



VALLEY WATERCOLOR SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

THE PURPOSE OF THE VALLEY WATERCOLOR SOCIETY IS TO PROMOTE INTEREST, KNOWLEDGE AND APPRECIATION OF WATERMEDIA THROUGH MEETINGS, EXHIBITIONS AND OTHER APPROPRIATE ACTIVITIES.

May 2025

CALENDAR

**GENERAL MEETING AND DEMO WITH
KIM JOHNSON AND SOCIETY SHOW**

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 2025, 7PM

ON-LINE ZOOM MEETING

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84689609575?pwd=pfluvnCyGWODL6F2NO5CneYJH2xRK2.1>

Meeting ID: 846 8960 9575

Passcode: 971444

SOCIETY SHOW ENTRY :

Please email your painting image to
selinachengart@aol.com by 1PM,
Wednesday, May 7

MAY WORKSHOP (via ZOOM)

Kim JohnsonSarah Yeoman—Sat- Sun
May 17 & 18, 2025, 9AM- 1 PM, 2 days
[\[Register\]](#) \$140 for VWS members, \$180
for non-members

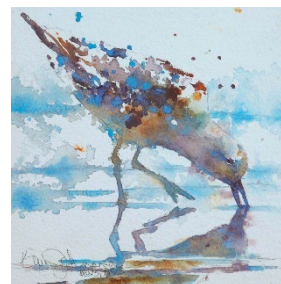
For 2025 Meetings & Workshops

<https://valleywatercolorssociety.org/events#!event-list>

PAINT-OUT (See page 3)

Currently suspended until further notice

May 2025 Demo Artist: Kim Johnson



Kim discovered her love for the creative process at a young age. On the advice of family and friends concerned that she have a 'real career', Kim completed her degree in psychology before pursuing her real passion – watercolor.

"I started taking art classes and it was so exciting! I loved creating paintings and amazed myself with my accomplishments. The whole process, from the composition to drawing to painting, is thrilling!"

Now fully devoted to her artistic endeavors, Kim's masterful use of glazes and washes, wet and dry technique, and positive and negative space breathes life into pieces focused on the human and animal experiences. Her award-winning work is enjoyed by both corporate offices and private collectors. Kim is a signature member of AWS, NWS, SDWS, TWSA, WW, WFWS and AWA. She has expanded her work to include instructional and demonstration sessions. To find out more about 'Studying with Kim' opportunities, simply scroll to workshops at her website www.kj-art.com



President's Message



Greetings Everyone,

It feels like summer is here. We had a great April meeting and demo with Sarah Yeoman. I really enjoyed her crow paintings. At the May meeting, we will have Kim Johnson as demo and workshop artist. Kim will focus on painting animals and you don't want to miss that.

As our year comes to close, we still have several positions to fill on our Board. We need your help in filling them. Barbara Leitzel, Nominating Chair, would love to hear from anyone willing to lend a hand.

I'm happy to announce that we have a special luncheon planned for July to which you are all invited. There will be a product demo by representative from Winsor Newton and opportunity to test their products. Hope you can join us and invite your friends!

John Chapin, President VWS



You are invited to a luncheon to celebrate summer with your fellow VWS members and a product demonstration by Winsor Newton.

Date : Saturday July 12, 2025

Time : 12 PM – 2 PM

**Place : 7232 Balboa Blvd, Lake Balboa, CA 91406
San Fernando Valley SRAR Office**

Cost: \$5/person (Member/Non-member)

Register by July 1, 2025 (Click link below)

<https://valleywatercolorssociety.org/events>

April 2025 Society Show Entries



1st
Gary Friedman



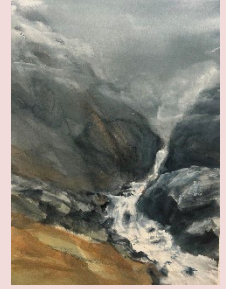
2nd
Debra Reynolds



3rd
Jan Godachy



HM
Debi McDonald



HM
John Chapin

To enter the upcoming **May 8 Society Show**, please submit an image of your painting to **Selina Cheng**: selinachengart@aol.com by 1PM on **May 7**.

The demo artist will select awards: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and two Honorable Mentions.

