



TO: Members
FROM: Communications Committee
Barb Parisien, Chair

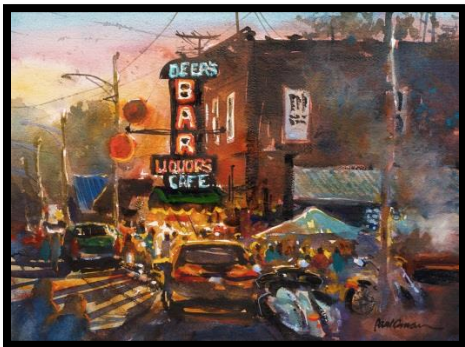
DATE: November 1, 2020

NORTHSTAR WATERMEDIA SOCIETY
IS COMMITTED TO WORKING TOWARD
A MORE INCLUSIVE, JUST, AND
EQUITABLE ART COMMUNITY.

NEXT MEETING - Mark your calendar!

Virtual Demo by Paul Oman

**Thursday, November 19
7:00-9:00**



Paul Oman was honored as a *Bold Brush International* Painting Competition finalist for his watercolors in 2010 and 2013, featured in the 2017 *National Watercolor Society's* International Exhibition in San Pedro, CA and has exhibited in other national and regional exhibitions.

Paul paints with watercolor, acrylic, and oil. The fast and free approach of watercolor has become the foundation for how he sees and approaches the visual arts in studio, plein air, and before live audiences. Painting since he was ten years old, Paul works full-time using his artistic abilities to bring hope, inspiration, joy, and value to the lives of other through art and its creative processes.

A native of Amery, WI, Paul is also a drawing and painting instructor, sharing the joy of painting in any medium with people of all ages and abilities through workshops, schools, community education, and by invitation.

"Painting 'into and through' the forest can be a challenge, especially when every little detail wants to be noticed at first glance. I will demonstrate how I simplify these complex patterns, beginning with abstract washes and wet-on-dry applications, working towards the realistic impression that sunlight dancing through the trees of a northern Minnesota forest/lake landscape provides. I will even add a couple of birch trees and reflections for fun! These landscapes in watercolor, among all of the many and varied subjects I paint in various mediums, are among my favorites. I hope you will join me and I look forward to interacting with you."

- Paul Oman

Learn more about Paul and his work on his website: www.paulomanfineart.com.

Contact Paul by email at paul@paulomanfineart.com or phone at 715-790-2029.

A NOTE FROM PRESIDENT DEIRDRE VAUGHAN



Your Board of Directors has been meeting monthly to explore and develop new ways that we can meet our members' needs during this pandemic. We have presented two interactive virtual demos that allow us to continue learning from skilled artists and will host our first virtual workshop in January with David Smith.

One way to strengthen the sense of community that binds us all together could be to foster small online groups that would explore areas of common interest. Do you have an interest area you would like to explore with other like-minded members? Would you like to meet with other novice artists to practice skills and develop your technique? Are you a new member who would like to meet with other new members? Would you like to meet with a group of people with all skill levels to share your paintings and receive feedback? Do you have a new technique that you would like to share with others? If you have an idea you would like to propose, we'd love to hear from you.

Please contact me at deirdrevaughan7@gmail.com to propose an idea or to offer any other suggestions about forming small group activities for our members.

JAMES NUTT DEMONSTRATION LINK

Members who attended our October virtual meeting enjoyed learning about Urban Sketching from our guest artist, James Nutt. James, an experienced Urban Sketcher, presented a Zoom demo of an on-site sketching/painting session in his backyard.

You can view the final paintings from the demo and learn more about James' process and materials at his blog:

<https://www.nuttdraws.com/blog>.

James uses his sketches to tell a story. When asked how he decides what to paint, James says, "Find things that have a relationship and let them talk. Tell one little story. Find one little thing you find interesting and then amplify it." These links can also be found on our NSWS website and Facebook page.



The link to James Nutt's NSWS demo and the follow up Q & A:

<https://youtu.be/1tVa0qvn6Sg>

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

**** IMPORTANT ****

IF YOU HAVE NOT RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP, THIS IS THE LAST NEWSLETTER YOU WILL RECEIVE UNLESS YOU RENEW BY NOVEMBER 30! PLEASE RENEW ASAP.



