

# PEN & PALETTE

The Newsletter of the Society of Washington Artists

## Next Meeting

SATURDAY, January 18, 2020

**10:00am to noon**

Place: Frost Arts Center, Room 103, Clark College Campus  
1933 Fort Vancouver Way  
Vancouver, WA 98663

## Saturday Meeting in Brief

- Business Meeting
- Artist of the Month
- Refreshment Break
- Artist Demonstrator  
Karen Madsen

## Contact Us

Society of Washington Artists  
PO Box 2992  
Vancouver, WA 98668

NEW EMAIL:  
[president@swavancouver.com](mailto:president@swavancouver.com)  
NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS:  
<http://swavancouver.com>



### *What Were Your Three Best Achievements in 2019?*

What made you proud of yourself this past year? Did you sell a work of art? Did you help someone learn a technique? Did you help sell someone else's art at a show? Did you complete a challenging piece? Did you get into a juried show? Or did you just manage to put paintbrush to paper? That's enough! Let me know of your top three. Or, if you would just like to make that list in your head and keep the feeling of accomplishment in your own heart, all the better. I'm just as proud of you. Good going, you!

### *What Are Your Top Three Goals for 2020?*

No, not your weight loss resolution. I don't care about that (unless you want me to). What are the art-related things you want to achieve in 2020? Do you want to paint something big? Something small? Do you want to get into that juried show? Do you want to contact three galleries with your portfolio? Do you want to enter the SWA Spring Show? (Of course you do!) Write them down, or sketch them and put them on a vision board to tack up in your studio. Don't hold yourself to the successful completion of all three in order to feel good about yourself, but do hold yourself to putting in the effort of trying to accomplish all three.

### *Have You Heard? It's a Saturday Meeting!*

In case you have been hiding from us and we haven't penetrated your eyes or ears yet with the news, the January meeting will be on SATURDAY, January 18th on the Clark College campus. If you have ever been to a meeting of the Southwest Washington Watercolor Society, you know that they meet monthly in Room 103 of the Frost Center at Clark College. We have followed their lead and rented the room for the **January** and **March** 2020 meetings.

We are hoping that having a few **Saturday** meetings will allow our working artist members to enjoy the perks of membership, like some of

## About our January Artist Demonstrator: Karen Madsen

From [kcmadsen.net](http://kcmadsen.net):

A native of Portland, Oregon, K.C. Madsen began her career with a focus on the formal elements of painting, yet she never wanted her work to fall into the realm of the safe or expected. At New York University, she tested the limits of what defines a painting.

The resulting sculptural works are in fact 3-dimensional paintings, exuding raw energy and defying easy description. Madsen is a painter who could not be held to the confines of the two-dimensional plane. Her bold and unrelentingly non-objective approach has led to a body of work that breaks new ground and is uniquely her own.

Upon first viewing these pieces, one is immediately struck by the sheer solidity of what is surprisingly, not metal but rather, a specially treated industrial grade paper, crumpled and frozen in form, with a richly painted, mixed-media and encaustic surface. At closer inspection, Madsen's unselfconscious ease and deft touch with painting, mark-making and assemblage are clearly evident.



Madsen's work in the windows of Portland's Broderick Gallery

Karen will be presenting an overview of grounds, glues and preparing a surface for painting at the **Saturday** January meeting. Join us!

the terrific stuff we have learned from our demonstrators already this year. For those members interested in learning more about Karen Madsen, our Spring Show judge, she will be our January demonstrator. So come on down to the Frost Center and learn not only something about starting a painting with the proper surface, but maybe learn a little something about how the Spring Show judge thinks about art.

### *Saturday the 18th Will Be All About Grounds and Glues*

Karen Madsen (read a little more about her on the left side of this page) reminds us that making a painting is like making a house. A bad foundation makes for a wobbly house - the same can be said for a painting. However, if you start with the best, you end with the best. Karen will be showing us how to make and use homemade gesso and glue for sizing and a secret non-art-supply gesso that is cheap and so much better than the kind you buy in the store. Come join us on **Saturday**, January 18th at 10:00am!

### *I Am Over in Sisters Again*

As I write this, I am watching the wind in the Ponderosa Pines and waiting for the new washer and dryer to be delivered. [edit: they never showed up. One of the downsides of living a mountain away from Portland.] So far this trip, we have met with a drywaller, a couple of plumbers, and a wood floor repair guy. The remodel saga is just beginning and already our budget runneth over. We hope to move for good in May.