See all the entries from previous Society Shows here: <https://valleywatercolorsociety.org/society-show/>

Classes taught by VWS Members

There is a [Teachers page](#) on the VWS website for VWS members who conduct classes, hold workshops, or teach private lessons. If you'd like to be listed, just send an email to Newsletter@valleywatercolorsociety.org with your details. Please see our complete list of teachers online at <https://valleywatercolorsociety.org/teachers/>

PAINT-OUT EVENTS

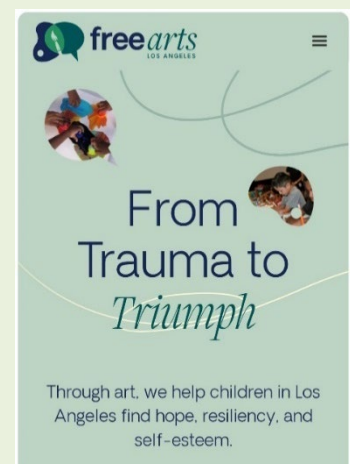
Don Ferre will be our coordinator for any organized paint-out events. He will provide dates and locations for any future meetings. Thank you Don for stepping in to help.

Free Arts for Children

Please help us support Free Arts for Children again this year. Since our February meeting was canceled, we will extend the donation collection till April 30th. This nonprofit is a very worthy cause and VWS will match donations collected up to \$500. Your donation is tax deductible.

Please make your check out to **Free Arts** and mail to **Debbi Saunders 3333 Alana Drive, Sherman Oaks CA 91403**.

www.freearts.org



VWS 2024-2025 Workshop Schedule

Kim Johnson
May 2025



Moh'd Bilbeisi
June 2025



VWS Summer Luncheon
July 2025

Kim Johnson –**Online** Sat May 17 -Sun May 18, 2025, 9am - 1pm, 2-Days on ZOOM, [\[Register\]](#) \$140 for VWS members, \$180 for non-members

Moh'd Bilbeisi –**Online** Sat Jun 21 – Sun Jun22, 2025, 9am -1pm, 2-Days on ZOOM, [\[Register\]](#) \$140 for VWS members, \$180 for non-members

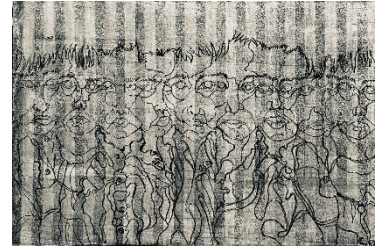
VWS Summer Luncheon –**In-Person** Sat July 12, 12 pm – 2 pm [\[Register\]](#) \$5 for VWS members and non-members

workshop Policy: The workshop fee includes a 10% non-refundable cancellation fee if a cancellation is made more than 30 days prior to the workshop. A 50% non-refundable fee if cancellation is made between 30 or 7 days. No refund will be made for a NO SHOW or a cancellation with less than 7 days of notice prior to the workshop. The workshop may be cancelled at the discretion of the Workshop Chair and the President if any of the following occur: there are less than 10 participants, the workshop is not at a financial breakeven point, or the demonstrator or location cancels. In this case, FULL refunds will be given. If for any reason your check or credit card payment is rejected by your bank, VWS will ask you for a reimbursement of any fine or charge assessed by your bank to VWS. After two incidents, membership will be revoked. Enroll in workshops online at <http://valleywatercolorsociety.org/events>. Just select the desired workshop and scroll down to the "Register Now" button.

Member Art News

Barbara Leitzel

Barbara has two paintings accepted to the Thousand Oaks Art Association's 2025 Open Juried Art Show titled "Autumn Lace" and "Line on a Page". The exhibit will be held at Thousand Oaks Community Gallery, May 2- 28.



Debra Reynolds

Debra's paintings "Uluru in Australia" was awarded Best of Show in the Honors Division at Burbank Art Association Spring Show.



Gary Friedman

Gary has two of his paintings selected to National Watercolor Society NWS and Northwest Watercolor Society NWWS 2025 Member's Exhibition.

Gary has a 4-session course at Simi Valley Sr. Center starting 5/3/25 for \$60, enrollment at rspd.org



Omar Norzay

Omar's mural painting (2nd one) for the city of Granada Hills is part of the "Granada Hills Improvement Association" project displayed at the corner of Chatsworth St. and Encino Ave., unveiled April 26, 2025



ART NEWS AND EVENTS AROUND TOWN



Watercolor West Call for Entry for 2025 the 57TH International Juried Exhibition. Entry Dates: March 15 -May 18, 2025.

