squared-up) photo of the painting-only (unframed painting to avoid glare) and crop it to just the image, correctly oriented (horizontal or vertical.) Open the file and change the resolution to a minimum of 300 pixels per inch, sized to a maximum of 1800 pixels on the LONGER side, saved as maximum quality, not to exceed 3 megabytes.

Name the file as:

Artist Name (LastFirst)_PaintingTitle_size (HxW).

Example: DoeJane_RedTulips_20h12w.

Email Images to: tnws.exhibitions@gmail.com.

The ENTRY FORM (including these instructions) will be on the website prior to the FEBRUARY 1, 2026 open date for entry. This allows time for you to obtain assistance, if necessary to complete the Entry Form. Be sure to click 'actual size' when attaching the file to the email and to pay the Entry Fee to complete the process. For help, contact the TnWS Intake Chair: [Pat Patrick](#)

Pricing and Sales Commissions

Pricing: Remember to include the gallery commission when pricing your painting. The maximum sales commission being charged by one of our venues is 30%. A painting can be designated as Not For Sale (NFS) but we need the painting's value.

Sales

A TnWS contract will be available in the event a painting is sold. This contract will be signed by the venue and the buyer and will provide contact information. The artist is responsible for negotiating shipping terms with the buyer and ensuring delivery at the close of the Exhibition or Traveling Exhibit. The painting must stay with the Exhibition and Traveling Exhibit (if the painting is chosen for the Traveling Exhibit) until the end.

Exhibition Awards

An impressive number of cash and merchandise awards, including Best of Show, are chosen by Sterling Edwards. They will be presented to those selected at the Opening Reception and Awards Ceremony. Best of Show in 2024 was \$2,000, with a \$1,500 Award, a \$1350 Award, a \$1,200 Purchase Award and another \$9,225.00 in Awards and Merchandise.

Important Award Opportunities (that must be agreed upon to accept):

Purchase Award: A Purchase Award means that the Juror selected painting/artist must agree to accept the value of the Purchase Award as payment-in-full (\$1,200.00 and up) for their painting. That permission happens at the entry process. At the end of the Exhibition (and if traveling) the painting is delivered to the Sponsor. If you agree to accept the Award, it doesn't matter what the price is that you placed on the painting at entry (more or less than the \$1,200.00). Permission is needed to accept the Award as payment-in-full.

Totally Transparent Watercolor Award: Artists who create their paintings using only transparent watermedia pigments, with no white pigments and using only the white of the paper, can apply for consideration for this special award.

Traveling Exhibit: 30 paintings are selected by the Juror to travel for four months. It is an honor.

West TN Regional Art Center, Humboldt
Friday, July 24, 2026–Friday, Sept. 4, 2026

Pryor Gallery, Columbia
Friday, September 11, 2026–Friday, Oct. 23, 2026

Clear Story Arts, Chattanooga
Friday, November 6, 2026–Saturday, November 28, 2026

Traveling Exhibit Pickup/Chattanooga
Monday, November 30, 2026

Full Color Catalog and Website: The images of all of the accepted paintings and award winners will be displayed on the **TnWS** website and in the full-color exhibition catalog. All members and Sponsors receive a catalog and they are available for sale to the public at each venue.

Liability Clause: I have carefully read all requirements listed in this prospectus and I understand that failure to meet ANY of the requirements may result in the disqualification of my entry and the possibility of ineligibility to enter future **TnWS** juried exhibitions for a minimum of two years.

*****Note**** Submittal of entry is considered waiver of liability for TnWS and gallery venues. A full waiver of liability statement must be signed upon acceptance.*

Upcoming Schedule for Traveling Exhibit

Additional details/dates will be forthcoming – they will be included in future issues of ArtBeat and on the **TnWS** website.

