

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.

March 2026

CALENDAR

GENERAL MEETING AND DEMO WITH
JOSEPH STODDARD AND SOCIETY
SHOW (In-Person)

SATURDAY, March 14, 2026, 10AM-12PM

In-Person Meeting Address:

San Fernando SRAR Office
7232 Balboa Blvd, Lake Balboa CA 91406

SOCIETY SHOW ENTRY :

Please email your painting image to
selinachengart@aol.com by 1PM,
Wednesday, March 11, 2026

MARCH WORKSHOP (In-Person)

Joseph Stoddard: Saturday March 21, 2026,
10AM-3PM, 1 day

[Register]

\$95 for members, \$125 for non-members

Workshop Address:

Northridge Art Studio
9349 Melvin Ave, Unit 9
Northridge, CA 91324

For 2026 Meetings & Workshops

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

March 2026 Demo Artist: Joseph Stoddard



Joseph paints and sketches architecture, landscapes and urban subjects, using pen and ink with loose applications of color in a unique, impressionistic style. In addition to traditional paintings, he also produces collages with drawings, sketches, compositional studies and notes mounted to cradled hardboard panels. His work is all about process.

He has produced paintings for a number of Pasadena events, including the Bungalow Heaven Annual Tour, the Colorado Street Bridge Party, the Pasadena Showcase House of Design, the California Art Club Artists for Architecture Painting Project, the Pasadena Symphony and the Pasadena Pops Orchestra. His work has been featured in the *The Art of Watercolor*, a French art magazine as well as *Studios* magazine, and *Watercolor Artist* magazine. His studio was featured in *The Man Cave Book*.

His paintings have also been on the covers of a variety of publications including *Westways Magazine*, *Pasadena Magazine*, a book series published by the Historical Society of Southern California, and the Lost and Found Series by Many Moons Press. In 2001 a book of his sketches entitled *Pasadena Sketchbook* was published. The second edition was published in October of 2008. A collection of sketches of the University of Redlands entitled *Redlands Sketchbook* was published in 2007. Walter Foster Publishing published *Expressive Color*, a painting instruction book in August of 2008. He just completed a new book for Quarto Publishing entitled *Expressive Painting* and is preparing a series of new paintings for the third edition of *Pasadena Sketchbook*.

You can see his work at: josephstoddard.com



President's Message



Hello Everyone,

Happy March! We've had some interesting weather. If you have a chance to visit Descanso Gardens, the tulips are in full bloom and they should be good till the end of March.

Back to business, we have a different meeting schedule for March. We welcome our artist of the month, Joseph Stoddard, at an **in-person** meeting and it will be on **Saturday March 14 at 10AM** (see address on the cover page). Please note that there will be **NO** online access. Please join us at the meeting for the demo and have a chance to visit with your fellow artists. Bring a refreshment to share!

Also, the Member Annual Juried Exhibit opens on March 3. Mark your calendar for the reception on Sunday March 8 (3PM-6PM). Bring your friends and families!

I'm looking forward to seeing you in-person at the March 14 meeting.

Best,
John Chapin, President



Valley Watercolor Society 2026 Annual Juried Exhibit

2025 Top Honor Winners

2nd Place



Karen Holly
"Old Glory"

1st Place



Fateme Kian
"White Dream"

3rd Place



Meggie Chen
"2nd Street"

Reception: Sunday, March 8, 3-6 PM

Exhibit Dates: March 3 - 27, 2026

Thousand Oaks Community Gallery

2331 Borchard Rd, Newbury Park CA 91320

Contact Sylvia Crosby, Exhibit Chair, at sylvia_crosbie@bluetiehome.com if you have questions.

February 2026 Society Show Winners



1st
Selina Cheng



2nd
Jim Huppenthal



3rd
Barbara Leitzel



HM
Gary Friedman



HM
Rosemary Altshuler



HM
John Chapin

To enter the upcoming **March 14 Society Show**, please submit an image of your painting to **Selina Cheng: selinachengart@aol.com** by 1PM on **Wednesday March 11**.

