

# CLEAR CHOICES



TWSA is recognized as the preeminent transparent watercolor society. The society offers services and education and endeavors to further recognize, expand awards and exposure to an ever-growing membership of professionals, amateurs, students and patrons.

## Spring Newsletter 2024



### President's Message:

Dear Members and Friends of TWSA!

The Board of TWSA is delighted to announce the opening of the **48th Annual Transparent Watercolor Society of America's Juried Exhibition** on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Kenosha Public Museum! The exhibit displays 80 outstanding paintings by artists from across North America, chosen by our jurors, Birgit O'Connor and Stephen Zhang, TWSA.

The exhibition will hang until August 4th, 2024. Museum hours are Monday-Saturday 10am-5pm, Sundays 12pm- 5pm and closed on July 4th. Please check their website for any updates on their schedule. Plan a trip to Kenosha, Wisconsin to view this impressive exhibition at KPM, located on the scenic waterfront of Lake Michigan.

Join us to *Celebrate Watercolor*  
Saturday, June 8th  
Kenosha Public Museum

**Demos from our Juror/Instructors**, Birgit O'Connor and Stephen Zhang will be given at 10:30am and 2pm on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. Open to the public with limited space for attendance. The demos along with a gallery walk given by the Jurors on a later date, will be posted on our [YouTube](#) site. Please visit the site for previous events as well.

Awards totaling \$30,000 have been selected and will be recognized at our **Celebrate Watercolor Awards Dinner**! New TWSA signature artists will also be recognized that evening.

The **Celebrate Watercolor Awards Dinner** will begin at 5pm with a cocktail hour and time to view the exhibition and the mini paintings donated for our silent auction. Dinner begins at 6pm. For more details, see the article below from our Dinner Chairperson, Maureen Holcomb.

The **mini paintings auction** is always a hit at our dinner, and we want to express our gratitude to the 10 TWSA signature members for their mini painting donations:

**Sylvia Aruffo, TWSA • Bruce Handford, TWSA Master • Michael Holter, TWSA • Robert Jeffery, TWSA • Christine Misencik-Bunn, TWSA Master • Lana Privitera, TWSA • Charles Sharpe, TWSA • Susan Stuller, TWSA Master • Jerry Smith, TWSA • Pam Wenger, TWSA**

We hope to see you at the exhibit, a workshop or awards dinner in June.

The Transparent Watercolor Society of America's Board of Directors thank you for your continued support and being an important part of our society.

**Linda Marasco**

**President**

**Transparent Watercolor Society of America**

[president@watercolors.org](mailto:president@watercolors.org)

[www.watercolors.org](http://www.watercolors.org)



***48th Annual Celebrate  
Watercolor Awards Dinner***  
Kenosha Public Museum

**Saturday, June 8th, 2024**

Please make your reservation as soon as possible to join us for an evening of celebrating watercolor.

This year's festivities will include Exhibition Visitation (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) from 5 – 6 p.m. A "Meet and Greet" will be held simultaneously in the Daimler Chrysler Room. The "Awards and Dinner" will commence at 6 p.m.

Our menu this year includes 3 delicious entrees: Prime Rib au jus, Chicken Oscar (breaded chicken breast with crab, asparagus and hollandaise) or Vegetarian Lasagna accompanied by wine and beer service. Our dessert will again feature Wisconsin's state pastry, Kringle, from the award-winning O&H Artisan Danish Bakery.

For a complete menu description, view the registration form online at [www.watercolors.org/shop/awards-dinner](http://www.watercolors.org/shop/awards-dinner).

\*Registration for the dinner will close on May 24<sup>th</sup> so ensure you make your reservation soon!

Maureen Holcomb

**TWSA Awards Dinner Chairperson**

*\*There will be no refunds after this date and any subsequent cancellations will include a \$10 fee for processing.*

**2024 TWSA Board of Directors Ballot**

All members in good standing may vote.  
You may vote on our website <https://watercolors.org/poll>

Vicki Morley, Merchandise Chair

Jill Witty, Signature Screening Chair  
Laura Brennan Pooler, Membership Chair  
or Write-in candidate

Votes are to be in by June 4, 2024 - Thank you!

