



#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

Next Board/General Meeting:  
October 7  
Next free public demo:  
October 7  
Next Exhibit: November 22  
Next Workshop: October 4-6

## September/October 2023

### EXHIBIT NEWS

#### Winter Exhibit (title tbd) November 22, 2023 through January 3, 2024

Wilbur May Museum (open Wednesday-Saturday 10am-4pm, Sunday noon-4pm)

Registration deadline November 12th

Take-in Sunday, November 19th 11am-1pm; Take-down January 4th 11am-1pm

Reception during Holiday Brunch on December 2nd 9:30am-12:30pm

Chair: Diane and Reid Sewell; co-chair Marjee Smith.

**ART ANGELS SILENT AUCTION & RAFFLE**, Wilbur D. May Museum,  
Saturday December 3rd through December 10th, with the raffle drawing at noon.

#### 2024

#### McKinley East Gallery exhibit (title tbd) February 19th through April 12th

Registration deadline February 1st

Take-in Thursday, February 8th 9:30am-1pm Artist to pick up work on Tuesday, April 16th 9am-3pm

(McKinley staff to do all hanging and take-down)

Reception is Thursday, March 7th, 5-7pm.

*Chairpersons needed*

#### Downtown Reno Public Library exhibit (title tbd) May 6 through June 21

301 South Center St.

Registration deadline April 28

Take-in Sunday, May 5, 11am-1pm; Take-down Sunday, June 23

Reception date to be determined

*Chairpersons needed*

#### Reno Public Market/Maker's Paradise, Artown exhibit (title tbd) July 1 through July 31

Take-in Sunday June 30; Take-down Thursday, August 1

Registration deadline June 23

Reception is Saturday, July 20, 2-5pm

*Chairpersons needed*

**Fall Exhibit**, Wilbur May Museum, Tentative dates: September 1 through September 29; *Chairpersons needed*

**Winter Exhibit**, Wilbur May Museum, Tentative dates: December – January 2025; *Chairpersons needed*



BANNER artist:  
Sherry Klingensmith "Into the Fire"  
"Community Perspectives" exhibit  
People's Choice award #1



Maria Hatjopoulos "Odeon and George"  
"Community Perspectives" exhibit  
People's Choice award #2

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT - Ronnie Rector

Well, I just wrapped up the September/October newsletter for the Sacramento WASH group and that got me to thinking...I have to provide a President's Message for the SWS group! EGAD.

WASH is very similar to SWS – they are having problems finding volunteers, too. You're aware we must have a Vice President for 2024/2025, right? If we don't, the Sierra Watercolor Society will have to shutter its doors, so to speak. It's the same with our exhibits. If no one steps up to chair an exhibit, it won't happen.

Several members have been filling the same roles for longer than our bi-laws allow, myself included. Anette Rink has been Treasurer going on 4 years now; Vicki Behrens has been Secretary almost 3. Sally DuPre has been our Membership Chair for almost 7 years, with Lynn Schmidt as her sidekick the whole time. Nancy Podewils-Baba has run with the Art Angels program for almost ELEVEN YEARS. We do it because we believe in the value of the Sierra Watercolor Society.

Perhaps it's time for you to step up for the Vice President job. Yes, it's a lot of work, but comes with great perks, and great people to help you.

Oh well, it's a beautiful day outside my office window, with big white thunderheads building up along the west shore again. We've had rain every day for about a week and a half, and it's been great! I love rain, and lightning, and thunder. It's made my neighborhood a greener place, and I've never seen so many sunflowers in Reno!

But seriously. VOLUNTEER!

