

Brush Strokes

Volume 40, Number 1

www.minnesotawatercolors.com

Jan/Feb 2020

January Meeting

Charlotte Laxen –Watercolor on a new surface –Canvas!

Thursday, January 9th at 7 pm

Christ Presbyterian Church, 6901 Normandale Road, Edina, MN 55435

Charlotte Laxen fell in love with watercolor over 30 years ago, and she is unafraid to experiment. Recently she found a new surface to use watercolor on—canvas! Her discovery resulted from a collaborative project between artists using many different mediums. Charlotte needed a surface that could be used by any of the artists in their chosen medium. An All-Wet-Media canvas was the perfect solution—and also opened up a whole new experience painting with watercolor.

Charlotte notes that a canvas surface gives different effects when used with watercolor. Notably, the colors remain very vivid. Working with this surface requires a slightly different technique. The colors float, rather than penetrate the surface, leading to new possibilities.

Charlotte leads workshops and private lessons from her home studio near the Twin Cities. She is an accomplished watercolor artist and teacher with over 30 years of experience.

CharlotteLaxen.com



Charlotte Laxen



"Royalty"



"Lavender Landscape"



"Nature's Cathedral"

February Meeting

Marilyn Garber, Botanical Arts –Drawing in Watercolor

Thursday, February 13th at 7 pm

Christ Presbyterian Church, 6901 Normandale Road, Edina, MN 55435

Marilyn Garber has a passion for plants, finding them beautiful and infinitely interesting. This led to her work as a botanical artist, teacher, and in 2001, founder of the Minnesota School of Botanical Art. When thinking of drawing, most people think of pens and pencils. Watercolor in botanical art is used in a way that may seem unusual—watercolor paint is used to draw. Color is built up in many layers, and is excellent at capturing subtleties. Botanical art is valued for its beauty, but also for its scientific accuracy. This art form documents the plants of our place and time, allowing nature to be explored in detail.

Marilyn has exhibited her work internationally at the Royal Horticultural Society in London, The Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama, Brooklyn Botanical Gardens in New York, The Queen Sirikit Botanic Garden in Thailand, St Paul Science Museum of MN, The Bell Museum of Natural History in St Paul, and many others. She is an ardent supporter of the American Society of Botanical Artists (ASBA), having served as President, Vice President, and co-chair of the Education Committee. She is founder of the MN chapter, Great River Chapter of ASBA (2005) and the Eloise Butler Wildflower Florilegium (2010). She and her students have worked with Dr. George Weiblen, University of MN, to illustrate new-to-science plants from Papua, New Guinea.

<http://www.grcbotanicalartists.org/page-1725065>



Marilyn Garber



"N-T-S Paupua New Guinea"



"Yellow Lady's Slipper"

From the President

Hello Artist Friends and Members!

I was looking at a watercolor magazine, and my attention was caught by an article titled, "Debunking the 'Loose is Better' Myth" by artist Gerald Brommer. This caught my attention because I always tell myself I need to paint more loosely. I am what is considered a tight painter – I like putting a lot of detail in my paintings.

What I liked about the short article was the thought that neither a loose nor tight painting in watercolor is right or wrong. You can have a good 'loose' watercolor painting and you can have a good 'tight' watercolor painting. It comes down to how you like to paint.

That started me thinking about how important it is to embrace our own painting styles, and enjoy those of others in all their diversity – tight or loose painting, abstract or realistic, whimsical or practical. We are all drawn to express in our own individual, unique way.

As we grow as artists we can still try new styles, techniques, and subjects. We might even find that our styles change. My list continues to grow of different things I want to try that have been introduced by other artists. I still have not tried using gouache, pouring paint, using stencils in my paintings, or doing an abstract painting to name a few.

I hope you take the opportunity to try new things you are learning through the Minnesota Watercolor Society. If you are still 'finding your style' it is a great way to do it. If you have already found your style, trying some new things could enhance it.

Overall have fun in your painting journey!

Carol



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Minnesota Watercolor Society

Plan ahead for this exciting 5 day workshop

Fall 2020 workshop Chaos to Order



"Chaos to Order" workshop with Master Artist Kathleen Conover

MN Watercolor Society 5-Day Fall Workshop: Tuesday, November 10 through Saturday, November 14, 2020
9 am - 4 pm at the Ames Center, 12600 Nicollet Avenue, Burnsville, MN 55337

The Minnesota Watercolor Society will host internationally acclaimed artist Kathleen Conover's popular workshop, Chaos to Order, November 10-14, 2020 at the Ames Center in Burnsville. Kathleen says "starting a painting with color, texture, gestural marks and layers is FUN. The freedom of the resulting 'chaos' delivers vital intuitive energy, which when paired with sound design and composition bring 'order' to this rich start." Whether you are a beginning or established painter, you'll enjoy this immersive opportunity to develop attention-getting and expressive paintings.

Master artist John Salminen notes, "Kathleen is one of those rare artists who can teach great technique and design, and also help students recognize and nurture their unique style." Kathleen creates and teaches with keen observation, deep personal reflection, and openness to subject matter. Her award-winning work, unique vision, innovative techniques, and fearless expression have won her national and international acclaim.

