

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.

April 2026

CALENDAR

**GENERAL MEETING AND DEMO WITH
RON STOCKE AND SOCIETY SHOW
(Zoom)**

**Thursday, April 9, 2026, 7 PM-9PM
(Pacific time)**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89597974013?pwd=6st70WLq0BwEYP9iMCIV6XahE4mTOx.1>

**Meeting ID: 895 9797 4013
Passcode: 588260**

SOCIETY SHOW ENTRY :

**Please email your painting image to
selinachengart@aol.com by 1PM,
Wednesday, April 8, 2026**

APRIL WORKSHOP (Zoom)

Ron Stocke, Sat-Sun April 18 & 19, 2026,
9AM-1PM, 2 days

[Register]

\$140 for members, \$180 for non-members

For 2026 Meetings & Workshops

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

April 2026 Demo Artist: Ron Stocke



Born 1966 in Chico California, Ron Stocke moved to the Pacific Northwest in 1979. Interested in drawing and painting at an early age, his career as an artist was shaped by life events that really encouraged him to explore ways to cope with everything in a positive, productive way. His first experience with painting came during school as a child when he was exposed to watercolors. Even at that young age, he found a love for that medium that would grow into a career that has lasted throughout his life.

“The watercolor medium is honest, challenging and always new. It is the oldest pursuit that I know and has enriched my life at every level. While sometimes frustrating even for the most experienced watercolor painter, it is invigorating and always a learning experience.”

An award-winning watercolor artist, Ron is a regular contributor to, and has been a cover artist for Watercolor Artist Magazine as well as other publications. Teaching comprehensive workshops throughout North America and Europe, he also conducts demonstrations and lectures on various art materials and creating a safe, environmentally friendly studio. Ron holds Signature Membership with the American Watercolor Society, National Watercolor Society, Northwest Watercolor Society, is an elected member of the Canadian Society of Painters in Watercolour, and a member of the American Impressionist Society.

You can see his work at: RonStocke.com



President's Message



Hello Everyone,

I want to thank everyone for joining us at the March 8 art exhibit reception and the in-person general meeting and Joseph Stoddard's demo on March 14. Both events were well-attended and we were happy to visit with our friends. I look forward to seeing you all in future in-person events.

This month we have artist Ron Stocke for demo and workshop, both are online via Zoom. Please visit his website : ***RonStocke.com*** to see some of his inspirational art. Also, this is our Student Awards month. We have selected 3 high school student winners who will be presenting their art works at the meeting this month. I look forward to seeing you at the April 9 meeting.

Best,
John Chapin, President

2026 Annual Juried Exhibit

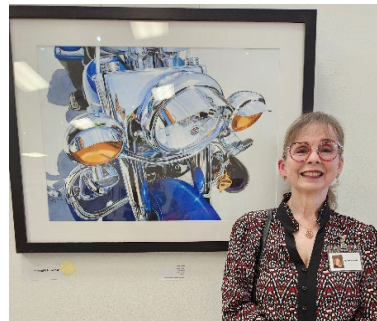
VWS' Annual Juried Exhibit March 3 - 27 featured 117 paintings by 31 artists. The reception on March 8 was very well attended and sales were our best ever for framed and unframed art. A constant stream of visitors viewed the exhibit throughout the month. Many thanks to all the volunteers who made the exhibit such a success: Mich Laski, Sharon Maguire, Roberta Barabash, Nancy Fint, Edina Russak, Paula Diggs, Sandra McDuffie, Selina Cheng, Barbara Leitzel, Debbi Saunders, Norma Derr, Veronica Stensby and Sam Crosbie. If I have missed anyone, please accept my apologies. You all are greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
Sylvia Crosbie, Exhibit Chair

If you missed the exhibit, it is available online. Please visit the VWS website and our Facebook page



1st Place Fatemeh Kian

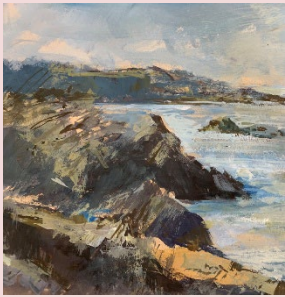


2nd Place Karen Holly



3rd Place Makarand Desai

March 2026 Society Show Winners



1st
Gary Friedman



2nd
John Chapin



3rd
Jim Huppenthal



HM
Selina Cheng



HM
Debra Reynolds

To enter the upcoming **April 9 Society Show**, please submit an image of your painting to **Selina Cheng**: selinachengart@aol.com by 1PM on **Wednesday April 8**.