Rant over. 😊 Ronnie



"Volunteers don't get paid - not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless." Sherry Anderson

### Board Members

President	Ronnie Rector
Vice President	Jennifer Amrhein Anita Watson
Treasurer	Anette Rink
Secretary	Vickie Behrens
Past President/ Advisor	Diane Sewell

### Committee Chairs

Archivist	Vickie Behrens
Art Angels	Nancy Podewils-Baba Linda James
Biographer	Vacant
Challenges	Graciela Mancini James Gayles Vicki Curwen
Community Outreach	Nancy Podewils-Baba
DVD Library	Bess Inouye Sandy Retter
Exhibits Coordinator	Sharon Reed
Facebook/ Instagram	Carolyn Runnells
Hospitality	Fran Johnson
Membership	Sally DuPre Lynn Schmidt
Newsletter	Linda Halicki
Scholarship	Kathryn Dudley
Publicity	Nancy Podewils-Baba
Website	Julene Hunter

# COMMITTEE CHAIR NEWS

**MEMBERSHIP** - Sally Dupre, [sdupre728@gmail.com](mailto:sdupre728@gmail.com) or (775) 232-8362

After July, dues are just \$20 for the rest of the year. To renew or signup your membership, please go to SWS website registration:

[sierrawatercolorsociety.com/membership-info.html](http://sierrawatercolorsociety.com/membership-info.html)

**EXHIBITS** - Sharon Reed [smreedaz@gmail.com](mailto:smreedaz@gmail.com)

**DVD/BOOK LIBRARY** - Bess Inouye, [binouye8@gmail.com](mailto:binouye8@gmail.com)

Current Inventory: 150 DVDs, 66 Books

A successful Book Sale was had at the August General Meeting. Thank you to our kind members for your cooperation and generous donations toward Art Angels.

Newly acquired books to our library include artists David Becker, Cathy Johnson, Shozo Koike, Tom Lynch, Barbara Nechis, Ferdinand Petrie, Susan Webb Tregay, Soon Warren and Cheng Yan. Please see our online list for status on all DVDs and books. Contact Bess through Requests on our SWS Library website or email her directly, [sierrawatercolorsociety.com/library.html](http://sierrawatercolorsociety.com/library.html)

**NEWSLETTER** - Linda Halicki, [halickilinda@gmail.com](mailto:halickilinda@gmail.com)

Please send items for the Nov./Dec. 2023 issue to Linda by **October 20th**. It's helpful to reference "SWS Newsletter" in the subject.

**PUBLICITY** - Nancy Podewils-Baba, [njpodewils@gmail.com](mailto:njpodewils@gmail.com) or (775) 343-8100

I continue to attend the monthly meetings of the Reno Arts Consortium (3rd Thursday morning each month) and to share information about SWS's various activities with representatives of many of the other arts groups. In addition, I post notices on online calendars and contact Double Scoop and Reno Arts News. Since Kris Vagner will be the new Editor for *Reno News & Review*, I will also be sending her notices (well in advance), so they can go into the print editions. For the Artown Exhibit Reception event I was interviewed on *America Matters*. I appreciate that other SWS members also help to spread the word about all the great stuff we are doing, as my circle is far from complete. So, a big "thank you" to all the SWS ambassadors who are getting the word out!

**NANCY'S REPORT** - Nancy Podewils-Baba, [njpodewils@gmail.com](mailto:njpodewils@gmail.com) or (775) 343-8100

**ART ANGELS WORKSHOPS:** We had two Art Angels "Discover Watercolor" workshops for Artown on Friday, July 21st at the Wilbur D. May Museum. We had 37 students for the morning session and 34 students for the afternoon, most of whom had never been to an Art Angels Workshop before! :) Linda James, Vickie Behrens, Laurel Sweigart, Julie Sulharia, and I instructed in the morning; and Linda, Laurel, Alicia Cobb, Graciela Mancini, and Anette Rink instructed in the afternoon. Many thanks to them and to helpers George Baba, Chris Kjaer, Lynn Schmidt, and Lanette VanDeBogart (both sessions) and Anita Watson, Carolyn (Linda's friend), and Jacqueline Sheridan (one session), who made everything go smoothly. We also received \$68 in tips and \$67 in raffle tickets for the art baskets. The feedback from participants was very positive, and several of the students have already registered for the Art Angels Holiday Workshop on December 9. Speaking of which...

*I will need instructors and helpers for that Workshop (9:30-11:30 am, with arrival at 9)* at the Wilbur D. May Museum. George and I will plan to set up the day before. But please let me know if you are available. Thank you!