Exhibit date: Aug 23-Nov 29, 2025

Visit www.watercolorwest.org for PROSPECTUS and enter online



The Santa Cruz Art
League

The Santa Cruz Art League opens it's 94th annual California Landscape Exhibition. Submission closes on June 1, 2025.

www.scal.org for information



Kathy Simon McDonald, NWS
"Dancing Koe"
2024 NWS 104th International Open Exhibition

**Swimming in Circles:
Pick Your Best and
Enter Now!**

**Enter today the 2025
NWS 105th International
Open Exhibition**

*This In-Gallery Exhibition is open
to ALL artists working in watermedia*

The deadline for entry is
Friday, May 23 2025
(4:00PM Pacific Time)

Enter today on CaFE'
[PROSPECTUS](#)

PLEINAIR SALON MONTHLY COMPETITIONS

<https://pleinairsalon.com/monthly-winners/> and go here for the rules:

<https://pleinairsalon.com/competition-rules/> This is run by Plein-air Magazine.

Online Juried Shows

www.onlinejuriedshows.com and CaFé www.callforentry.org for other calls for entry.

VWS FACEBOOK NOW LIVE!

The name of the VWS page is: **Valley Watercolor Society Community Service**

Enter the name in the **SEARCH** field of your FB page, then click on the name. Once it opens, click on the **LIKE** tab.

You can then follow, comment, add your paintings or interesting exhibits you know of or participate in!
We are always looking to grow our community . We need your help to do better!

Please contact Sandra McDuffie (sanellen1946@yahoo.com) if you have questions or need assistance.

Thanks
Sandra

REQUEST TO ALL MEMBERS

We encourage all members to actively invite fellow watercolor artists to become part of the Valley Watercolor Society. Together, let's expand our community and foster the growth of art in our localities.

Call for Submission for VWS June 2025 Newsletter

This is a call for your submissions for the June Newsletter: Due on the 25th of May:

Did you get into an exhibit? Do you have a show coming up?

Are you teaching a workshop, giving a demo, or have you published a book?

What have you been painting during our at home time?

Or maybe you just want your website to appear in the newsletter.

If you have any news to share, send to: newsletter@valleywatercolorsociety.org.

NEW MEMBERS PLEASE SEND A SELFIE HEADSHOT!

We will post your picture under our New Member section to welcome you to the organization!

Especially now, since we are not meeting in person, nice to see a new face!

SUBMIT ART MATERIALS FOR SALE...!

Cleaning out your studio? Got an extra easel? Extra brushes, paints, paper? Post in our newsletter!

SUBMIT YOUR WATERCOLOR ART QUESTIONS & TIPS...!

If you have a watercolor discovery you want to share, or a burning question for our members...we want to know!

SUBMIT OPPORTUNITIES AND EXHIBIT VENUES, AND SHOWS YOU KNOW OF!

Where do you go to pique your artist inspiration? Websites? museums? galleries? And what opportunities have you seen for submitting for exhibitions? In galleries, online, don't keep it a secret, tell us!

Those of you who regularly send newsletter items, please send them along:

- Photos and any accompanying comments for recent VWS paint-outs
- Society Show photos & winners
- General Meeting Demo photos
- New members photos & names
- President's Message

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

- Submissions received by the 25th will be included in the following month's newsletter.
- Submissions received after the 25th will be included in the issue after the following month.

Photographs (send a pic of your painting for your member news!):

- Photographs should be high-resolution images of at least 600 pixels across.
- You may submit photographs as email attachments, in a *.zip file (or via [WeTransfer](#)).
- Photographs sent directly by email **must be submitted as attachments**.
- **Please do not send photos within the body of the email.**
- On a Mac and unsure how? [Check out this link](#).

DVD Library

VWS maintains a lending library for members consisting of professional instructional videos from various watercolor and water media artists and recordings of previous VWS guest artist demonstrations.

See the updated list on our website. 2 new DVDs on Portraits-[Mario A, Robinson](#) and [Mary Whyte](#)

VWS DVD library is available to all current VWS members via mail. VWS will pay mailing fees to send DVDs to members in a reusable envelope; renter pays return postage using the reusable envelope, return address label will be provided. DVDs are loaned for one month; the maximum is 2 DVDs per month.

