



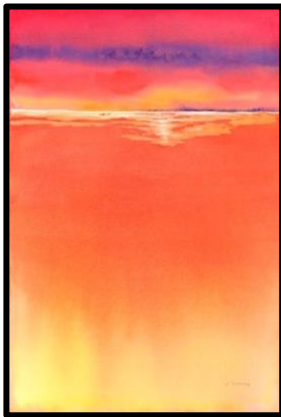
TO: Members
FROM: Communications Committee
Barb Parisien and Judy Harvey, Editors
DATE: December 1, 2022

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

NEXT MEETING
Demo by Suz Galloway
In-person, live-streamed

Thursday, December 15, 7:00–9:00, Roseville Oval

As a watercolor artist, Suz Galloway has several styles representing a variety of techniques ranging from loose wet-into-wet, to pouring, contemporary abstract, and precise botanical renderings. Though she will discuss all of her varied approaches, she will concentrate on wet-into-wet in her demonstration. She will share her artistic journey so that we can understand the “how and why” she takes various approaches.



Suz says, “The natural world around me is my sanctuary. I am alternately regenerated and humbled by Nature’s profound beauty, her complexity and her ruthlessness; in my art, I seek to pay homage to this power by interpreting my glimpse into our natural world.” She majored in art in college, studied in

England, spent 30 years in retail merchandising, and owned her own art gallery.

Although Suz has studied under several outstanding watercolor artists she attributes Stephen Quiller as her greatest influence because he taught the importance of value and color. She is a member of Transparent Watercolor Society of America, Red River Watercolor Society, Southwestern Watercolor Society, Arizona Watercolor Association, and American Society of Botanical Artists.



Learn more: www.birchbriarstudios.com

GREETINGS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Deirdre Vaughan



I've been thinking a lot about change lately. There have been many changes in our lives during the last few years. Our first reaction is often to resist change because we find comfort and safety in the familiar. But what are some of the reasons to embrace change? Change helps us evolve, grow, and explore new possibilities. It challenges us to face new situations, solve old problems, adapt our thinking, and expand our experiences. NorthStar has gone through many recent changes and will likely continue to change the ways we have functioned in the past. As an organization, we need to be relevant and flexible so that we are meeting the needs of our members. I'd like to let you know how each of our committees is embracing change by exploring new possibilities.

Artists' Market—This committee has held focus group meetings to plan for changes in the way Artists' Market functions. After a two year absence, Artists' Market will be held in June 2023.

Communications—Many changes have been made to our newsletter, website, and Facebook group to provide relevant information for our members and promote the mission of NorthStar.

Members' Exhibition—Our members really responded when there was an urgent need for an active committee. This newly-formed committee has embraced change by proposing that the Members' Exhibition be held in May 2023 rather than in March as we have done in the past.

Membership—This committee is focusing on member engagement by contacting all members who indicate they would like to volunteer in support

of NorthStar. This outreach to members has provided valuable information that will help us meet the volunteer needs of our committees.

Monthly Meetings—The Board of Directors and member volunteers have stepped up to fill in for a committee chairperson to provide enjoyable monthly meetings. We are experimenting with changing meeting format and focus to meet the needs of our members.

National Juried Exhibition—An Ad Hoc Committee is moving ahead without a chairperson to plan and execute the 2023 National Juried Exhibition.

Workshops—This committee has adapted to change by providing virtual workshops that provide choice for all our members as well as embracing technology to improve the ease of presenting artist demos.

If you would like to be part of the change that NorthStar leadership envisions for our organization, please contact me at nswspresidentbod@gmail.com. We have many volunteer positions available that will allow you to join us as we evolve to meet new challenges and explore new possibilities.

- **Deirdre Vaughan**

NOVEMBER MEETING RECAP



During her demo, CeCeile Hartleib painted a portrait using her husband, Terry, as a live model. CeCeile began her demo with a pencil sketch and then built up layers of color to complete the portrait in less than 2 hours! It's easy to see why CeCeile is in such demand as a portrait painter. She is an accomplished representational artist who has been painting professionally for over 30 years.

