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.

November 2026

CALENDAR

GENERAL MEETING AND DEMO WITH VLADISLAV YELISEYEV AND SOCIETY SHOW (ZOOM)

Thursday Nov 12, 2026, 7PM -9PM (Pacific time)

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88548083811?pwd=6rVWopbsFbZHR4eYqZC193ZE3qxNp2.1

Meeting ID: 885 4808 3811
Passcode: 372483

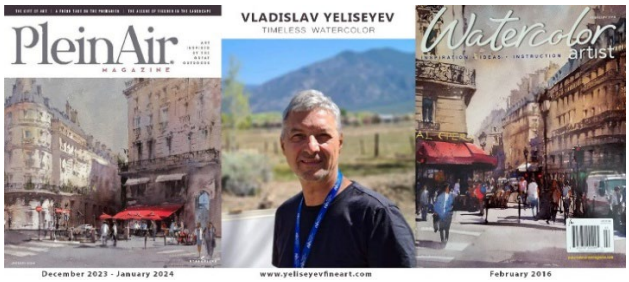
SOCIETY SHOW ENTRY :
Please email your painting image to selinachengart@aol.com **by 1PM, Wednesday, November 11, 2026**

NOVEMBER WORKSHOP (Zoom)
Vladislav Yeliseyev, Sat Nov 21, 2026, 9AM-1PM, 1 day

[Register]
$70 for members, $90 for non-members

For 2026-2027 Meetings & Workshops
https://valleywatercolorsociety.org/events/#!event-list

November 2026 Demo Artist: Vladislav Yeliseyev

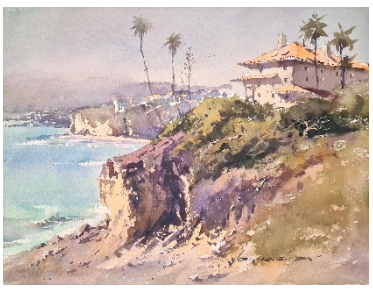


In my paintings I would like to express the beauty of landscapes through variation of natural light conditions and individual approaches to interpretation of color in real life. I would like not to merely pick up the colors from the natural environment but to reinvent them right on my canvas. By using this approach I'm trying to achieve liquid quality of natural light in a landscape or natural setting. In particular, I'm interested in architectural elements and their integration through light conditions.

My goal is to express the beauty of various landscapes and cityscapes by showing architectural elements, street life and their playful integration with the light conditions.

Traveling the world allows me to see my subjects from different cultural and emotional angles. I use a wide dynamic range of light to show the drama of the ordinary scenes smoothly transforming the dark tones into the light communicating to the viewers the life-leading affirmation.

Visit Vladislav's Website for more info: www.yeliseyevfineart.com





President's Message



Hello Everyone,

Hope you all are well! In October Fatemeh Kian gave us an excellent demo at the General meeting and an online workshop. We have Vladislav Yeliseyev this month for a demo and workshop. Vladislav's landscape paintings uniquely combine landscape with architectural elements that reflect life in cities in his travel around the world. You will enjoy his expressive style and demonstration of light and dark in their natural elements.

Please note that we do not meet in December and our next meeting will be an **in-person** meeting in January.

Hope to see you all at the November 12 meeting on Zoom.

John Chapin, President

VWS 2027 Annual Juried Exhibition

The Valley Watercolor Society will hold its 2027 Annual Juried Exhibit March 2-13, 2027.
This will be an **in-person** exhibit for **active members** only at Thousand Oaks Community Gallery, 2331 Borchard Rd., Suite A, Newbury Park, CA 91320.

Prizes:

Top Honors: First Place $300.00
Second Place $250.00
Third Place $200.00

Entries open: **December 1, 2026**
Entries deadline: **January 31, 2027**
Reception and Awards Presentation: **March 7, 2027 (3PM-6PM)**

We welcome members who can help with the Exhibit during take-in and at the reception. Please contact Sylvia Crosby, Exhibit Chair, at sylvia_crosbie@bluetiehome.com if you have questions.