It's easy to renew and pay your dues on-line. Please visit:

<https://northstarwatermedia.wufoo.com/forms/r1tua7si0v9idce/>.

At the end of the form, you will be directed to the payment page to enter your card number to pay dues. If you choose to pay by check, please visit our website for instructions.

If you have the means to show your extraordinary love of the arts and NorthStar, please consider a **Premium Membership** level. Each year NorthStar's Premium Members are acknowledged on our website, in our newsletter, and on Facebook (unless they prefer to remain anonymous).

2020-2021 Membership Dues

\$38 – Individual or Signature
\$66 – 2-person Household
\$10 – College Students

2020-2021 Premium Levels

\$60 – Premium Silver
\$75 – Premium Gold
\$100 – Premium Platinum
\$150 – Premium Corporate*
\$200 – Premium Angel*

* Premium Corporate and Angel levels are eligible to advertise artwork, shows, and classes at certain NSWS events.

If you have questions about the renewal process or your status, I am happy to help. Feel free to reach out to me at: NSWSmembership@gmail.com.

Best wishes for staying healthy, creative, and connected!

- **Laurie Mosher**, Membership Director

ARTREACH FOR JUSTICE

This column will highlight artists, places, and events in keeping with our commitment to work toward a more inclusive, just, and equitable art community.

Gift Ideas

You can influence the change you want to see in the world by the way you spend your money. The next time you are shopping for supplies for yourself or gifts for the young artists in your life, please consider these options:

[More Than Peach](#)

When Bellen, a 3rd grader, was asked by a classmate to pass the "skin color" crayon she was annoyed because she knew they meant peach. She thought of passing the brown crayon, since that is the closest match to her own skin. Calling a peach "skin color" might seem like a harmless habit, but it's inaccurate and cause discomfort to others. Bellen calls herself a "crayon activist". You can support her mission by purchasing products on her site. Do you know anyone who would like a set of her crayons? Or perhaps you would like a "crayon activist" t-shirt for yourself? As artists we know that we need more than peach. We need all the colors.



Bellen's
More than Peach™
Project

[Beam Paints](#)

You can get high quality handmade watercolor paint and studio supplies at this business based in M'Chigeeng First Nation on Manitoulin Island, Ontario. They use knowledge of indigenous pigment and expand it to encompass all paint traditions. The pigments are lightfast and the packaging is plastic-free. Beam Paints is 100% Indigenous Female Entrepreneurship.



Children's Books Featuring Local and/or Watermedia Artists

[You are Important](#)

Board Book Series from Todd Snow

Illustrations by Minneapolis artist Melodee Strong (2007)



WINNER, 2009 Teacher's Choice Award!

From Strong's website: "The most important goal I strive for in my work is communicating positive ideas and images about the people and culture in my family and community."

[The Most Beautiful Thing](#)

A new picture book from Minnesota author Kao Kalia Yang

Illustrations by Khoa Le (2020)

From the publisher: Stunning illustrations from Vietnamese illustrator Khoa Le bring this intergenerational tale to life.



[A Different Pond](#)

A recent picture book by Minnesota author Bao Phi and

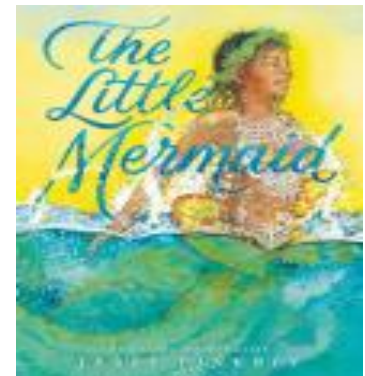
"striking, evocative art" by Thi Bui.

From the publisher: "A Different Pond" is an unforgettable story about a simple event - a long-ago fishing trip.

[The Little Mermaid](#) (coming November 3, 2020)

Author & illustrator Jerry Pinkney

"His watercolor illustrations retain their signature delicacy and seem especially suited for a tale that partially takes place underwater... I'm almost envious of the young readers who'll get to grow up with this Little Mermaid as *their* Little Mermaid."—BookPage



- Tammy Nara

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

- Jerrie Ahrens
- Judy Becker
- Bran Callet
- Marcia Easton
- Denise Finnestad
- Gil Gragert
- David McGee
- Mary Mealy
- Lily Sanders

WELCOME BACK!