## COMMITTEE CHAIR NEWS, continued

### NANCY'S REPORT, cont.

CLASSROOM VISITS: I have had several requests for Classroom Visits, but so far only four have been scheduled: December 4, 11, and 18 (all Mondays), 12:30-3:30 p.m. at Poulakidas Elementary (5th grade); and Monday, April 8, 2024 at Hidden Valley Elementary 12-3 p.m. (Kindergarten). I am willing to instruct any or all of these classes, *but will need helpers (or you can instruct and I'll help). Please let me know if/when you are available.* Thank you!

SILENT AUCTION & RAFFLE to Benefit Art Angels: We will again have a Silent Auction and Raffle in December at the Wilbur D. May Museum, to benefit the Art Angels program,. As usual, it will run between the day of our Holiday Brunch (December 2) and the end of the Art Angels Holiday Workshop (December 9) and will need to be covered during Museum hours (Wednesday-Saturday 10-4, Sunday 12- 4). The Raffle consists of paintings donated by our Workshop artists, and we sell Raffle tickets, then draw the winners after the Art Angels Workshop. The Silent Auction consists of small-medium original paintings donated by SWS members, and visitors bid on these paintings. Please consider donating a painting or two to this cause; the painting does not have to be framed, although framed paintings often sell best. You can bring your paintings to the October meeting or to take-in day for the Holiday Exhibit. Please call me (775-343-8100) if you have questions. Thank you!

### ARTOWN EXHIBIT "COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES" AT MAKERS PARADISE REPORT:



Community Perspectives reception

For our Exhibit 26 artists contributed 44 paintings, all dealing with the themes of Community Issues/Challenges, Community Responses, and Community Resources. One painting, "Sky Reflections" by Lisa Jefferson, had sold before the Exhibit was hung; another painting, Lynn Schmidt's "Renewal Beside the Water" sold during the Exhibit. There were not as many comment cards or comments on the sign-in sheet as had been expected, but people generally liked the show or were impressed by specific pieces. There were 33 votes for People's Choice (even though there were more than 33 people who came to see the Exhibit, and Tina encouraged people to vote), with a tie for first place: Sherry Klingensmith's "Into the Fire" and Maria Hatjopoulos's "Odeon George". Congratulations to Lynn, Sherry and Maria!

At the Reception on July 22nd we had most of the artists present, plus about 80-100 people who came to hear the live music: the World Premiere

of "Let's Hope" by Monica Houghton, who said she was inspired by the images of our artwork, especially "Avoided" by Laurel Sweigart and Lisa Jefferson's painting of Lake Tahoe. Musicians Peter Lenz (cello), James Winn (keyboard) and Joshua Anderson (clarinet) played the piece beautifully, with the movements "Abandoned", "Differences" and "Sanctuary"; several people in the audience had tears in their eyes. Our grant application to the Nevada Arts Council—to pay for commissioning the original piece of music reflecting our artwork--was reviewed and received a score high enough to be funded, but the exact allocation has not been determined; disbursement will probably be in September.

There will be an ENCORE of "Let's Hope" at Reno Little Theater, 147 E. Pueblo Street, on Monday, October 23rd, at 7 p.m.--this time with James Winn playing a baby grand piano! In addition, the three musicians will play four other pieces composed by Monica, some of which will have their World Premiere that night! SWS will be able to display our paintings from the "Community Perspectives" Exhibit in the hallway/gallery leading to the performance space. **We will tentatively hang the show that day, October 23, with take-in between 11 and 1 (no fee), but it is possible we can hang the show one week earlier, if RLT's production "A Facility for Living" is not extended.** Stay tuned....