West TN Regional Art Center, Humboldt

Bill Hickerson, Director (731) 784-1787
email: wtrac@aeneas.net or
b_hickerson@bellsouth.net

Exhibit opening: **Friday, July 24, 2026**
Exhibit closing: **Friday, September 4, 2026**
Reception: **TBA**

Pryor Gallery, Columbia State, Columbia

Gabe Trius, Curator (931) 540-2883
email: gtrius1@columbiastate.edu
Exhibit opening: **Tuesday, September 15, 2026**
Exhibit closing: **Tuesday, October 27, 2026**
Reception: **Wednesday, September 16, 2026, 5:00 PM to 7 PM**

Clear Story Arts, Chattanooga

Danielle Quisenberry, Director (423) 228-0215
email: danielle@clearstoryarts.com
Rick Herrmann, Curator
Exhibit opening: **Friday, November 6, 2026**
Exhibit closing: **Saturday, November 28, 2026**

Reception: **TBA**

Pickup traveling paintings: **Monday, November 30, 2026**

Thanks again to all who help make the Traveling Exhibit possible!

***Note** All the above information and dates can also be found on the TnWS Website.*

Statewide News

Tired of paper name tags at a TnWS exhibit or event?



Members may order a **TnWS** name tag with the **TnWS** logo and their name printed on it. The Cost is \$19.90, paid directly to the vendor, and the name tag is mailed directly to your home. To order your name tag, download, print and complete the form and mail it to the vendor along with your payment. This form is available 24/7 on www.tnws.org. If you are like the ArtBeat editor, you might order more than one so that when you misplace or lose one, you have another in reserve – just in case!

Treasurer Report

Check in on the **TnWS** website in the "Members Only" area.

Pam Austin
Treasurer

Arts Advocacy

If you haven't gotten your Arts Specialty plate you still can. DO IT!

Specialty License Plates Support Arts in Tennessee

What better way to tell the world you support the arts than with a TN Arts Commission arts plate. Simply take your old plate to your county clerk and swap it. They will prorate your tag fees, so you don't have to wait until your tag renewal is due. They are also available through the [Tennessee Dept. of Revenue website](#).

Tag Name: Tennesseans for the Arts

Available to: All Tennessee Residents

Annual Fee: \$61.50 of which \$35 goes to the Arts

Proceeds Benefit: Tennessee Arts Commission

Peach McComb is the new head of the Arts Advocacy Committee. If you are interested in Arts Advocacy and have information and news that may be of interest to the **TnWS** membership, please let **Peach McComb** or your regional representative know!

Membership Report

Our current total membership as of September 29, 2025.

Region I	33
Region II	103
Region III	48
Region IV	41
Region V	13
Total Membership	238

Pat Patrick
Membership Chair

Facebook Report

Since our last FaceBook report, we are only a handful away from 600 members!! Of that growing number, only about 100 of the card-carrying dues-paying **TnWS** members have joined the fun and community spirit found on the FaceBook page.

Here's something that engaged this group for the first two weeks of September. We called it the "Lila in Lavender Challenge." Several weeks

followed, and the enthusiasm was contagious, generating more purple beauties.

As an administrator of the page, it was my fun task to select one piece to serve as a temporary image for the group banner. I chose this painting, "The Ascent", by **Lisa Cantrell Wood** (Region II), for its "purple playfulness." Those who participate frequently know that our Facebook group is a place to inspire and to be inspired; to learn new things and to share wisdom and practical hints about the process.

Lisa echoed that with this comment: "I like that you can get input from other artists on your paintings if you ask for it. It is always good to have a second opinion or someone else's insight."

The **TnWS** FB page is also where we were able to share this lovely image of a number of the participating artists in The Magic of Watercolor Exhibit in Athens which just closed at the end of September. I like to think that we took

the challenge issued in the April ArtBeat to go out to lunch with another member. This was a lively gathering, many meeting for the first time. Lunch participants were either in the show or were there to encourage a friend or spouse. Thanks to **Helen Burton** for taking the photo.