- Tom Dimock
- Jill Wageman

NATIONAL JURIED ART EXHIBITION



Best in Show

"Mechanic" by Z. Feng

Our 6th Annual National Juried Art Exhibition continues at the Wildwood Library in Mahtomedia through Friday, November 13. The library is open M/W/F/Sat 10:00-1:00 and T/Th noon-7:00, except November 11 when the library is closed.

You may also view all of the accepted paintings and the award winners, with Juror Nicole Watson's remarks, on our website:

www.northstarwatermedia.com/exhibitions

Sit back and enjoy the slideshow of all 58 pieces. The slides are set for 10 second intervals, but you can go faster by clicking on the slide to display the next one.

Pick-up is Saturday, November 14 from 10:00-1:00 at the library.

Please observe the following COVID restrictions:

- Wear a facial mask
- No more than 6 people per group
- No more than 20 people in the library at the same time
- 15 minute inside time limit

Should any COVID protocols change, we will notify you.

In addition, please bring your own packing or cover material and sign out at the registration desk. There is a curbside pick-up option, but you need to schedule with Janice Anderson at janderson2014@fastmail.fm or call 651-459-1545 prior to November 14.

Thank you to all members for entering this wonderful exhibition! We encourage you to start planning for next year's juried exhibition which will be held at the Phipps Art Center in Hudson, WI during June/July, 2021.

- **Janice Larae Anderson**, Chair

MEET YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Barb Parisien, Communications Chair

This interview is one of a series about generous members who are currently serving on the Board of Directors. Please feel free to contact any Board member if you have questions, suggestions, or concerns.



What makes your job as Communications Chair enjoyable?

I enjoy this position because I always know what's going on, but - **best of all** - I've become friends with so many wonderful people who happen to be artists! My job keeps evolving and getting more enjoyable. I started out as Editor of a paper newsletter. Then, when the Board changed the job description to Communications Chair, we transitioned to a short email notice announcing the upcoming meeting. Now, along with my creative teammate, Judy Harvey, we are sending out a longer,

more informative newsletter.

Why did you decide to serve?

At a meeting in 2006, Joyce Ells (longtime member, now deceased) got up in front and said that the doors would be locked until someone offered to be Newsletter Editor. I raised my hand very timidly, and I'm still at it 14 years later!

Tell us a little about yourself in general.

I have a BA in English and Masters Degrees in Education and Liberal Studies. As a member of a religious teaching order, I taught everything from 5th grade geography to senior Latin. Later, married and a mother, I took classes in graphic design, thinking I would change careers, but instead, took a teaching job at Cretin-Derham Hall and retired from there in 2005. Besides art, I am passionate about gardens, flowers, food, and our beautiful earth. We have two sons who live in Portland, Oregon.

Tell us about your artistic education, experience, and interests.

I've loved art since childhood. I took up watercolor about 20 years ago under the mentorship of a good friend who has now passed on but continues to influence me. I have taken several workshops sponsored by NorthStar and I continue to learn from NorthStar demos and all of the talented members.

If you could give a piece of advice to a new member, what would it be?

Get involved. You won't be sorry!

ONLINE WORKSHOP WITH DAVID SMITH

January 13–16, 2021, 9:00-4:00



David will teach how to paint this gorgeous image of the North Shore's Split Rock Lighthouse as well as a close-up of a large peony glowing with sunlight. He will demonstrate a wide variety of techniques including pouring, wet-on-wet, spattering, and spraying, all methods and approaches that will keep your paintings fresh with exciting blends and textures! Your new skills, and perhaps new friends you will meet in class, will keep you inspired and

eager to explore your watercolor capabilities long into the future.

The registration fee is \$240 for members, \$265 for nonmembers.

It's easy to REGISTER and pay online at:

<https://northstarwatermedia.wufoo.com/forms/s4lkbij1d2jqg2>

David is featured in the December issue of *Watercolor Artist* in an article, "Sojourn to Italy." His paintings, "Shower of Light," "Lamentations," and "Lights of Florence" are showcased in the article. Be sure to check it out. Congratulations, David!