## UPCOMING 2023 WORKSHOP/DEMO ARTIST



October 4-6, Sterling Edwards  
[sterlingedwards.com](http://sterlingedwards.com)

Workshops are held at Reno Public Market, Makers Paradise classroom, 299 Plumb Lane, Suite 155 Reno, NV. Register for workshops online on the Sierra Watercolor Society website at [www.sierrawatercolorsociety.com](http://www.sierrawatercolorsociety.com)

## WORKSHOP & DEMO SCHEDULE

WORKSHOP DATES	FREE DEMO	FEATURED ARTIST	SUBJECT
October 4-6 2023	October 7	Sterling Edwards	Stylized interpretations with watercolor
	January 20 2024	Donna Jeane Koepp	Gouache
March 6 – 8 2024	March 9	Iain Stewart	
May 8 – 10 2024	May 11	Jeanne Vodden	
June 20 – 22 2024		Lisa Jefferson	
August 14 – 16 2024	August 17	Brenda Swenson	
October 16 – 18 2024	October 19	David R. Smith	

# PAINTING CHALLENGES

## October 7th General Meeting “Nightscapes” Challenge

Challenge Chair Graciela Mancini’s description:

What do we see at night? This challenge will bring us to glimpse at the night to create a night-scape.

A night landscape, always mysterious and fascinating brings the challenge of capturing and representing what we can see, how objects come to life in the darkness, changing their shapes and identity as a result of being illuminated or shadowed by other objects (electric bulbs, stars, signs, etc.)

You could choose an interior or exterior night scene, identify the source of light, how it projects on your subject, study how the light modifies the objects and your own space perception, how shadows become objects and objects become shadows.

One of my favorite artists who have done many night scapes is Lars Lerin, you could search and see his work online, observe how he uses the light to give the illusion of darkness.

Summer time is a great time to seat outside and paint a night-scape. Have fun!



Lars Lerin “The Last Light”

**RULES FOR ALL CHALLENGES** (Entries must meet the following Challenge rules exactly - NO EXCEPTIONS):

- In order to be included in the raffle, please sign your painting, or leave your name on the signup sheet.
- Entries must fit the **theme**.
- Entries must be **new**, having been painted specifically for the Challenge.
- Unless your painting will be a sealed painting, entries must be **matted** (no need to be framed).
- You may not enter a challenge painting into a **second** Challenge, even if it fits the theme.

## WORKSHOP ARTIST FEATURED REPORT:

Artist Julie Cohn recently conducted our “The Flow of Watercolor” workshop. As well as being quite an enriching experience, Julie passed on many valuable learning tips regarding:

- Judging paint consistency, and paper wetness - particularly important for wet-into-wet work
- Mixing and use of color
- Choosing color schemes
- Mastering gradations
- Expanding the “watercolor tool set” to form exciting textures, using techniques such as scraping with a credit card, creating intentional blooms, dry brush technique or using fanned out brush bristles to create organic lines
- Bringing luminosity, luster or iridescence to areas of a painting
- Developing design patterns that work
- Transitioning from painting from photos to painting from memory
- Slowing down when needed to help in the development of improvisational skills
- Creating artwork where recognizable objects move beyond



Timeless Miracle

- Drawing from other forms of creativity to synergize with painting - for example, Julie introduced us to her love for music as a guitarist and vocalist



Classroom background music

Julie, what guides you in watercolor painting?

“I love the way watercolor moves. For me, painting is about the conversation I have with this dancing medium. My desire is to respect the properties of watercolor - to guide it gently, let it do what it wants to do, and respond again. This conversation can last a few minutes or for hours at a time. I delve into a trance-like state, stopping only when the passage feels complete. Depending on the size and kind of painting, I usually paint from one to four passages.”

What do you want to offer the artwork viewer?

“I want to give you an opportunity to let art move you to a place that has no words, where you become a part of the artwork, forgetting your daily troubles and concerns. The content of my art is sometimes illusive, mysterious, other times representational and confrontational. As you delve into its depths to feel mystery and power or stay on the surface to enjoy physical beauty, I hope that you will be able to pause and absorb the positive force of creativity to feel a vital connection with the earth and all life.”



Memories that stand out from our Reno workshop?

Julie felt that we were the perfect students! As a group we were enthusiastic about learning and being involved - asking many questions, as well as maintaining an excited sense of humor. We had a nice combination of individual seriousness and dedication along with rapport with each other. Overall, it was a gratifying, worthwhile experience :)

Julie's current endeavors?