If you haven't joined Facebook yet, [give it a try!](#)

Tuva Stephens and **Marie Spaeder Haas**
Facebook Chairs



The Ascent
by **Lisa Cantrell Wood**

his book, **Free Play**: "There is an old Sanskrit word, *lila*, which means play. Richer than our word, it means divine play, the play of creation, destruction, and reconstruction, the folding and unfolding of the cosmos." It turns out that "lila" is the Spanish and German word for purple. With that in mind, the FB members shared well over 50 playful purple paintings over the course of two weeks. Many wonderful comments



A Magical Group!

earlier, I had shared this quotation by Stephen Nachmanovitch in

Golden Volunteer

More About Volunteering for TnWS

Selecting Golden Volunteers is one way **TnWS** recognizes and honors its dedicated volunteers.

Watercolor societies like **TnWS** can't survive without an involved, enthusiastic cadre of volunteers. It is essential for all members to consider volunteering in some capacity to ensure the organization's continued success well into the future. It is also very important, as our membership ages, that we recruit younger watermedia painters into the organization.

Do you know of a dedicated **TnWS** volunteer who should be honored as a Golden Volunteer? Please notify **Mike Hill** or your Regional Representative.

ArtChat

It's Time for Our Quarterly ArtChat!

Join us for our ArtChat, **Monday, October 27!**

The session begins at **5:00 PM CST/6:00 PM EST** and will last approximately one hour. It will be open approximately 15-20 minutes early to enjoy some social time as well.

Have you ever entered a show but weren't accepted? Do you find the process intimidating? Are you wondering how to choose paintings for a show—or whether the judge's style should influence what you submit? Do you increase your chances of being selected for the show by entering multiple submissions? If any of these questions resonate with you, I hope you are able to join us on the last **Monday in October** for ArtChat.

This quarter's ArtChat will focus on our upcoming **2026 Biennial** (yes—we hope you're painting early and often!). Together, we'll explore

the paths past winners have taken on their journey to becoming **Best of Show**. You'll hear from past Best of Show winners **Susan Miller** (2022) and **Mike Elkins** (2020). We are hoping for one or two other **Best of Show** winners to join us that evening as well.

We'll also be joined by **Pat Patrick**, our Intake coordinator, who will share what she looks for during submissions.

Don't miss this chance to gain insights, tips, and inspiration for your own show entries! Come early and socialize with old friends and make new ones. This is a great way to widen your network of friends, learn about members who may not be in your Region, and continue to build our statewide community.

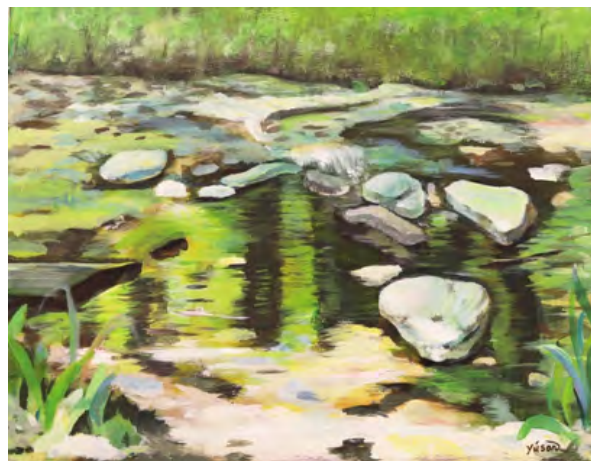
The Zoom Link will be sent out to all members a day or two before the event.

