

Our next online General Meeting Thursday, May 20

at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

A Demo by Kelsy Birsa



Kelsy will be showing us how she uses oil glazes to get a variety of skin-tones, problem solving, and ways to think about light and color in skin while painting.

Kelsy Birsa is a painter living in Portland, Oregon and has a BFA in Art Practices from Portland State University. She is the recipient of awards such as Best in Show at the Society of Washington Artists, The Artist Magazine Student Portrait Competition and first place at Lake Oswego Festival of the Arts. Her work has been exhibited at the Blackfish Gallery, Art At The CAVE, Gallery 360, North Bank Artist Gallery, and many more. She has been published in the Columbian, Beacon Magazine, Pathos, and The Artist Magazine.

save the date:

**June 17, General Meeting
and Demo by Susan
Kuznitsky:** See Page 3 for
more details on this event

From Our President

Rick Jones



May is a full month of spring and no sharing seasons like April with winter or June with summer. It is without hesitation



all spring. It might also be one of the nicest months of the year especially when the weather is cooperating. In fact while strolling about the neighborhood the other evening we were reminded of Butchart Gardens in Victoria with everything in bloom. The Month of May also hosts some interesting events (in no particular order) like Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Cinco de Mayo, and Root Canal Day (May 11th). Root Canal Day had to have been one of Dr. Orin Scrivello's fondest days of the year.

May has also been a good month for SWA. SWA's spring show began April 15th in the virtual format and continues through May 29th. ... It is in concert with the sixteen award winners whose art is on display at the Camas Gallery through the end of the month. If you haven't had an opportunity to visit the Camas Gallery there is still time to catch the display before it's taken down. The website presentation of the Spring Show is very good and with exposure and interest from around the world we can be proud of the great job done by the show committee and web group.

While at the gallery this month a member brought up the subject of in-person gatherings. As it seems almost everyone has had, or will have had, the necessary two Covid shots by June or July, I am hoping we can all get together again and conduct our meetings in person in the near future. This sounds fine except that over the past eighteen months a lot has changed and so I am conducting an informal survey to see what you, the members, think about the subject of in-person gatherings. We are tentatively planning an in-person general meeting in September so this gives us time to get something put together and also get your feedback.

Please send me your thoughts on the following:

1. SWA has been conducting Thursday evening Zoom meetings since early 2020. What are your thoughts on this? Is this a convenient day and time? Would you like to continue with Zoom meetings? Would you attend an in-person meeting at this time?
2. SWA has, prior to 2020, held General Meetings at 10:00 am on Wednesday mornings at the Vancouver Heights United Methodist Church, and is this preferable to evening meetings-either in person

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Society of Washington ARTISTS

SWA Officers

Elected Officers (Members of the Executive Board)

PRESIDENT:	Rick Jones
VICE PRESIDENT:	Ed Martin
TREASURER:	Linda Whittingham
SECRETARY:	Sue Tellock
MEMBER-AT-LARGE:	Pam Richey Curtis
MEMBER-AT-LARGE:	Janus Innes
MEMBER-AT-LARGE:	Katey Sandy

Appointed Officers and Committee Members

WEBMASTER:	Kelsey Birsa
SPRING SHOW COORDINATOR:	Katey Sandy
FALL SHOW COORDINATOR:	OPEN
PROGRAM AND WORKSHOP COORDINATOR:	OPEN
MEETING FACILITATOR:	Diana Thewlis
COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR:	Janus Innes
VENUE COORDINATOR:	Wanda Brewster
MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR:	Janus Innes
PUBLICITY AND SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR:	Kirby Kahl

Publicity and Social Media Committee

PRESS RELEASES:	Sue Tellock
INSTAGRAM:	Deb Tracey
FACEBOOK:	Deb Tracey
PRINT MEDIA PRODUCTION:	OPEN
YOUTUBE:	OPEN
COMMUNITY LIAISON:	OPEN
NEWSLETTER COORDINATOR:	Laura Pritchard & Elaine Pawski

From our President

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or on Zoom? Is this a convenient location?