“Sustaining” and “Arts” are the two words that embody Julie's life philosophy.

During the beginning stages of the Covid pandemic, just like many of us, she was feeling isolated, spending time with only very few close family members. She created a lot in her studio - painting “sustained” her during those difficult times. She decided to start her Sustaining Arts Gallery (online as well as brick and mortar) because she wanted to extend her awareness of the beauty of art to others and share resources with those who need assistance to make their lives more sustainable. Besides Julie's work, the gallery showcases the art of three other artists of similar philosophy, yet with unique artistic styles of their own.

Julie's “sustainability” concept has extended to encompass the entire globe. How can we keep ourselves healthy on a green planet and happy with beauty around us for many generations to come? Currently 30% of the Sustaining Arts Gallery earnings is donated to Habitat for Humanity. At the gallery website, [sustainingarts.com](https://www.sustainingarts.com) (in the “About” section) Julie is developing a collection of articles addressing this “sustainability” concept. She has also posted a series of Youtube webinars titled “Abstract Art, Behind the Scenes” <https://www.youtube.com/@juliecohn1618/featured>

Thank you, Julie, for your wonderful outlook and ongoing efforts!



# MEMBER NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## TEACHING MEMBERS

**Eileen Fuller** (775) 233-4796  
[eileenfuller@sbcglobal.net](mailto:eileenfuller@sbcglobal.net)

**Tricia Leonard** (925) 640-1156  
[triciastudio@att.net](mailto:triciastudio@att.net)  
[triciastudio.com](http://triciastudio.com)

**Eva Stramer Nichols** (530) 414-1289  
[evanicholsart.com](http://evanicholsart.com)

**Colleen Reynolds** (775) 461-0846  
[colleenreynoldsartist@gmail.com](mailto:colleenreynoldsartist@gmail.com)  
[colleenreynolds.com](http://colleenreynolds.com)

**CALL TO ARTISTS!** Latimer Art Club and Artists Co-op invite you to enter the 16th annual Statewide Miniature show.

Entry deadline is 9-22, up to 4 pieces (with delivery by 9-27.)! Judge Charles Meunch, cash prizes, great sales! Try your hand at other mediums even, in an image that if 5" x 7" or 6" x 6" or smaller!

Go check out <http://www.latimerartclub.com> and find the details and entry form for "The GREAT West!"



Nevada Humanities Organization has chosen Valerie Cohen's painting, "Juniperus occidentalis," to appear in their postcards and many other promotional materials, to celebrate Nevada Day.

Join us at the Artists Co-op

75 at 75

Eileen Fuller

September 1 - 26, 2023  
Opening Reception  
Sunday, September 3 12-4 pm  
Guest Artist Sandra Burke

As ACR member Eileen Fuller celebrates her "birthday month" with 75 paintings, she is getting help with her "count" from artist friends she has painted with over the years! Guests helping her with her count are: Vicki Curwen, Kathryn Dudley, Leslie Kuhn, Carmen Lucero, Ronnie Rector and Kay Tietz. There will be a Special Heritage Wall for work from the Estate of Larry Jacox.

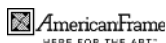
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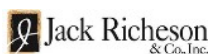
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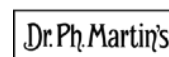
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## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
10/4 - 10/6/23	9:00am - 4:00pm	Sterling Edwards workshop	Reno Public Market, Makers Paradise classroom, 299 Plumb Lane, Suite 155 Reno
10/7/23	9:45 - 11:00am 11am - Noon	Board Meeting General Meeting	Reno Public Market, Makers Paradise classroom, 299 Plumb Lane, Suite 155 Reno
10/7/23	1pm - 3pm	Sterling Edwards demo	Reno Public Market, Makers Paradise classroom, 299 Plumb Lane, Suite 155 Reno
12/2/23	10am - noon	🌲 Holiday brunch 🌲	May Museum, Rancho San Rafael