Regional News and Reports

Region II

Applause

Member: **Yuson Yi**
 Painting: *Rotary Park Creek*
 Acrylic on canvas
 Award: 3rd Place, Acrylic Category
 Exhibit: 2025 Downtown Artist Co-op Juried Art Exposition
 Location: Clarksville, TN
 Date: **August 7, 2025**
 Judge: Kell Black



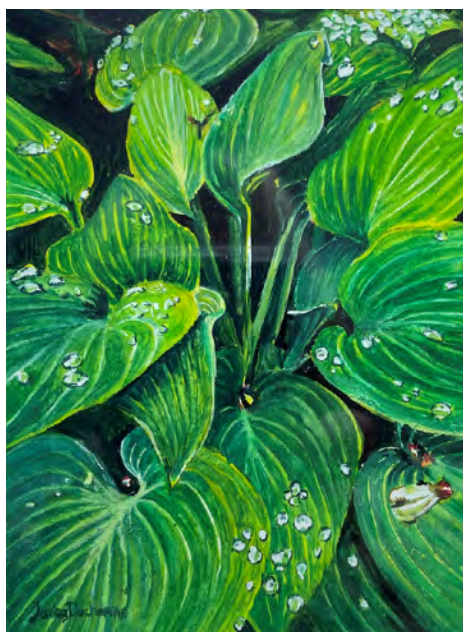
Rotary Park Creek
by **Yuson Yi**

Member: **Yuson Yi**
 Painting: *Blush in Bloom*
 Colored pencil drawing
 Award: 3rd Place, Drawing Category
 Exhibit: 2025 Downtown Artist Co-op Juried Art Exposition
 Location: Clarksville, TN
 Date: **August 7, 2025**
 Judge: Kell Black



Blush in Bloom
 by Yuson Yi

Member: **Janice Ducharme**
 Paintings: *Hostas, Coneflowers, and Bistro des Artistes Honfleur*
 Exhibit: 92nd Annual International Exhibition of Fine Art in Miniature
 The Miniature Painters, Sculptors & Gravers Society of Washington, D.C.
 Location: The Mansion at Strathmore, Bethesda, MD
 Dates: **November 22, 2025–January 10, 2026**
 Judge: Janet Belich



Hostas, 3.5"x5"
 by Janice Ducharme



Coneflowers, 3.5"x5"
 by Janice Ducharme



Bistro des Artistes Honfleur, 3.5"x5"
 by Janice Ducharme



Waiting Canoes
by **Janice Ducharme**

Member: **Janice Ducharme**
 Painting: *Waiting Canoes*
 Exhibit: 48th Exhibition, Southern Watercolor Society
 Location: Panama City Center for the Arts, Panama City, FL
 Dates: Was **June 4, 2025–July 20, 2025**
 Judge: Keiko Tanabe



Pareidolia #2: Roots
by **Nick Long**

Member: **Nick Long**, AAA (elected)
 Painting: *Pareidolia #2: Roots*
 Watercolor on 300lb Arches cold press, 18" x 18"
 Exhibit: 112th Annual Exhibition - Allied Artists of America International
 Location: Reading Public Museum, Reading, PA
 Dates: In-person exhibition: **September 13, 2025–January 11, 2026**
 Online exhibition: **September 1, 2025–September 1, 2026**
 Juror of Awards: Thomas Folk
 Jury of Selection: Annie Patt, Gabriela Gonzalez Dellosso, and Steve Scheuring

Experience outstanding submissions by contemporary artists from across the nation and around the world in the *112th Annual Exhibition of the Allied Artists of America*. Approximately 100 selected works will be included in this year's exhibition, hosted for the very first time at the Reading Public Museum. Founded in 1914 in New York City, Allied Artists of America is one of the oldest artists' organizations in the nation.

The show will feature some of the best works by contemporary artists, including examples in oil painting, sculpture, graphics, mixed media, watercolor, and pastels.



Child's Play
by **Barbara Bullard**

Member: **Barbara Bullard**
 Paintings: *Child's Play*
 Exhibit: 2nd Biennial National Juried Online Exhibition
 Transparent Watercolor Society of America
 Location: Online
 Dates: Was **September 1, 2025–September 30, 2025**, but will likely be archived on the TWSA website
 Jurors: Lenox Wallace and Donna Jill Witty
 Link: [TWSA Online Exhibition](#)

TWSA is a long-established organization dedicated to promoting and preserving the characteristics of transparent watercolor. The current online exhibition features 70 works from over 400 submitted nationally.