Speaking of moving on, I hope you have been thinking about how you can fit in to the SWA leadership board. I know we need you. There will be more turnover than just me in the near future. This is a volunteer organization and that's how they work - turnover is both the weakness and the strength of volunteer organizations. Weakness because there are always new faces who need training, and strength because the more new faces you get, the more great ideas you get to work with.

If you value this organization and wish to see it flourish for years to come, talk to me or one of the other leadership crew. The next meeting would be a good time to talk. Did you hear it's going to be on **Saturday**? (Get used to me continuing to notify you about this **Saturday** meeting. I am just getting started.) We are looking forward to hearing from you.

See you at the refreshment table.

—Janice Tracy, President



One of the perks of writing the newsletter is getting to sneak in photos of my dog Rocket looking (well, feeling) majestic amongst the

## Call to Artists

### 2020 SWA Spring Show

Save the date: **April 30 to May 3, 2020**

Karen Madsen, Artstra Board Chair and Artist Demonstrator for January, will judge this year's exhibition. She has a MA in studio art from NY University. Learn more about Karen at [kcmadsen.net](http://kcmadsen.net).

The beautiful Water Resources Education Center will host the show again this year. You can learn more at [swavancouver.com](http://swavancouver.com) as it becomes available. Registration begins February 1.

## Mosaic at Angst Gallery

### Celebration of the Female Form

In February, the Mosaic Arts Alliance at Angst Gallery will feature the female form in all her manifestations. The show will include depictions and interpretations of the female form clothed, unclothed, realistic or abstract in various media.

MAA members and non-members are welcome to submit up to two pieces. The entry fee for members is \$35 and \$45 for non-members. \*Pieces larger than 36" x 36" will incur additional fees. Contact [mosaicartsvancouver@gmail.com](mailto:mosaicartsvancouver@gmail.com) for more information.

Show dates: February 4-28 Artists Reception: February 7 5-8 pm

Drop-off between 1 - 2:30 February 2. Pick-up between 1 - 2:30 March 1

## Spokane Watercolor Society

### 2020 Watercolor Competition

Juried by Dale Laitinen, NWS. Winners will be selected on site at Barrister Winery in Spokane, WA. The following awards will be presented: first place \$500, second place \$300, and third place \$200. Additional gift certificates and merchandise awards will be based on merit. All entries will be for sale and exhibited at Barrister Winery, 1213 West Railroad Avenue, Spokane, WA 99201 from April 3 through 27, 2020.

Enter through [callforentry.org](http://callforentry.org).

## Our Artists At Work

### Blackfish Gallery

Kelsey Birsa presents Gestures at Blackfish Gallery 420 NW Ninth Ave., Portland. Tuesday through Saturday, 11 - 5 through January.



### Angst Gallery

Mosaic Arts Alliance and Angst Gallery present the Ninth Annual Celebration of the Male Form. Through January at Angst Gallery, 1015 Main Street in Vancouver.

### Artstra: Learning Opportunity

#### Create a One-Page Artist's Marketing Plan

Artstra will host "The Artist's 1-Page Marketing Plan" at the Columbia Bank Community Room Saturday, April 18, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

In this workshop, Alyson Stanfield helps artists make sense of all that is possible to promote their art so that each artist can select a strategy tailored for their needs. Participants leave with a single, easy-to-follow plan for marketing their art. Stanfield is the founder of Art Biz Success, host of the Art Biz Podcast, and author of I'd Rather Be in the Studio: The Artist's No-Excuse Guide to Self-Promotion.

\$57 (\$69 after March 1). Only 48 seats are available. Registration opens on January 6. See [artstra.org](http://artstra.org) for more information.

### SWA on Facebook

Post your artwork, boost SWA activities, chat with friends.

Search for "Society of Washington Artists" and click on the link. "Like" our page and participate!