Please click this link for prospectus: VWS 2027 Prospectus

Art Auction

We will hold an Art Auction of members' work during the reception of the Annual Exhibit on March 7, 2027. VWS is experiencing financial difficulties. We are looking for ways to raise fund to keep the Society running into the future. Please help us in this effort.

Please consider donating a painting specifically for the auction. **You do not have to enter the show to donate.** Artists may set a minimum price for their work (we would prefer pieces with a minimum of at least $100). Art may be framed or unframed. Donated art will be accepted at take-in on March 1, 2027 or other arrangements can be made. Contact Sylvia Crosbie (818-902-1853, sylvia_crosbie@bluetiehome.com)

Purchases and donations to the auction would be tax deductible since we are a 501(c)3 organization.

October 2026 Society Show Winners



1st
Debi McDonald



2nd
Pam McDonald



3rd
Pamela Robertson

HM
Marie Burdick





HM
John Chapin

To enter the upcoming November 12 Society Show, please submit your painting image to selinachengart@aol.com before 1 PM on Wednesday, November 11, 2026.

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/

Welcome Members

The Valley Watercolor Society welcomes the following new members:

Lori Heirsch, Lake Balboa
Joan T. Nye, Agoura Hills
Leslie Hamilton, Woodland Hills
Adrienne Benedict, Thousand Oaks

Thank you for joining us. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

Thank you also to all our renewed members. Please consider volunteering in any capacity you wish. Reach out to a Board Member and let them know you are interested in helping. The Society operates on volunteer power and your participation is greatly appreciated.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding membership, feel free to contact me.

Edina Russak
Membership Director VWS
Rcstle@sbcglobal.net

2026-2027 VWS WORKSHOP



Vladislav Yeliseyev
Nov 21



Debbie Abshear
Jan 16



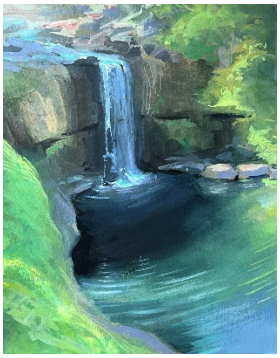
Ian Stewart
Feb 20 & 21



Pam Wenger
Apr 17



Shelley Prior
May 22



John Paul Thornton
June 19

Vladislav Yeliseyev –Online Sat, Nov 21, 2026, 9am - 1pm, 1-Day on ZOOM, **[Register]** $70 for members, $90 for non-members
Debbie Abshear –In-Person Sat, Jan 16, 2027, 10am – 3pm In-person **[Register]** $70 for members, $90 for non-members
Ian Stewart –Online Sat-Sun, Feb 20 & 21, 2027, 9am - 1pm, 2-Days on ZOOM, **[Register]** $140 for members, $180 for non-members
Pam Wenger –Online Sat, Apr 17, 2027 , 9am - 1pm, 1-Day on ZOOM, **[Register]** $70 for members, $90 for non-members
Shelley Prior –Online Sat, May 22, 2027, 9am - 1pm, 1-Day on ZOOM, **[Register]** $70 for members, $90 for non-members
John Paul Thornton –Online Sat, Jun 19, 2027, 9am - 1pm, 1-Day on ZOOM, **[Register]** $70 for members, $90 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 berevoked. Enroll in workshops online at http://valleywatercolorsociety.org/events. Just select the desired workshop and scroll down to the "Register Now" button

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Member Art News

Deborah Swan-McDonald



Debi received a "Best of Show" award in the Watercolor Society of West Texas. The show is on online though it is not on the website yet: wsstx.org
Her painting, Clouds at the Park, won the award.