Member: **Dann Zehr**
 Paintings: *The First Day of Kindergarten*
 Exhibit: Then and Now
 Location: Church Street Gallery, 124 N. Church Street, Murfreesboro, TN
 Dates: Was **September 6, 2025–September 27, 2025**

"I painted 'The First Day Of Kindergarten' on 18" x 24" 140 lb. cold press watercolor paper using various wet-into-wet, scratching, lifting, negative painting & dry brush techniques. It's based on the swing set in our backyard, and I had the idea when our children started going to school."



The First Day of Kindergarten
by **Dann Zehr**

Member: **Dann Zehr**
 Paintings: *Old Jones Mill Maple*
 Exhibit: Trellis and Vine Studio & Gallery
 Location: Trellis and Vine Studio & Gallery
 27 South Lowry Street, Smyrna, TN
 Dates: Currently on display



Old Jones Mill Maple
by **Dann Zehr**

Events

Middle TN Zoom Social and Discussion time:
Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 7pm

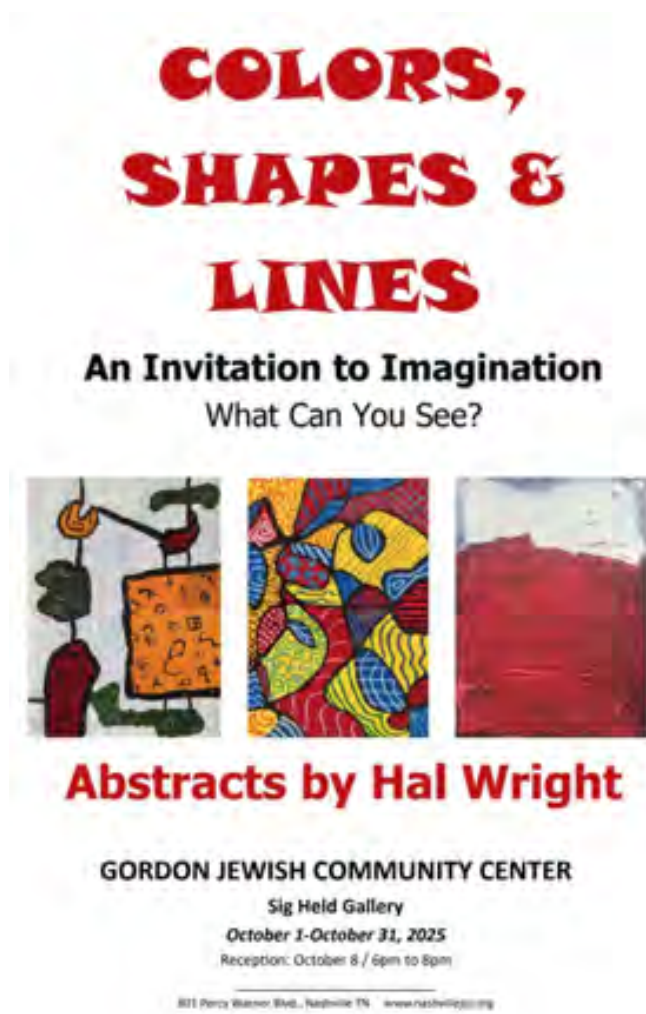
Q&A for anything **TnWS** and to discuss the upcoming Biennial Juried Exhibition 2026. We want to get you painting for the Exhibition, learn details, and enjoy virtual social time together!

RSVP to [Wendy Latimer](#).