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/>

Welcome New Members

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

- New Member: Nadine Suber, Oak Park, CA

[Edina Russak](#), Membership Chair

2026 VWS WORKSHOP



Liz Walker
May 2026



Ron Stocke
April 2026



Frank Eber
June 2026

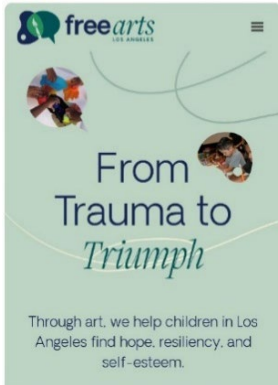
Ron Stocke –**Online** Sat -Sun, Apr 18 & 19, 2026, 10am - 1pm, 2-Days on ZOOM, [\[Register\]](#) \$140 for VWS members, \$180 for non-members

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**.

Dorothy Lee

Artists Dorothy Lee & Evelyn Seto present "Beyond Exclusion: Retaining Threads of Cultural Identity", a watercolor collage and mixed media exhibition exploring the Chinese-American experience through history and personal biography, on view March 25 through July 17, 2026 at the Joseph Fink Science Center, Dominican University, San Rafael

Beyond Exclusion: Retaining Threads of Cultural Identity

Mixed Media Paintings on the Chinese American Experience

Dorothy Wong Lee

Evelyn Jung Seto



Angie Island - Kage of Jade



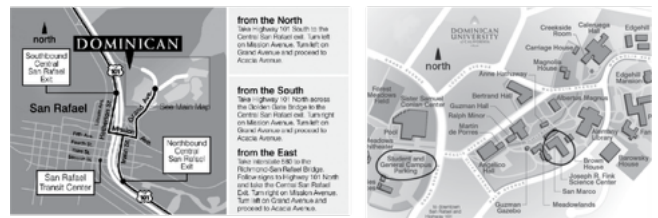
Legacy

Dominican University of California

Joseph Fink Science Center - 50 Acacia Ave. San Rafael, CA 94901

March 25, 2026- July 15, 2026

Reception - Thursday, April 9 - 3-5PM



ART NEWS AND EVENTS AROUND TOWN



SAN DIEGO WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

Call For Entry

For prospectus:
www.sdws.org

THE SAN DIEGO WATERCOLOR SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL FORTY SIXTH EXHIBITION
2026 CALLFORENTRIES
WATERCOLOR • ACRYLIC • MIXED MEDIA
SDWS ENTER February 1 through May 8
WWW.SDWS.ORG
JURIED BY ANA LAURA SALAZAR SDWS

Ana Laura Salazar *From Above*

2026 INTERNATIONAL EVERY DAY | SEP 27 • OCT 31

THE SAN DIEGO WATERCOLOR SOCIETY
CALLFORENTRIES
March 1 • April 25, 2026
A PLEIN AIR **OPEN SHOW**
WATERCOLOR • ACRYLIC • GOUACHE • CASEIN
Out n' About
Juried by **Ken Goldman**
SDWS MA, AWS, NWS, ISAF, NAPA, WUSA, HONOR SOCIETY

PROSPECTUS AT SDWS.ORG

FIRST PLACE \$1,225
2ND PLACE \$700
3RD PLACE \$500
PEOPLES CHOICE \$250

Show on Display July 1 • Aug 1, 2026
Reception | Sunday, July 5th
FREE GALLERY ADMISSION

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 May 2026 Newsletter

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

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 — artistcarenjafni.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
Treasurer — Debbi Saunders

Directors

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

Committee Chairs

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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