## SWA Club Officers

President	Janice Tracy	<a href="mailto:president@swavancouver.com">president@swavancouver.com</a>
	Patricia Rushford	<a href="mailto:prushford@comcast.net">prushford@comcast.net</a>
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2nd Vice Pres.	Rae Del Brashier	307-256-8847
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Newsletter	Janice Tracy	<a href="mailto:president@swavancouver.com">president@swavancouver.com</a>
Website Admin.	Leigh Radford	<a href="mailto:lar@leighradford.com">lar@leighradford.com</a>
Program Dir.	Marianne Stokes	360-574-2189
Yearbook	Elaine Pawski	360-713-8422
Publicity	Sue Tellock	360-573-0681
Art Venues	Wanda Brewster	360-326-3957
	Earlene Holmstrom	360-696-0421
Workshops	Elaine Pawski	<a href="mailto:epawski@comcast.net">epawski@comcast.net</a>
Meeting Host	Diana Thewlis	<a href="mailto:dthewlis@comcast.net">dthewlis@comcast.net</a>

## Show Your Art with SWA

Please contact Wanda Brewster at [wabasawana@comcast.net](mailto:wabasawana@comcast.net) if you are interested in displaying your work at one of these SWA venues:

- H. H. Hall Building in Hazel Dell ~ One artist, 6-9 pieces depending on size.
- The Vancouver UCC Church ~ The space will accommodate three artists with 5-7 paintings each depending on size. We could also host a single artist if you have large pieces.

## Mark Your Calendar for these SATURDAY MEETINGS

The SWA 2020 schedule now includes two Saturday meetings. We hope this will help working SWA members take part in some of the demonstrations and activities that they would otherwise miss. The Saturday meetings will be held in Room 103 of the Frost Arts Center on the main Clark College Campus. Here is the schedule for the first three months of 2020 so you can mark your calendars now:

Month	Date	Location	Demonstrator
January	<b>Saturday, January 18th, 10:00 am to noon</b>	Room 103, Frost Center, <b>Clark College</b>	Karen Madsen of Artstra
February	Wednesday, February 19th, 10:00am to noon	Vancouver Heights United Methodist Church	Elaine Pawski - Art with iPads & Apps
March	<b>Saturday, March 21st, 10:00am to 1:00pm</b>	Room 103, Frost Center, <b>Clark College</b>	Barbara De Pirro of Golden Paints

## Free Model Art Guild

Draw or learn to draw with live models!

Free drop-in Saturdays 12:30 - 3:00pm at the Atrium area at 201 W. Evergreen downtown: Quick, casual sketches from short poses. Also, Wednesdays at 1:00pm at the Marshall Center: short and long poses. Small fee, drop in. All levels welcome. Nude model gigs monthly. \$8 covers model fee, wine, and potluck refreshments.

Check with Marianne Stokes at 360-574-2189 or Diana Thewlis ( [dthewlis@comcast.net](mailto:dthewlis@comcast.net) ) for info.

## SWA General Meeting Minutes for December 18th, 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Janice Tracy. Treasurer Linda Whittingham reported a balance of \$13,238.22 in all accounts.

The following announcements were made:

- The January meeting will be held on Saturday, January 18, 10 am, at the Frost Center, Clark College, Room 103. It is hoped that artists unable to attend our regular weekday monthly meetings will join us that day. The program will be presented by Karen Madsen who will discuss preparing the foundation for a painting. Karen will also be the judge for the Spring Show.
- The March meeting will also be held on Saturday, March 21, 10 am, at the Frost Center, Clark College, Room 103. The program will be presented by Barbara DePirro, Golden representative.
- The February meeting will be held in the usual location at the Methodist Church at the usual day and time.

Katey Sandy, Spring Show chair, announced that on-line registration for the Spring Show will begin on February 1. The show will be held at the Water Resources Center April 30-May 3. Artists may enter up to three items. Art for the show will be limited to 200 entries, including 3D items. Arrangements are being made with a local wine bar to serve wine at the artists reception.

Donations are now being accepted by Wanda Brewster for the spring show silent auction.

Opportunity: Wanda is looking for art and artists who wish to display at the Hall Building.

Program for the day was a holiday gift exchange and holiday treats. Items brought for the gift exchange included a print, cookies, candies, and holiday decorations.

Sue Tellock, Secretary



The December SWA meeting included a spirited gift swap game. Everybody won.

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### **Membership Renewal**

Membership dues are \$35 per person, \$45 family (late renewals are \$40 individual/\$50 family). New memberships are prorated after January 1st. You can join or renew at <https://www.swavancouver.com/join>

Membership renewals are due every year before the end of June. Send a check to SWA at PO Box 2992, Vancouver, WA 98668, renew online, or pay at the next meeting.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone \_\_\_\_\_

New Member \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby apply for membership in the Society of Washington Artists for the \_\_\_\_\_ fiscal year which runs from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

## **Next Meeting**

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10:00am to noon

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