3. Do you prefer live in-person presentations/ demonstrations or those presented on Zoom?

4. What kind of presentations/demonstrations would you like to see? Do you have a recommendation for a presenter?

As noted above, this is a very informal inquiry, but I would certainly like to hear from you about what you would like to see going forward. Please send your comments to: president@swavancouver.com.

info@swavancouver.com.

To make it easier for our members and friends, please email info@swavancouver.com whenever you have a question or concern. Please put in the subject line what it is referring to or whom you would like it forwarded to: for example; website, President, newsletter, etc.

Something You'd Like to See in the Newsletter?

email: info@swavancouver.com use subject line: newsletter, deadline is 10th of each the month.

Volunteer Opportunities Available

There are still a few OPEN positions in the column to the left.... Won't you help?? If you are interested in helping in anyway, please email: info@swavancouver.com and use subject line: I'd like to volunteer, or you can contact any board member.



You can find SWA on
Facebook and Instagram!



Click on the logos at left or search
Society of Washington Artists or
[@SocietyofWashingtonArtists](https://www.instagram.com/SocietyofWashingtonArtists)

Recent Meetings Notes

April 15 General Meeting

The goal for the SWA September General Meeting is an in-person meeting, not a ZOOM meeting. The location is to be determined but the opportunity to meet once again is becoming closer to reality. Columbia Arts Network (CAN) now has a website in place. They are working on plans for an art festival in downtown Vancouver possibly in August or September.

May 6 Board Meeting

The Spring Show has attracted viewers from all over the globe.

Kelsey Birsa will provide a demo at the May 20 ZOOM General Meeting and Susan Kuzinsky, pastel artist, will also provide a demo at the June 17 ZOOM General Meeting. The meeting is at 6 pm.

The Board is exploring ideas that will attract new members to SWA.

Art Demonstration with Susan Kuznitsky

SWA General Meeting on Zoom

June 17, 6:00 p.m.

We are excited to welcome Susan Kuznitsky for our June demonstration. She will present at 6:10 p.m. at our June 17th general meeting on Zoom. Susan is an accomplished, award-winning artist and a gifted teacher, comfortable working and teaching in oil, pastel and various drawing media. Her representational style is arresting, perceptive and dramatic.

After studying at American Academy of Art in Chicago, her hometown, Susan moved to Woodstock, New York, where she became the studio assistant for Master Artist Albert Handell. For the next two years Mr. Handell not only taught her about pastels and oils, but also how to teach.

Moving back to Chicago in the mid 1980's Susan began painting at the Palette and Chisel Academy of Fine Art with another living Master Painter, Richard Schmid.

In the early 1990's Susan married and moved to the Pacific Northwest where she raised her family. She has continued to paint and teach locally and nationally. Her Zoom classes have become very popular.

Susan is an IAPS Masters Pastelist as well as a Signature member the Pastel Society of America, the Pastel Society of the West Coast and the Northwest Pastel Society. She is also the founder and honorary member of the Chicago Pastel Painters (formally the Midwest Pastel Society)

"My life's work is to leave the world more beautiful than I found it. I look for light and beauty. It is everywhere...even in the ordinary. My job is to translate this onto canvas or paper and share it. I have been blessed to have studied with some of the greatest artists of our time. It is my joy and my responsibility to pass along what was given to me by these masters."

www.susankuznitsky.com

Spring Show Winners at The Camas Gallery

The 15 winners in the 3 categories (oil and acrylic, watermedia, and other mediums) plus Best of Show are now showing at Camas Gallery, 408 NE 4th Ave, Camas, WA.

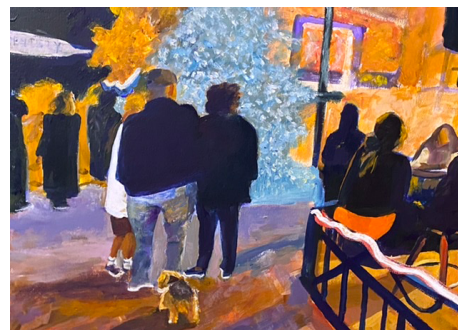
Our judge, Karen Madsen, Chair of Artstra, said "There were many really good works and choosing the 16 was very hard." Her previous experience jurying has been in person and she found online jurying interesting. She said, "Visual art so depends on the tactile and formal elements and the emotional feelings that are both individual and universal. Unfortunately, online everything is flat and scale doesn't really come into play. What makes a good painting is often the subtle pentimenti of mark, color, and shape. I looked for originality and of course the formal elements of composition and color. I also looked for where the work fell in the cultural time and if the artist was expressing a point of view or feeling that could be perceived by the viewer. "