Recently, David did a wonderful portrait of George Floyd. You can find it on his website <https://www.dsmithfineart.com> under Paintings/Portraits/Figures.

- **Nini Bronson** and **Patty Schmid**, Workshop Co-chairs

MEMBER EXHIBITION

As is the case with many current events, we will be holding our 2021 Member Exhibition virtually. We are working out the details which will be announced in time for everyone to participate.

This is an opportunity for more involvement by our members and for the general public - around the world - to view our work. There will be more freedom as to size and presentation of the work since it will not be shown as framed. Members who leave the area in the winter will be able to submit from a distance and friends can view from anywhere. More details will be published in the next few months.

Be painting and creating. Be well. Be happy.

- **LouAnn Hoppe** and **Peggy Wright**, Co-Chairs

TIPS AND TRICKS

Review Me, Please!

Leaving positive reviews on social media - Instagram, Facebook, Etsy, artist's website or blog, et al. - is an inexpensive, powerful way to support your favorite artists.

When you find an artist or a work of art you like, click on a five-star rating, "like" it, or hit that heart emoji; even better, leave a review. Social media platforms have their own etiquette, but basically: Be kind. Be positive. Compliments welcome! Save critical feedback for another venue. Also be sure to ask permission before you re-post another artist's work.

Contributing a positive review not only helps to attract attention to an artist you enjoy but, as one marketing site claims, may even improve that artist's productivity, inspire others, and influence new methods.

- **Francie Kaufenberg**

CHECK THIS OUT!

Where did those famous artists find inspiration?

<https://www.architecturaldigest.com/gallery/real-locations-inspired-famous-paintings>

Want to follow up on James Nutt's suggestions?

sketchbookskool.com

urbansketchers-twincities.blogspot.com

lizsteel.com

Art From the Inside

November 6 – 29, 2020.

This Minnesota Correctional Facility-Stillwater program creates the opportunity for incarcerated artists to have a visual voice through engaging, community-centered exhibitions of their art.

A public exhibition, "Numbers", will be held at Creators Space, 218 7th Street East, Suite 100, St. Paul. Follow on Instagram at @ArtFromTheInsideMN.

<https://www.artfromtheinsidemn.org/>

Verna Myers, TEDxBeacon Street

How to overcome our biases? Walk boldly toward them

Verna Myers looks closely at some of the subconscious attitudes we hold toward out-groups. She makes a plea to all people: acknowledge your biases. Then move toward, not away from, the groups that make you uncomfortable. In a funny, impassioned, important talk, she shows us how.

https://www.ted.com/talks/verna_myers_how_to_overcome_our_biases_walk_boldly_toward_them/up-next

Walker Art Center Exhibit: Don't Let This Be Easy

July 30, 2020 – July 4, 2021 Gallery 7

Featuring works from the 1970s to today, this exhibit focuses on women artists from the Walker's collection. The initiative is presented in conjunction with the Feminist Art Coalition (FAC), a nationwide effort involving more than 100 museums committed to social justice and structural change.

This Walker-organized exhibition highlights the diverse and experimental practices of women artists spanning some 50 years through a selection of paintings, sculptures, moving image works, artist's books, and materials from the archives.

<https://walkerart.org/calendar/2020/dont-let-this-be-easy>

Northern Clay Center Holiday Open House

November 15, 2020 | 12:00-4:00

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Please join us for our annual Holiday Open House. Help us launch the winter holiday season with socially-distanced shopping in our galleries. Hands-on clay activities and artist demonstrations will both inspire you and capture your attention. We invite you to sign up for a visit online to ensure we maintain attendance throughout the event at a level that facilitates proper social distancing.

<https://www.northernclaycenter.org/calendar/event/holiday-open-house-0>

NORTHSTAR WATERMEDIA SOCIETY COMING EVENTS

Oct 2-Nov 13	National Juried Art Exhibition
Nov 19	Online demo by Paul Oman
Dec 17	Online demo by David Smith
Jan 21	Online demo by Dan Wiemer
Feb 18	Online demo by Tara Sweeney

MINNESOTA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY COMING EVENTS

Nov 12	Online demo by Tara Sweeney
Dec 10	Online demo by Andy Evansen

CONTACT US

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