



# Awakening

**NorthStar Watermedia Society**

**Spring 2026 Online Juried Exhibition**

## 2026 Online Exhibition Calendar

**Entries open: March 1, 2026**

**Entry deadline: March 22, 2026, midnight**

**Notification of acceptance: By April 19, 2026**

***Awakenings* online exhibition presentation on Zoom: May 7, 2026, 7pm**

**Exhibition will run on NSWS Website from May 3 through July 7, 2026**

## Awards

NorthStar Watermedia Society will award:

- **Best in Show:** \$500 cash
- Additional cash awards will be awarded

## Exhibition Description

*Awakening* is the NorthStar Watermedia Society's spring online juried exhibition celebrating renewal, transformation, and creative emergence through watermedia. Artists are invited to explore moments of growth, clarity, and quiet revelation inspired by changing seasons and shifting inner landscapes.

Featuring a diverse range of watercolor, acrylic, ink, and mixed watermedia works, *Awakening* highlights both artistic technical skills and personal voice. Entries should represent a turning point—where light breaks through, ideas take root, and new perspectives begin to form. Together, the works will create a shared visual experience that honors resilience, hope, and the power of artistic renewal.

## Juror

### David R. Becker

NorthStar Watermedia Society is honored to welcome David R. Becker as the juror for *Awakening*. Becker is an accomplished artist, educator, and author whose lifelong passion for art began with early experiences in tempera paint and charcoal and was shaped through formal training at the American Academy of Art.

A versatile artist working in oil, pastel, drawing, and especially watercolor, Becker values watercolor for its freedom and portability while emphasizing that strong drawing and sound design principles underpin all great art. He is the author of *Watercolor Composition Made Easy* and *How to Sketch with Watercolor*, both widely praised for their practical guidance, clear instruction, and vibrant examples across a range of subject matter.

In addition to teaching workshops and presenting demonstrations, Becker shares his expertise through a popular YouTube channel, inspiring artists worldwide to practice daily, observe with intention, and grow with confidence.

## Application Requirements and Fees

- **NSWS Members: \$30.00 for up to three images**
- **Non-members\*: \$50 for up to 3 images - \*This includes an introductory membership valid through the end of the NSWS program year (Aug. 31, 2026).**
- All submissions are through CaFÉ Call For Entry.
- Entry fees are non-refundable under all circumstances.

## Eligibility Criteria

- Open to all artists **18 years of age and older.**
- Acceptable mediums: watercolor, acrylic, casein, gouache, water-soluble ink, and egg tempera.
- Collage or drawing elements may not exceed **25%** of the work.
- Artwork must be **family-friendly** (no hate imagery or nudity).
- Work must have been completed **after March 23, 2023.**
- All work must be **entirely original**, not completed in a class, and not previously exhibited in any NorthStar Watermedia Society exhibition.
- **No digital alterations** are permitted.

## Specifications and Restrictions

- Each participant may enter up to three JPEG images of three different paintings; however, only one painting from each artist will be juried into the exhibition by the juror.
- Acceptance of any entry into the exhibition is not guaranteed.
- Enter artwork images only by removing matting and frames; present the correct orientation without digital watermarks.
- Entrants must first upload their images into their “My Portfolio” in their CaFÉ NSWS account.

- File Type: JPEG or JPG in RGB color format only.
- Pixel Dimensions: Maximum 5 MB with 1,200 pixels or greater on the longest side.

## Terms and Conditions

By entering artwork for consideration in this exhibition, you acknowledge and agree to the following:

NorthStar Watermedia Society reserves the right to remove artwork or terminate participation at any time, for any reason, without notice.

If your artwork is accepted, you grant NorthStar Watermedia Society permission to use your name and artwork for promotional purposes across current and future platforms without compensation.

NorthStar Watermedia Society will either forward legitimate purchase inquiries to the artist or link the artist's website to the featured artwork(s).

Artists agree to work directly with buyers to negotiate and complete all aspects of the sale, including payment, framing, and shipping. NorthStar Watermedia Society is not responsible or liable for any issues arising from buyer-seller transactions.

Artists retain **100% of all sale proceeds**.

If your artwork sells, you agree to promptly notify NorthStar Watermedia Society so it may be marked as sold in the online exhibition..

NorthStar Watermedia Society promotes exhibitions through social media. Artworks may remain on social media platforms after the exhibition closes unless removal is requested by the artist.

NorthStar Watermedia Society does not archive past exhibitions. Once an exhibition closes, all artworks are removed from the website.

For NorthStar Watermedia Society registration questions contact us at:  
[info@northstarwatermedia.com](mailto:info@northstarwatermedia.com)

By submitting your work on CaFE, you confirm that you have read, understand, and agree to all terms and conditions outlined above.