Wendy will send a Link close to event time with RSVP

Member: **Hal Wright**
 Exhibit: Colors, Shapes and Lines – An invitation to Imagination
 Location: Sig Held Gallery
 Gordon Jewish Community Center
 801 Percy Warner Blvd., Nashville, TN
 Dates: **October 1, 2025–October 31, 2025**
 Reception: Was **October 8, 2025, 6:00 PM–9:00 PM**

A colorful variety of Hal's Abstract paintings challenging the viewer: What Do You See?



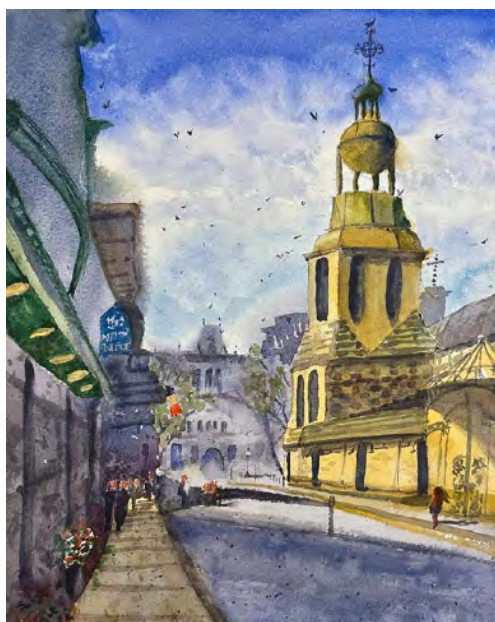
Red Moves In
 by **Hal Wright**

Member: **Dann Zehr**
 Exhibit: Solo exhibit of 10 original
 "Wandering Watercolors"
 Location: Smyrna Outdoor Adventure Center,
 Smyrna, TN
 Dates: **September 20, 2025–January 5,
 2026**

In what I am calling "Wandering Watercolors," I'm including 10 of my original watercolors that begin in our dining room, branch out into our neighborhood, across town to Franklin, then downtown Nashville, over to my Wife's hometown area in East Tennessee, to our Florida family vacation this Summer, finally ending on our 30th Wedding Anniversary cruise up to Boston & into Canada.



Morning in America (aka our dining room)
 by **Dann Zehr**



Notre Dame Basilica Cathedral - Quebec City
 by **Dann Zehr**

Members: **36 TnWS RII** artists showing 56
 paintings
 Exhibit: A Kaleidoscope of Watermedia, a
 non-juried exhibit
 Location: In three galleries: Janet Levine
 March Gallery, JLMG2 Gallery, and
 Sig Held Gallery
 Gordon Jewish Community Center
 Address: 801 Percy Warner Blvd., Nashville,
 TN
 Dates: Was through **September 29, 2024**
 Reception: Was **September 10, 2025**

Thirty-six **TnWS** Middle TN Members participated in the Annual GJCC non-juried Exhibit. For the first time, the Gordon JCC hosted us in all three of its galleries to exhibit 56 paintings. The exhibit was beautiful and a delight to all who visit the GJCC on a daily basis. Each year, there is a high expectation for the **TnWS** exhibit.

On the evening of **September 10**, we gathered for a social/reception. It was a great opportunity to socialize with our fellow members. It is always a warm reunion of the **RII TnWS** family! Even Noriko Register had returned just in time from Japan for a visit and attended.



Member: **Alston Beckman**
 Exhibit: Solo Exhibit: Quilts and Textiles in Watercolor and Retrospective Works
 Location: Williamson County Library, Meeting Room Gallery
 1314 Columbia Ave, Franklin, TN
 Dates: Was through **September 30, 2025**

Artist of the Month

Alston Beckman



A lifelong fine artist with a soulful, ongoing body of work that weaves storytelling into intricate, textile-inspired watercolor pieces. Passionate about merging traditional folk-art subjects with a contemporary spirit, creating work that is both meaningful and emotionally resonate. Recognized in state and national exhibitions in the Southeast.