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## Workshops

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### **TWSA proudly welcomes Birgit O'Connor and Stephen Zhang to Kenosha, Wisconsin to conduct their 3-day workshops in June.**

Response has been overwhelming! Birgit O'Connor's "Dynamic Flowers" and Stephen Zhang's "Portraits and Figures," June 5-7, as well as Mr. Zhang's "Landscape, Through Mind's Eye," June 10-12 are at capacity. If you wish to be placed on a wait list for any of the preceding workshops, please contact Carlotta [workshops@watercolors.org](mailto:workshops@watercolors.org).

Workshop space remains in Birgit O'Connor's "Portraits and Figures, Expressive and Loose," June 10-12. Don't miss your chance to participate! Sign up today at [www.watercolors.org](http://www.watercolors.org)

Workshops will be held at the Kenosha Public Museum, home to the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Juried TWSA Exhibition and the Civil War Museum, both on the beautiful shoreline of Lake Michigan.

Wyndham Garden Harborside (262-658-3281) and The Stella Hotel, a boutique hotel (262-842-2000), are ideal places to book your stay. They are close to the museum, both offer TWSA special rates.

If you are attending the workshops, don't forget to include the *Celebrate Watercolors* banquet on June 8<sup>th</sup> also held at the museum. This reservation may also be made online at [www.watercolors.org](http://www.watercolors.org)

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me.

Carlotta Miller  
**TWSA VP, Workshop Chair**  
[workshops@watercolors.org](mailto:workshops@watercolors.org)

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## 2024 TWSA Exhibition News

Hello everyone! This year's exhibition was juried by Birgit O'Connor and Stephen Zhang, TWSA. Transparent Watercolor Society of America would like to thank them for their expertise in rating the hundreds of entries submitted.

Here is the rundown of juried in subject matter, just for fun. Unconventionally, there was an even breakdown of architectural, still lives, figurative, landscapes, and portraits!

Abstract/non-representative -3  
Animals-6  
Architectural-10  
Cityscapes-4  
Figurative-11  
Flora/fauna-6  
Landscape- 12  
Portrait-11  
Still-life-13  
Water/Nautical-4

The *TWSA 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Juried Exhibition* will be hung at the Kenosha Public Museum from May 4<sup>th</sup> to August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024. This museum in Kenosha, Wisconsin is located on the coast of Lake Michigan. It's a beautiful venue and a wonderful day trip. Come on up, down or over!

Information on *Celebrate Watercolor Saturday*, June 8<sup>th</sup>, and the 2024 TWSA Awards Dinner are on the TWSA website. [www.watercolors.org](http://www.watercolors.org) Birgit O'Connor will give a live demo on Saturday at 10:30a.m. and at 2:00p.m., Stephen Zhang will be giving his demonstration. These are free to the public, but seating is limited.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Sheryl Fletcher Coon, TWSA  
**2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Exhibition Chair**  
[twsaexhibition@aol.com](mailto:twsaexhibition@aol.com)

## SIGNATURE SCREENING

### Welcoming our Newest Signature Qualifiers for 2024

#### \*\*\*Qualifying for SIGNATURE STATUS:

TWSA Signature Members receive their letters by acceptance into 3 Annual Juried Exhibitions.

Tony Armendariz  
Thomas Bucci  
Lana Cease  
Kevin Deck  
Ann Greene  
Diane Klock  
Stephen Kuhlman  
Stacy Lund Levy  
James Maria  
Chihiro Pierce  
Scott Ponemone  
Tara Sweeney  
Phyllis Tseng  
Lorraine Watry

#### \*\*\*Achieving MASTER STATUS:

TWSA MASTER is achieved by acceptance into 10 or more Annual Juried

Exhibitions.

