



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.

July 2025

CALENDAR

GENERAL MEETING AND DEMO WITH
MOH'D BILBEISI AND SOCIETY SHOW

THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2025, 7PM

ON-LINE ZOOM MEETING

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89457451427?pwd=ibiSgbgybCYDjOmHowUmI6cdVswiRv.1>

Meeting ID: 894 5745 1427

Passcode: 253763

SOCIETY SHOW ENTRY :

Please email your painting image to
selinachengart@aol.com by 1PM,
Wednesday, JULY 9

JUNE WORKSHOP (via ZOOM)

Moh'd Bilbeisi-Sat- Sun

July 19 & 20, 2025, 9AM- 1 PM, 2 days

[\[Register\]](#) \$140 for VWS members, \$180
for non-members

For 2025 Meetings & Workshops

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

PAINT-OUT (See page 3)

Currently suspended until further notice

July 2025 Demo Artist: Moh'd Bilbeisi



Moh'd Bilbeisi is a licensed architect, artist, author, and Eminent Professor of Architecture at OSU School of Architecture. He teaches design studio as an experiential and poetic art form that is compliant with environmental and technical considerations. In addition to the design studio he lectures in the topics of graphics and theory of representation and History/Theory of Islamic Architecture. Professor Bilbeisi is a seasoned traveler and has taught, lectured, and conducted graphic workshops both nationally and internationally.

"My work is about walking the fine line between the real and the unreal. The subject matter is a direct critique of what is propagated as being ultimately true and beyond doubt. Some of it, the topics, is historical, religious, and political. All subjects are personal and I see it as me sharing my view of what's around and what's inside. All I'm doing is speaking in a language that transcends racial barriers and puts humanity and its shared attributes first and last."

https://www.instagram.com/mohd_bilbeisi/?hl=en



President's Message



Greetings Everyone,

Hope you are enjoying the beautiful Summer weather! This will be our last meeting until next September. We had a great May meeting and demo with Kim Johnson who gave us some great tips on painting animal portraits. This month we welcome Moh'd Bilbeisi, an excellent artist and great teacher. Moh'd comes with a wonderful sense of humor on blending art, religion and political viewpoints. You'll enjoy his unique approach to watercolor.

We are happy to welcome three new Board members: Eileen Breyde (Secretary), Alanna Chandler (Workshops) and Edina Russak (Membership). They will start their terms starting September. Thank you Brabara Leitzel for her hard work in recruiting the new members.

Please do not forget to register for the Summer Luncheon planned for July 12. You and your families/friends are all invited. We will serve a lunch and have a product demo by representatives from Winsor Newton and you will have the opportunity to test their products. Hope you can join us on this special day!

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://valleywatercolorsociety.org/events>

May 2025 Society Show Entries



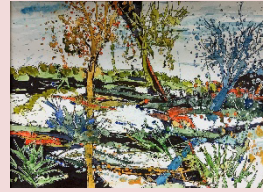
1st
Gary Friedman



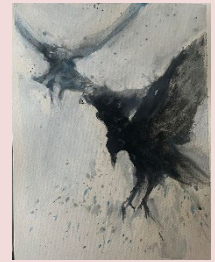
2nd
Roberta Barabash



3rd
Debra Reynolds



HM
Elena Goldheimer



HM
John Chapin

To enter the upcoming **July 10 Society Show**, please submit an image of your painting to

Selina Cheng: selinachengart@aol.com by 1PM on **Wednesday July 9.**

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/>

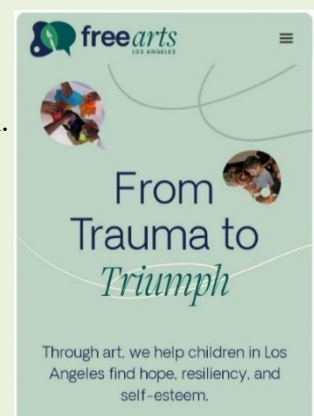
PAINT-OUT EVENTS

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

A big **Thank You** for all of your contributions to support Free Arts for Children. We collected \$250 in total from members and VWS matched the amount. A total of \$500 will be sent to Free Arts. Your kindness is greatly appreciated. Please remember that your donations are tax deductible.

www.freearts.org



VWS 2025-2026 Workshop Schedule



Moh'd Bilbeisi
July 2025



Michael Holter
September 2025



Milind Mulick
October 2025



Joe Cibere
November 2025



VWS Summer Luncheon
July 2025

Moh'd Bilbeisi –**Online** Sat Jul 19 – Sun Jul 20, 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

Michael Holter –**Online** Sat Sep 20 -Sun Sep 21, 2025, 9am - 12pm, 2-Days on ZOOM, [\[Register\]](#) \$140 for VWS members, \$180 for non-members

Milind Mulick –**Online** Sat Oct 18- Sun Oct 19, 2025, 9am - 12pm, 2-Days on ZOOM, [\[Register\]](#) \$140 for VWS members, \$180 for non-members

Joe Cibere – **In-person/Online** Sat Nov 15 -Sun Nov 16, 2025, 10am - 2pm, 2-Days , [\[Register\]](#)

Online: \$140 for VWS members/ \$180 for non-members. **In-person:** \$165 for VWS member/ \$205 for non-member

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's painting "Malibu Creek State Park" was accepted into the San Diego Watercolor Society's Plein Air Exhibition 2025 "Out 'n' About". The Show will open Jul 2 -Jul 30 at 2025 Dewey Road, suite 105, San Diego. Artist reception Saturday Jul 5, 1PM-3 PM.



Don Ferre

Don has 2 paintings showing at the Westlake Art Guild 2025 Open Juried Show from June 4-26 at the Thousand Oaks Community Gallery, 2331 Borchard Rd, Newbury Park. Don's paintings are 2 of the 130 accepted out of 250 entries.



Cris Gordy

Cris was invited by the Fallbrook Art Association to be the plein air artist to paint at the Fallbrook Garden Tour in May.

Cris invites all interested to weekly zoom sessions to share techniques, materials and other artist's resources and interests. Please contact Cris Gordy at crisgordywatercolors@gmail.com for details. www.artspirationforall.org



Socal Watercolor Artists Exhibition
at Encinitas Community and Senior Center, 1140 Oakcrest Park Drive, Encinitas, May 8-Sep 4, 2025.
The exhibiting artists include **Fan Li, Geoff Allen, Carol Van Vooren, Keiko Tanabe and Shuang Li.**



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. Click link below for direct access:

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=valley%20watercolor%20society>

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 September 2025 Newsletter

This is a call for your submissions for the September Newsletter: Due on the 25th of August:

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.

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

Michelene 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

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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