Member: Various **TnWS** RII members
 Exhibit: Old Hickory Fall Art Show
 Location: Old Hickory Art Center
 1308 Fuller St., Old Hickory TN
 Date: **Saturday, October 18, 2025**

Hunkered in the historic Hadley Schoolhouse, creative juices are always flowing at the Old Hickory Art Center. The hidden gem is a haven to nearly 60 painters who use the quaint space to paint a wide range of art genres. Several **TnWS** members will paint at the center and will showcase their work, along with many other artists. There is a rich history and a lot of love in this little building. If you haven't experienced it, come and see for yourself. You are invited to get involved.

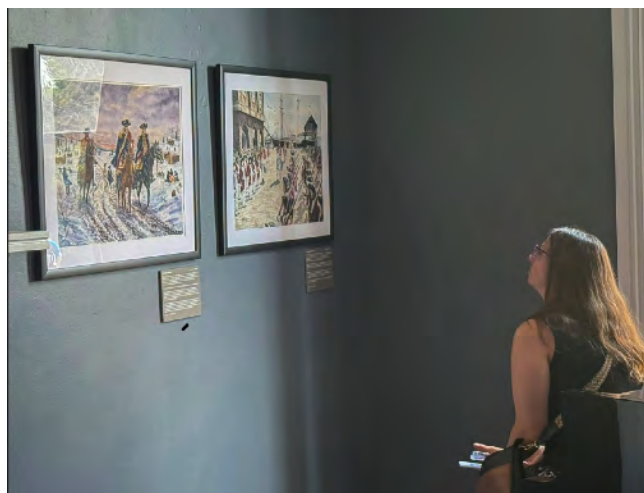


TnWS Member, Don Olea Wraps Up Successful "Battle Born" Exhibition At Monthaven

The 7th Annual Veterans Art Exhibition, featuring **TnWS** member and Army Veteran **Don Olea**, along with forty-three of his paintings, has just wrapped up at the Monthaven Arts & Cultural Center in Hendersonville, TN. It was a wonderful success as he sold three pieces and received down payments on two additional commissions.

Olea's Hectic Fall Schedule Continues ...

Olea is currently exhibiting an additional ten watercolor paintings that were not a part of his Monthaven "Battle Born" exhibit, inside the MTSU Charlie and Hazel Daniels Veterans and Military Family Center in Murfreesboro, TN. The show runs through the end of November. There was a reception on **Wednesday, September 24, at noon** at MTSU.



For the third year in a row, **Olea's** "Battle Born" show, featuring historical military art, will be on exhibit at the Nashville Gordon Jewish Community Center inside the Sig Held Gallery. The reception will be held on **November 12th from 6–8 pm**.

Because it seems artists are gluttons for punishment, **Don Olea** is no exception. As it

turns out, **Olea** has volunteered his talents to paint two military-themed murals on the outside walls of the American Legion Post 45 building in Greenbrier, TN. The good folks at Monthaven Arts & Cultural Center, to include Val Adams, Cheryl Strichik and Robin Willis, are also lending support for this effort.



Don's Contacts:

Gallery: donolea.smugmug.com

Facebook: [donolea](https://www.facebook.com/donolea)

Instagram: [donolea_art](https://www.instagram.com/donolea_art)

email: donolea@bellsouth.net

Region III

Applause

Member: **Arline Mann**

Painting: *Little Artemis*

24" x 24" watercolor over graphite

Exhibit: 75th Annual National Exhibition
Academic Artists Association

Location: Vernon, CT

Dates: **October 12, 2025–November 2, 2025**

Awards Presentation: **October 12, 2025**

Juror of Awards: Julie Beck



Little Artemis
by **Arline Mann**

Events



Jill Spicer



Lynne Mayer



Richard Rice

Mountain Arts Guild Fine Art Exhibition

*Original paintings and 3D
art work will be on display
for show and sale.*

Come meet the artists

*Mountain Arts Guild
consists of 20 artists from
Signal Mountain and the
greater Chattanooga area.*