Soon Warren

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!!!!**

Donna Jill Witty, TWSA Master  
**Signature Screening**

2024 TWSA AWARD RECIPIENTS

**AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE**



**\$4000 Skyledge Award- *Presence* by Mary Jansen, TWSA MS**



**\$3000 Dorothy Driehaus Mellin Watercolor Award- *Being Alone is Not the Same* as**



**\$2000 Edgar A Whitney Memorial Award- *Heritage Revisited* by Frederick Graff, TWSA DM**



**\$2000 TWSA Members Award- *Summer Table* by Keiko Yasuoka, TWSA MS**

### **SPECIAL MERIT AWARDS**

**\$1000.00 Winslow Homer Award of Merit-**

"Illusion" Jean Pederson, TWSA

**\$1000.00 Maurice Prendergast Award of Merit-**

"Scissor Bridge Spiral" Peter Jablokow, TWSA MS

**\$1000.00 John Singer Sargent Award of Merit-**

"Pineapple Still Life" Matthew Bird, TWSA

**\$1000.00 Georgia O'Keefe Award of Merit-**

"Girl with the Freshwater Pearl" Bev Jozwiak, TWSA

**\$1000.00 Charles Reid Award of Merit-**

"Be Still" Christine Misencik-Bunn, TWSA MS

**\$1000.00 Frank Webb Award of Merit –**

"Jos A@" Tony Armendariz, QFL

**\$1000.00 Nita Engle Award of Merit-**

"Jewels" Lorraine Watry, QFL

**\$1000.00 JMW Turner Award of Merit-**

"After the Rain-Campo dei Fiori" Thomas Schaller, TWSA

### **FOUNDERS AWARDS**

**\$750.00 Nora Stevens Founders Award-**

"Tea for Two" Lana Privitera, TWSA

**\$750.00 Zoltan Szabo Founders Award-**

"Soup and Crackers" Audrey Montgomery, TWSA

**\$750.00 Phil Austin Founders Award-**

"Marked" Alisa Shea, TWSA

**\$750.00 Irving Shapiro Founders Award-**

"A Chesapeake Day" Bruce Handford, TWSA MS

### **AWARDS OF MERIT**

**\$500.00 Lakes Region Watercolor Guild Award of Merit-**

"Foggy Gils Rock" Ratindra Das, TWSA DM

**\$500.00 Morris Watercolor Guild Award of Merit-**

"Snow Wood" Z. L. Feng, TWSA

### **DONOR AWARDS**

**\$500.00 Lucille J. "Lucija" Dragovan Memorial Award-**

"Under the Noonday Sun" Janine Helton

**\$500.00 Kenneth R Hetzel Memorial Award-**  
"Parked" Lynn Ferris, TWSA

**\$500.00 Kindler/Preslan Memorial Award-**  
"After The Feast" Kim Johnson Nechtman, TWSA

**\$500.00 Alla Jablokow Memorial Award-**  
"Autumn Duo" Jerry Smith, TWSA

**\$500.00 Madge Macfarlane Memorial Award-**  
"Garey" Dean Mitchell, TWSA DM

**\$500.00 Rosie Mehaffey Memorial Award-**  
"On The Train II" John Salminen, TWSA DM

**\$500.00 Pat Fortunato Memorial Award-**  
"Filling A Bucket" Tara Sweeney, QFL

**\$400.00 Carole Christiansen Memorial Award –**  
"Heidi" Theresa Kubert

**\$400.00 Martin McManamon Memorial Award –**  
"Field of Pink" Xi Guo, TWSA

**\$400.00 Donald P Witty Memorial Award-**  
"Well...You know..."Aneita Gates, TWSA

**\$400.00 Mel Stabin Memorial Award-**  
"Soaring Hope" Suzanne Accetta, TWSA

**\$400.00 Denny Bond Memorial Award-**  
"Mantid Meditation" Ann Greene, QFL

**\$400.00 Ginny Bellamy Memorial Award-**  
"Sand Beach, Acadia" Liliia Yuliya Shuel

**\$300.00 "Chevy" Chevillon Memorial Award-**  
"Summer Fling 1" Stacy Lund Levy, QFL

**\$300.00 Lehmann Memorial Award-**  
"Snowy Creek" Rick Surowicz

**\$500.00 People's Choice Award-** awarded at the end of Exhibition

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## ONLINE EXHIBITION NEWS

The 2023 TWSA Online Exhibition was agreat success!