Contact Susie Tse: sytse210@gmail.com to order. Links to lists of DVDs is available on our Web site: <https://valleywatercolorsociety.org/dvd-library/>

Member Websites (to access website, press CONTROL then Click link)

Rosemary Altshuler-RosemaryAltshulerwatercolors.com

Liz Blum — lizblum.com

Selina Cheng — selinachengart.com

Sue Cohen — suecohenfineart.com

Sylvia Crosbie — SylviaKCrosbie.com

Julie Crouch — juliecrouchart.com

Gary Friedman — garyfriedmanart.com

Caren J. Gafni — artistcarenjgafni.com

Mardilan Lee Georgio — mardilanleegeorgio.com

Dafna Gilboa — dafnasart.com

Jan Godachy — jangodachy.com

Cris Gordy — artspirationforall.org

Omar Noorzay — northridgeartstudio.com

Mary Zangerle — maryzangerleart.com

Judy Heimlich — judysartstudio.com

Fatemeh Kian-- 14kian.com

Micheline Laski — michreedlaski.artspan.com

Martha Inman Lorch — marthainmanlorch.com

Sandra McDuffie — sandramcduffie.net

Susan L. Meisel — slm-designs.com

Shirley Peppers — ShirleyPeppersArt.com

Iuliia Pozdina — iuliapozdina.com

Midge Reisman — midgereismanart.wixsite.com

Debra Reynolds — debraadamsreynolds.com

Deborah Swan-McDonald — deborahswan-mcdonald.com

Brenda Swenson — swensonsart.net

To list your website, please email:
newsletter@valleywatercolorsociety.org

Reprint your Watercolor Paintings with Northridge Art Studio (Omar Noorzay)

Hey Watercolor Artists! Turn your paintings into vibrant, high-quality Giclée prints with our Epson SureColor P9570 at Northridge Art Studio. Affordable, stunning reproductions, with options like canvas or watercolor paper. **Why Us:**

- **Vibrant Colors:** Your work will pop with color, just as you imagined.
- **Preserve Your Originals:** Share your art without touching the original.
- **Prints That Last:** Long-lasting quality, made to endure.

Call 818.465.8222 or visit our website to get started!



Visit the [Valley Watercolor Society](http://www.valleywatercolorsociety.org) website (www.valleywatercolorsociety.org). Here you can see the latest announcements, renew your membership, or register for workshops online. Check out our new membership area. Catch up on previous communications here: [Newsletter Archive](#)

2024-2025 VWS Board of Directors

Officers

President — John Chapin
1st VP Programs — Debi McDonald
2nd VP Membership — Norma Derr
3rd VP Exhibits — Sylvia Crosbie
Secretary — Veronica Stensby
Treasurer — Debbi Saunders

Directors

Workshops — Selina Cheng
Newsletter — Selina Cheng
Parliamentarian — Barbara Leitzel
Hospitality — TBD
Student Awards — Dorothy Lee

Committee Chairs

Website — Sharon Reaves
Facebook -- Sandra McDuffie
Drawings/Raffle — TBD
DVD Library Coordinator — Susie Tse
Paint-Outs — Don Ferre
Society Show — Selina Cheng
Photographer — Veronica Stensby
Nominating — Barbara Leitzel
Lifetime/Honorary Memberships — Marie Burdick

Email any VWS board member at
Admin@valleywatercolorsociety.org

Dear VWS Members,

We are asking you to give some serious thought to becoming a member of the Valley Watercolor Society Board. As you can see from the above directory, we have a number of vacant positions to fill and several more Board members have voiced their intention to retire at the end of the 2024-25 year.

We need a variety of skills and abilities for our Board. Mostly we need your enthusiasm and commitment to support VWS as a place to promote art and foster comradery. Please contact **Barbara Leitzel** at Admin@valleywatercolorsociety.org if you are willing to help.

Thank you!

WWW.VALLEYWATERCOLORSOCIETY.ORG

You are receiving VWS Newsblasts as a member of Valley Watercolor Society.

Our mailing address is:

Valley Watercolor Society
San Fernando Valley Arts & Cultural Center PO
Box 17192, Encino, California 91416

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