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

See all the entries from previous Society Shows here: <https://valleywatercolorociety.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@valleywatercolorociety.org with your details. Please see our complete list of teachers online at <https://valleywatercolorociety.org/teachers/>

Welcome New Members

**Welcome to our new members and our returning members.
I look forward to your participation. Thank you for your support.**

[Edina Russak](#), Membership Chair

2026 VWS WORKSHOP



Joseph Stoddard
March 2026



Ron Stocke
April 2026



Liz Walker
May 2026



Frank Eber
June 2026

Joseph Stoddard –**In-Person** Sat, Mar 21, 2026 10AM-3PM, 1-Day [\[Register\]](#) \$95 for VWS members, \$125 for non-members

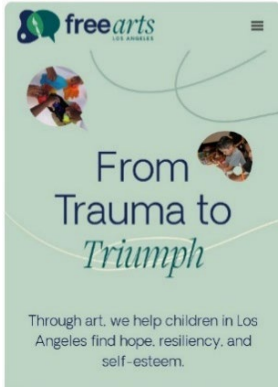
Ron Stocke –**Online** Sat -Sun, Apr 18 & 19, 2026, 10am - 1pm, 2-Days on ZOOM, [\[Register\]](#) \$140 for VWS members, \$180 for non-members

Liz Walker –**Online** Sat -Sun May 23 & 24, 2026, 9am - 1pm, 2-Days on ZOOM, [\[Register\]](#) \$140 for VWS members, \$180 for non-members

Frank Eber –**Online** Sat-Sun, June 27 & 28, 2026, 9am - 1pm, 2-Days on ZOOM, [\[Register\]](#) \$140 for VWS members, \$180 for 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



Free Arts for Children

Please help us support Free Arts for Children again this year. We will extend the 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.

www.freearts.org

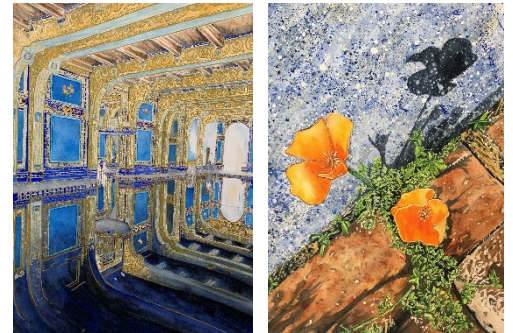
Please make your check out to **VWS** and mail to
Debbi Saunders 3333 Alana Drive, Sherman Oaks CA 91403
or, send online by **Zelle** to **Debbi Saunders** use tag **vwsociety**.

Nancy Fint

Congratulations! Nancy has been accepted into:
Women Painters West, The Earth Whispers Back: Nature's Hope show
Two pieces: ***Southern Sea Otter, Dudleya in the Hills***
Exhibition dates: March 15-September 6
California Nature Art Museum in Solvang



4th Annual Lazarus Award for Excellence in Watercolor Exhibition
Two Pieces: ***Roman Pool Hearst Castle, Bloom Where You Land***
Exhibition dates: February 25-March 20
Reception: Saturday February 28th 5-8pm



Gary Friedman

Gary Friedman will be teaching a Watercolor Art course at Simi Valley Sr. Center on Saturdays from 9:30am to noon, March 14th to March 28th for the 1st Spring Session. Cost for the 3 classes is \$45. The second Spring session, April 25th thru May 16th (4 classes for \$60). Register at rsrpd.org. Follow the links to Recreation-50+ age group and search for Watercolor Art.



ART NEWS AND EVENTS AROUND TOWN



Call for Your Masterpieces!

Enter the 2026 NWS MEMBER EXHIBIT now!

This ONLINE Exhibition is open to ALL NWS Members

Exhibition Dates May 1 - June 30, 2026

***The deadline for entry is Friday, February 20, 2026
(4PM Pacific Time)***

Direct link to [CaFE'](#)

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.

Other Calls for Entry

Online Juried Shows www.onlinejuriedshows.com

CaFÉ www.callforentry.org

VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

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:



[FaceBook Link](#)

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 request 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 April 2026 Newsletter

This is a call for your submissions for the April 2026 newsletter: Due on the 25th of March:

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 20th will be included in the following month's newsletter.
- Submissions received after the 20th 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

Jim Huppenthal—jimhuppenthal.com

Mary Zangerle — maryzangerleart.com

Judy Heimlich — judysartstudio.com

Fatemeh Kian-- 14kian.com

Michelene Laski — michreedlaski.artspan.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***

Newsletter

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](#)

2025-2026VWS Board of Directors

Officers

President — John Chapin
1st VP Programs — Debi McDonald
2nd VP Membership — Edina Russak
3rd VP Exhibits — Sylvia Crosbie
Secretary — Barbara Leitzel
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Workshops — Alanna Chandler
Newsletter — Selina Cheng
Parliamentarian — Barbara Leitzel
Hospitality — TBD
Student Awards — Dorothy Lee

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Website — Sharon Reaves/Selina Cheng
Facebook -- Sandra McDuffie
DVD Library Coordinator — Susie Tse
Paint-Outs — Don Ferre
Society Show — Selina Cheng
Photographer — Veronica Stensby
Nominating — TBD
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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