Congratulations to all the winners! See the list of winners at swavancouver.com or listed below. In addition to the winning works of art at Camas Gallery, there is a continuously running picture frame video of all the works entered in the online show plus a book of photos of all the entries. Make a trip to Camas and take a look! The show will remain up until May 29th.

If you haven't voted for People's Choice, you can still vote up until May 31st either online or in person at Camas Gallery. Award winners are not eligible to win People's Choice. You may vote for three. The top three vote getters will receive cash awards. Tell your family and friends to see the show and vote!

I want to thank the show committee, Allan Oliver, Debbie Berger, Anne Mattheisen, Patricia Nevius and Patricia Romines for helping make the spring show a success. Debbie Berger deserves special thank you for putting the picture frame video and the photo book together. Also, thank you Pam Richey-Curtis for providing the flowers at Camas Gallery.

Katey Sandy



Member Lila Martin, receiving her award from President Rick Jones for Little Italy, Best of Show

SWA SPRING SHOW 2021 AWARD WINNERS

Best of Show - #45 Little Italy – Lila Martin

Oil and Acrylic

1st - #55 – Walking In The Rain – Mel McRobert

2nd - #34 – Hot Air Balloons - Frederick Jones

3rd - #40 – Descending – Julie Ann Smith

Honorable Mention - #23 – Together After – David Kanter

Honorable Mention - #68 – Disguise Relaxing with Sloth Necromancer – Steve Elliott

Watermedia

1st - #111 – Summer Pastoral – Tao Zhou

2nd - #90 - Good To The End - Judith Howard

3rd - #116 – Down The Lazy River – Virginia Barber

Honorable Mention - #87 – In Search of The Light – Joan Giddings Turley

Honorable Mention - #96 – Common Ground – Liz Walker –

All Other Mediums

1st - #121 – Salmon River Canyon – Daniel Masterson

2nd - #161 – Long Horn Steer – Rita Niblock

3rd - #159 – RCA – Richard Helmick

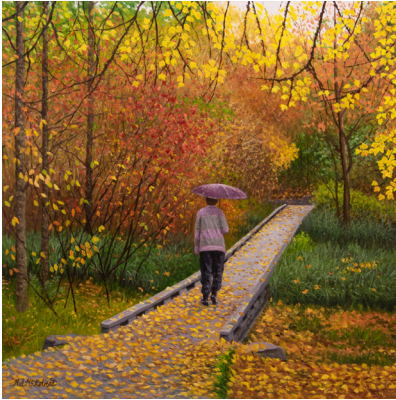
Honorable Mention - #137 - Aqua Terra – Katey Sandy

Honorable Mention - # 147 – Bird Watcher – Lesley Faulds

View the Awards presentation online

You can view the entire event, including comments by judge Karen Madsen here:

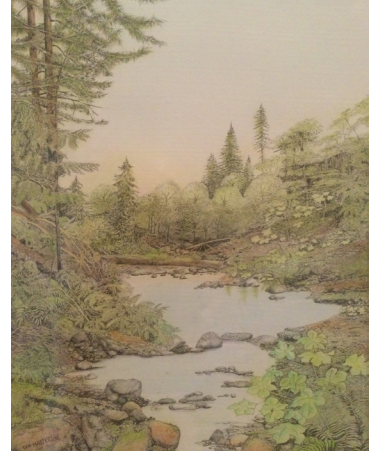
<https://youtu.be/gJUu8GVq57k>



Walking In The Rain, Mel McRobert
1st Place Oil and Acrylic



Summer Pastoral, Tao Zhou
1st Place Watermedia



Samon River Canyo, Daniel Masterson
1st Place All Other Mediums

Artists Sought for Open Studios Tour

The popular program returns this fall with COVID safety measures

VANCOUVER, Wash — The Clark County Open Studios Tour is back on the calendar for this November 6–7. The nonprofit arts group, Artstra, has announced that the tour will return after a year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This fall will mark the eighth year of the free, self-guided tour of local artists' studios.