CeCeile was so patient and continued her painting as we ironed out the bugs in our first attempt to live stream an in-person demo. Nearly 40 members attended the meeting at the John Rose Oval, and an additional 18 members viewed the demo on Zoom. You may now view the video of the

demo on the NSWS YouTube channel by clicking on the link below.

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/uRzfqKY2hwM>

MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to everyone who has renewed or joined NorthStar for the 2022-2023 membership year. As of this newsletter, we have 166 members, and each one is a gift! Your unique talents and contributions make up the vibrant palette of NorthStar.



Special heartfelt thanks to Mary Hoel! Over the past few months, Mary has made dozens of phone calls to members regarding volunteer opportunities. We appreciate your time, Mary, and the valuable information you have gathered.

Wishing you and your loved ones a warm, happy, creative holiday season!

- **Laurie Mosher**, Membership Director nswsmembership@gmail.com

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- Dee Ann Benson
- Kristine Hargraves
- Peter Hargraves
- Mary Topel
- Bill Zukocski

ONLINE WORKSHOP WITH STEPHANIE BOWER

February 24-25, 2023

You may remember Stephanie Bower as our online demo artist in December 2021. She wowed us with her Venetian building scene which can still be found on NorthStar's YouTube channel.

Stephanie is a visual artist, architect, author, urban sketcher, and teacher. She loves to pass on her drawing and painting skills through architectural sketching workshops. Well known in the Pacific Northwest and internationally, she has written four books and teaches workshops and demos around the world.

It will be a joy to have this artist for our winter online workshop! Paint from the comfort of your home. Save the dates, February 24-25. Times and details coming soon!

New! MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

As part of a desire to multiply and strengthen personal and creative connections among our members, we're starting a new feature to "spotlight" a few folks each month. The challenge? Introduce your artistic self in about 400-500 characters! This month's spotlights will give you an idea of just how short this is!

We'd love to hear from you! To participate, jot down a (very) few words about yourself and your art practice. Then email your contribution to Robin Lackner, our Spotlight curator.

Robin will also send out Spotlight invitations to a few members a month. If you hear from her, we hope you'll consider responding. Thank you!

Learn more: **Robin Lackner**, rlackner02@gmail.com

Annie Strack, Pennsylvania

I went to art school when I was young and, like most artists, art was my hobby for many years while I worked a "real job." My art career now consists of painting and teaching, mostly in watercolor. I enter many juried shows and, so far, I've earned Signature Membership in 23 societies, including NSWS, but I'm still trying to land the big ones.

I teach workshops around the world and on Zoom. Next June I'm taking artists to Italy, where we'll make our own watercolor paper at the historic Fabriano paper mills and our own paint at the A. Gallo factory in Assisi.

I paint to leave a legacy. But more than that, I love to teach. Many of my students have gone on to become extremely successful artists and teachers. That's my biggest accomplishment, and the one that I'm most proud of.



Learn more: <https://www.AnnieStrackArt.com>

Robin Lackner, Twin Cities Metro

My watercolor journey began several years ago when I took a few watercolor classes through Community Ed. When the pandemic started, I got serious, taking online classes, and eventually joining an online watercolor “community.” I try to paint several times a week and spend way too much time seeking inspiration on Instagram and YouTube. My style is evolving but I am most attracted, at least right now, to paintings that are semi-abstract or abstract and loose and bold. I love color. Right now, I just want to learn as much as I can. I also find making connections with other artists motivating and exciting.



ARTREACH FOR JUSTICE

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

Karen Savage-Blue



Karen Savage-Blue calls herself “a landscape artist living in the awesome state of northern Minnesota” (near Cloquet). She says, “drawing and painting the landscape creates a unique experience for me. I become attuned to its wisdom while observing and deciphering its characteristics. My affection and understanding for our natural world compel me to create works of art reflective of the elements that make up its physical nature as well as capturing the spirit that keeps it alive.”

Further, she says, “It is always my intention that a better understanding and greater appreciation be achieved among those who recognize the beauty and respect the power of nature. It is my mission through my art to stir a desire towards living a partnership with earth, to ensure the health and wellbeing of our planet (our mother earth) for this generation and all that follow.”