Gary Friedman



Gary is proud to announce his inclusion in the 106th Annual National Watercolor Society Exhibition. His painting *'Birdy Creek' was selected by a jury of judges who also granted him the distinguished honor of achieving Signature Status in that organization. Congratulations, Gary!*

Barbara Leitzel

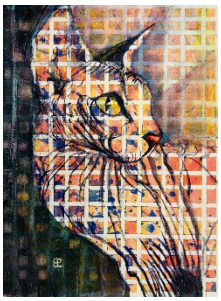


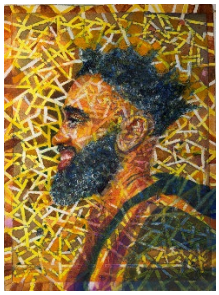


Barbara *has two watercolors*, *The Shoals* and *Maybe*, accepted into 16 and Under: Small-scale Works by Members of the San Diego Museum of Art Artists' Guild. The exhibit will be held at the Shift Gallery, 4847 Newport Avenue, San Diego from Nov 3 – Nov 17. Barbara's painting, *Maybe*, received the award for **Third Place.**

Barbara has three watercolors accepted into the Anaheim Art Association's 62nd Annual Open Juried Art Competition (*Misspoke, Diva, Anthony).* The exhibit will be held at the MuzeO Museum and Cultural Center, 241 S. Anaheim Blvd. from Nov 28- Jan 31. The artists' reception will be on Nov 28 from 4-6 pm.







Jessica Falcone



Allied Artists of the Santa Monica Mountains & Seashores. I am incredibly honored to announce that 4 of my original paintings have been juried into the upcoming Agoura Hills Mayor's Art Show.
EXHIBITION DATES: Nov 5 – Dec 8, 2026, Opening Reception: Nov 5th 5-7pm
LOCATION: Agoura Hills Recreation and Events Center, 29900 Ladyface Ct, Agoura Hills, CA 91301 https://allied-artists.com/



California Art Club Virtual Exhibition I'm thrilled that my painting "Yielding to the Sea" has been juried into the CAC Virtual Exhibition: In the Open Air. **EXHIBITION DATES:** December 4, 2026 – March 1, 2027
https://www.californiaartclub.org/exhibition/in-the-open-air/

Art News Around Town

Call For Entry
October 15-November 15, 2026
www.onlinejuriedshows.com

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 exbibits 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 January 2027 Newsletter

This is a call for your submissions for the January 2027 newsletter: Due on the 20th of December

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/

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/

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

Rosemary Altshuler-RosemaryAltshulerwatercolors.com
Selina Cheng — selinachengart.com
Sue Cohen — suecohenfineart.com
Sylvia Crosbie — SylviaKCrosbie.com
Julie Crouch — juliecrouchart.com
Jessica Falcone —jessicafalcone.com
Gary Friedman — garyfriedmanart.com
Caren J. Gafni — artistcarenjgafni.com
Mardilan Lee Georgio — mardilanleegeorgio.com
Dafna Gilboa — dafnasart.com
Jan Godachy — jangodachy.com
Mallory Greener—slickandslicker.com
Jim Huppenthal—jimhuppenthal.com

Judy Heimlich — judysartstudio.com
Fatemeh Kian-- 14kian.com
Michelene Laski — michreedlaski.artspan.com
Sandra McDuffie —sandramcduffie.net
Midge Reisman – midgereismanart.wixsite.com
Debra Reynolds — debraadamsreynolds.com
Deborah Swan-McDonald — deborahswan-mcdonald.com
Brenda Swenson — swensonsart.net
Mary Zangerle – maryzangerleart.com

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

Newsletter

Visit the Valley Watercolor Society 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*

2026-2027 VWS 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 — Kym Duxbury

Directors

Workshops — Alanna Chandler
Newsletter – Selina Cheng
Parliamentarian — Barbara Leitzel
Hospitality — Debbi Saunders
Student Awards — Dorothy Lee

Committee Chairs

Website — Selina Cheng/Sharon Reeves
Facebook -- Sandra McDuffie
DVD Library Coordinator — Susie Tse
Society Show — Selina Cheng
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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