"What's new is we'll have multiple ways to explore our amazing community of artists," says Jennifer Williams, artist and program director. "The tour will include a hybrid of experiences including video demos and live studio sharing, online shopping opportunities, and viewing by appointment for visitors who may be at greater risk for COVID-19. And, of course, traditional tour visitors can look forward to the first weekend of November as always — but with new COVID protocols at each studio."

Due to ever changing circumstances, rather than having a printed guidebook, tour information will be online only to allow for real-time updates. In the days prior to the tour, the latest on COVID safety details will be added.

"Our new hybrid approach," Williams explains, "will allow us to move forward with tour plans that are flexible while providing an inclusive event with opportunities for all visitors to engage safely."

Clark County Open Studios is a juried art event, offering a unique opportunity for artists to gain further recognition, open their studio doors to the public, and to show and sell their work. Artstra is asking interested Clark County artists and artisans to begin applying online for this fall's event. Details and application instructions can be found at artstra.org/call-for-artists. The application deadline is June 1, 2021.

To learn more about Open Studios or to plan ahead for the tour, visit artstra.org/open-studios.

About Artstra:

Artstra is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization advocating for the arts in Southwest Washington. The Artstra vision is for a vibrant arts economy, north of the Columbia, with public/private investments and facilities that sustain artists and enrich our community. Artstra's mission is to elevate the arts, build greater arts awareness, reward creative excellence, and expand arts accessibility. Learn more at <https://artstra.org/>

Art Shows and more!

Online classes

Oregon Society of Artists online demos, classes and workshops

OSA offers a number of classes and workshops, both in classrooms and online, including **Painting and Drawing on the iPad in Procreate** Elaine Pawski, Instructor and SWA member.

Go to www.osartists.org for all class and workshop schedules and to register.

OSA offers free demos, some recorded and viewable online: <https://www.osartists.org/art-instruction/demonstrations>

Winslow Art Center online courses, Technique Takeaways and free weekly Art Talks

For information and schedules, visit winslowartcenter.com

Current exhibitions

Some current shows including SWA member art

Southwest Washington Watercolor Society: tinyurl.com/yjbb4p7f

Walking Dreams at Gallery 360, www.mosaicartsalliance.org

All Sides at Art at the Cave Gallery <https://artatthecave.square.site>

City of Vancouver Spring is a great time to visit public art in and around the City of Vancouver. Download a map [HERE](#) to see how many you can visit.

Blackfish Gallery May 4 - May 28, 2021 Rocking, works by Jana DeMartini. The Imagined World, works by Erin Robinson Grant

Call to artists

Oregon Society of Artists show schedule

June | Annual Portland Rose Festival Juried Art Show

For details and dates for submitting work, visit www.osartists.org.

Art at the Cave — Show of Hands

Lend a hand, hand it over, all hands on deck... There are so many ways to interpret HANDS! Submit your rendition to "Show of Hands," our August exhibit celebrating this fancy appendage. All types of art of any kind of media are encouraged. Submit works for consideration to galler@artatthecave.com. There is a \$15 submission fee. We are accepting 1 work per artist, however you are welcome to email multiples for consideration. Please submit your email by July 24th and drop off your work by July 31st. For more information:

<https://artatthecave.com/open-calls-1>

The Washougal Arts and Culture Alliance (WACA)

Is soliciting proposals for an exterior mural. Proposals will be received by WACA until June 1, 2021, and the project awarded by June 15.

For complete application specifications and guidelines go to www.washougalarts.org/

Fundraiser

Southwest Washington Watercolor Society

"Portrait Paint Along" <https://youtu.be/XAGZ4w0Oz-U>

The full demonstration of Diana's Portrait Paint Along can be purchased for \$37 by going to the SWWS Website, swwwatercolor.org, click Workshops, find the Fundraiser Diana Thewlis video, pay using the secure "Stripe". You can also send your check for \$37 to:

SWWS Video
PO Box 2876
Vancouver, WA 98668-2876