Reception Friday, October 3
5 to 7pm

at
Mountain Arts Community Center
809 Kentucky Ave.
Signal Mountain, Tennessee

Phone: 423 886-1959

Members: **Lynne Mayer, Mark Cobbe, Richard Rice, Jill Spicer, Liz Klinefelter**
Exhibit: Show at Mountain Arts Community Center
Location: 809 Kentucky Ave., Signal Mt, TN
Dates: **October 3, 2025–October 29, 2025**



Richard Rice with six of his surreal paintings of trees

Member: **Richard Rice**
Exhibit: Clear Story Arts
Location: 1673 S. Holtzclaw Avenue,
Chattanooga, TN
Dates: Was **August 1, 2025–August 30, 2025**

Member: **Alan Shuptrine**
Class: Splash into Watercolor with Alan Shuptrine!
Dates: **Friday, October 24, 2025
10 AM to 2 PM**
Cost: \$150.00

Description: A Fun & Colorful Class for Beginners & Beyond. Ready to explore the vibrant world of watercolor? Whether you're just getting started or looking to sharpen your skills, this playful and inspiring class is perfect for beginner to intermediate artists. Alan will dive into a brief variety of watercolor techniques—from washes and wet-on-wet blending to layering, texture tricks, and more. No pressure, just paint! Come ready to relax, create, and have fun with color! A supply list will be provided upon registration.



Location: Marriot Springhill Suites Downtown Chattanooga
Address: 495 Riverfront Parkway, Chattanooga, TN
Contact: (423) 266-4453 or email rachelle@shuptrines.com for questions or help registering
Link: [Reserve your spot](#), space is limited.

Call for Artists

From the American Watercolor Society

159th Exhibition Submissions Now Open

Exhibition Dates April 7–May 1, 2026

Submissions for the 159th Annual International Exhibition are now open!

Entries will be accepted through **noon EST on November 12th, 2025**. AWS gives out over \$50,000 in awards at the Exhibition. The 159th Exhibition won't end with the NYC exhibit- 40 works selected from the show will tour the US for the following year as part of the AWS Traveling Exhibition. Thousands of additional viewers will see these 40 works as the show travels the US.

See all details in the [prospectus](#).

New Members

Let us welcome the following new members to the fold!

Region I	Jennifer Williams
Region II	Kathryn Faille
Region II	Michelle Hall
Region III	Bobbie Thomson Schoss
Region IV	Melinda Balzer
Region IV	Angel Rene Moncada
Region IV	Marlee Parnell

2024–2026 Executive Board and Committees

Executive Board

President:	Cheryl L. Massey
Vice President:	Marie Spaeder Haas
Secretary:	Leah Foote
Treasurer:	Pam Austin
Past President:	Lil Clinard

Committees

Membership Chair:	Pat C. Patrick
Grants:	OPEN
Traveling Exhibit:	Ann Aiken
Arts Advocacy:	Peach McComb
Historian:	Patsy Sharpe
Member-at-Large:	Gayla Seale

Social Media Team

TnWS FaceBook:	Tuva Stephens, Marie Spaeder Haas
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Website Team

Chair:	Mark Cobbe
Liaison:	Lil Clinard

Data Administration

Data Administrator for Exhibitions and Entry In-take:	Pat C. Patrick
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Newsletter Team

Editor:	Mike Hill
Designer:	Mark Cobbe
Writer:	OPEN

Regional Contacts

Region I	Charley Highers
Region II	Wendy Latimer
Region III	Marie Spaeder Haas
Region IV	Judy Jorden
Region V	Barbara Jernigan

Contact information for all TnWS members is in the Members Only Section of our website.

Next Issue Reminder

Our next issue of ArtBeat will be published on **January 15, 2026**. Please send your Applause and News to your Regional Representative by **December 10, 2025**. Committee reports and Statewide info is due to the Editor by **December 15, 2025**. All photos must be separate jpegs with captions entered below.