The Board of TWSA has made the decision to have the online exhibition Bi-annually. The time and effort required to support having another exhibition annually is much to ask of a volunteer organization.

Keep on the lookout for our next Online Exhibition in October of 2025.  
The Call for Entry will be the month of August, 2025.

**Did you know? TWSA Catalogs of Past Exhibitions Are Reduced From \$15 to \$5**  
**Go to the "Shop" on the TWSA website at [watercolors.org](http://watercolors.org) Select "Catalogs", then**  
**choose the years you would like to purchase. You can pay through PayPal.**  
**Old catalogs are great tools for teachers, students or craft projects.**

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Calendar

**May 4, 2024**

## **48th Transparent Watercolor Society of America Juried Exhibition Opens**

Kenosha Public Museum, 5500 1st Avenue, Kenosha WI

**June 5-7**

### **Workshops:**

Birgit O'Connor - "Dynamic Flowers"

Stephen Zhang, TWSA - "Portrait, Fast and Slow"

**June 8 Celebrate Watercolor** at Kenosha Public Museum

- **Demos:** 10:30am - Birgit O'Connor

2:00pm - Stephen Zhang, TWSA

- **Celebrate Watercolor Awards Dinner**

Cocktails at 5pm, Dinner at 6pm

\*\*\**make dinner reservations online by May 24th*

**June 10-12**

### **Workshops:**

Birgit O'Connor - "Portraits and Figures, Expressive and Loose"

Stephen Zhang, TWSA - "Landscape, Through Mind's Eye"

**August 4, 2024**

## **48th TWSA Exhibition Closes**

**Week of August 5th**

Paintings packed and returned.

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## **TWSA Member News**

**Alexis Lavine** has been accepted into the *157th Annual International Exhibition* of the American Watercolor Society, and has been granted Signature Membership status. Her accepted painting is "Raising the Roof". She also recently served as juror and workshop instructor for the Baltimore Watercolor Society's *Mid-Atlantic Regional Watercolor Exhibition*, and will serve as juror for the upcoming *Members Exhibition* of the South Carolina Watermedia Society.

**Tony Armendariz** received Signature Status after his painting "Mr. Stripes" was juried into the *157th American Watercolor Society's Annual International Exhibition*.

**Annie Strack** was juried into *Society of Watercolor Artists International Exhibit*, *Watercolor USA Honor Society National Exhibit*, *Illinois Watercolor Society 40th International Exhibition*, *Arizona Watercolor Association Exhibit*, *Georgia Watercolor Society 45th National Exhibit*, and *Northwest Watercolor Society Member Exhibit*. She earned Signature Membership in AWA and GWS.

**J. M. Littleton's** painting, "Remembering Portland", was including in the *Woman In Watercolor Member Online Exhibition* in Jan, 2024. "Remembering the Biltmore Estate", was juried into the *PWS Member Exhibition* by Juror, Joanna Barnum in Feb. J. M.'s work was featured in the *BWS Signature Member Exhibition* in Annapolis, MD House of Delegates in Jan., as well as the *BWS Signature Show* in Village of Friendship Heights Gallery, Chevy Chase, MD in April. In addition, her painting, "See Me In All My Glory", will be featured in the *International Watercolor Masters Exhibition* in Shropshire, England, in May 2024. It made the Top 200 and won the Excellence Award.



## Congratulations!!!

We would love to hear from you! Please send your news of awards, achievements and exhibitions for our Spring and Fall E-Newsletters to: the Newsletter Editor: [newsletter@watercolors.org](mailto:newsletter@watercolors.org)

Unfortunately, we are not able to include information about classes or images of artwork.

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