Savage-Blue is an enrolled member of the Fond du Lac Band of Ojibwe. She attended the [Institute of American Indian Arts](#) in Santa Fe and received a bachelor’s degree in Art Education K-12 from the University of Minnesota Duluth and a Master’s in Education from the Santa Fe University of Art and

Design. Her work has been featured in many exhibitions and in local and national publications.

Some of her work is currently on display at the Minnesota Marine Art Museum in Winona (see *Check This Out*) and at The American Indian Community Housing Organization (AICHO) Gallery in Duluth.

Learn more:

<https://www.ksavblu.com/home>

<https://www.mmam.org>

<https://www.indigenousfirst.org>



CHECK THIS OUT

MN Marine Art Museum - Karen Savage-Blue: Laughing Waters

On view September 16, 2022 - January 15, 2023

Karen Savage-Blue is an Anishinaabe artist living and working on the Fond du Lac Reservation near Duluth. Her paintings explore themes of internal reflection, identifying with nature, and exposing transitions from human to natural forms. Her work can be dreamlike and surreal, and she depicts nature in its raw form, creating a platform where thoughts and emotions overcome the tendency to decipher meaning.

Location: 800 Riverview Drive, Winona, Minnesota. 507-474-6626

Learn more: <https://www.mmam.org>

Minneapolis Midway Contemporary Art Library

The Midway Contemporary Art Library serves to document, present, and preserve the recent history of contemporary visual art in a public context. The library contains thousands of titles from a range of publishers from around the world. While group exhibition catalogs and monographs form the core of the library's collection, it also contains reference material, a selection of artist books, DVDs, and an extensive selection of periodicals and journals.

Location: 201 Sixth Street SE, Suite 4, Minneapolis, MN 55414

Learn more: <https://www.midwayart.org/library/lending/>

Soomaal House of Art

Soomaal is a Minnesota-based Somali art collective that provides studio space, studio critiques, artistic community, mentorships for younger Somali artists, and an annual exhibition space with educational programming. Moving forward, the organization hopes the collective action of this group will lead to sustained partnerships with Minnesota institutions and, together, inspire more Minnesotans, especially Somali Minnesotans, to harness the power of art as a tool for intellectual and civic engagement.

Location: 2200 Minnehaha Avenue, #200, Minneapolis

Learn more: <https://www.soomaalhouse.com/about.html>

Groveland Gallery – Fred Anderson “Field Notes”

For nearly thirty years, Fred Anderson has worked in the plein air tradition, travelling the back roads and neighborhood lanes of rural and small-town Minnesota near his home in Cambridge. He is currently exploring a new (to him) medium – gouache on paper. This exhibition acts as a painter’s journal, a record of memorable encounters with light, composition, and landscape. Armed with a sketchbook and a palette of quick-drying gouache paint, he begins and finishes his paintings on site.

Location: 25 Groveland Terrace, Minneapolis

Learn More: <https://grovelandgallery.com/exhibition/fred-anderson/>

Creators Space: Identity

On view: November 9 – December 3

The exhibit features work from more than 50 artists serving time at Stillwater and Faribault prisons. The IDENTITY exhibition displays artists’ work exploring how they see themselves and others in society, organizers said. The exhibit is sponsored by *Art from the Inside*, as part of its mission to give incarcerated people a voice through art, “with the hope to inspire community dialogue about the complexities of our criminal justice system,” according to a mission statement on the program’s website.

Location: 218 E. Seventh St., St. Paul

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

NORTHSTAR WATERMEDIA SOCIETY COMING EVENTS

Dec 15 In-person, live-streamed meeting, demo by Suz Galloway
Jan 19 Virtual meeting with Zoom demo by Heidi Sandecki
Feb 16 Virtual meeting with Zoom demo by Fealing Lin
Feb 24-25 Online workshop with Stephanie Bower

MINNESOTA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY COMING EVENTS

Dec 8 Zoom demo by Linda Kemp
Jan 12 Zoom demo by Sonja Hutchinson
Feb 9 Zoom demo by Daniel Lloyd

CONTACT US

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NSWS Website <http://northstarwatermedia.com>

All are welcome here.

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