Registration for this workshop is online only at: <http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com/event/kathleen-conover-workshop/>
Questions: Email Sonja at sonjahutchinson.art@gmail.com or Tara at tarasweeneyart@gmail.com

The MNWS Fall Exhibition 2020 will be at the White Bear Lake Center for the Arts. Dates: September 17 – October 15. Registration: July 16 – August 20, 2020. This is a non-juried show open to all active members who have paid dues through May 31, 2021. Artists of all skill levels may submit one painting. The first 70 paid entries will be accepted. The \$30 fee is non-refundable. More information will be on the website soon. Send your questions to Janet Bates at mnwsfallshow@gmail.com

Four Day Spring Workshop

Minnesota Watercolor Society and the Minnetonka Center for the Arts are thrilled to co-host master artist Jeannie McGuire’s Figurative Design workshop featuring her unique projects and experimental approach. You’ll be invited to: imagine a story, character and persona of people in reference photos; find a signature style; strengthen drawing and painting skills; discover the freedom of an intuitive approach as you create memorable paintings. You’ll explore: the interplay between figurative subject(s) and backgrounds, natural design in reference materials, cropping impact, pigment maintenance, high ratio of pigment to water, intentional and spontaneous marks, use of titanium white, and the freedom to change your mind. Each day begins with a project-specific demo: unconventional exploration of eyes and faces; single-figure focus with nonspecific background; integrating figurative grouping with background elements. Artists receive lots of personal attention and plenty of painting time.



“Observer”

In order to fairly distribute half of the available spots to MN Watercolor Society members and half to Minnetonka Center for the Arts member’s application is by lottery only for members of either organization. See details at right.

2020 Spring Jeannie McGuire Workshop
Figurative Design
Tuesday, April 14th through Friday, 17th 2020
Minnetonka Center for the Arts
2240 North Shore Drive, Wayzata, MN 55391

Minnesota Watercolor Society

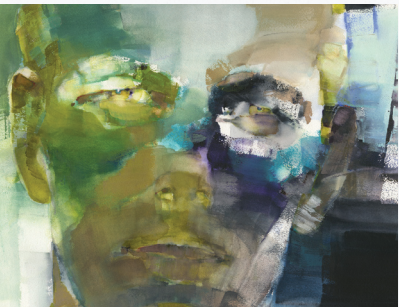
*Allow your unique style to emerge with a different perspective
exploring a freer application of watercolor at this workshop.*



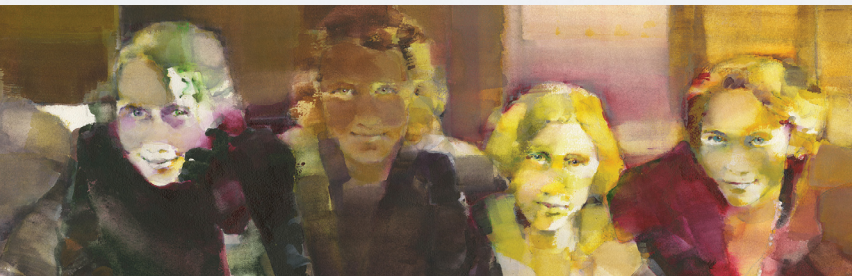
“Tiny Dancer”



“NYC”



“Resolved”



“Eastward” detail

The MN Watercolor Society and the Minnetonka Center for the Arts Spring 2020 Workshop
“Figurative Design With Watercolor” with Jeannie McGuire: Four Day Workshop \$525
April 14–17, 2020 from 9 am to 4 pm at the Minnetonka Center for the Arts
Lottery application are through the Minnetonka Center for the Arts
Application must be received by midnight, January 26, 2020, when lottery closes
Lottery results will be emailed or phoned January 27, 2020

Lottery Application for Jeannie McGuire 4 Day Workshop Please Print /Copy or cut this form
Application is by lottery for MN Watercolor Society (MNWS) and Minnetonka Center for the Arts (MCFTA) members only

Name _____

I am applying for the lottery as a: ☐ MNWS Member ☐ MCFTA Member

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ - _____ Email _____

DEPOSIT: ☐ \$100 Deposit must be included to secure a spot in the Lottery, deposit refunded if application is not drawn.
2ND PAYMENT: \$425 due in full upon winning and acceptance by credit card or by check to MCFTA by February 3, 2020
If chosen and payment is not received by February 3, 2020 your spot will be offered to the next applicant drawn.
WITHDRAWAL FEES after Registration: Before Feb 9th, \$100 • Feb 10th to March 1st, \$260 • After March 1st, \$525
Registration can be completed in one of the following ways:
EMAIL Registration: registration@minnetonkaarts.org
TELEPHONE Registration at MCFTA: With credit card 952.473.7361 ext. 160
US MAIL Registration: Checks only. Send this completed form to: MCFTA, 2240 North Shore Drive, Wayzata, MN 55391
Questions? Email **Sonja Hutchinson** at sonjahutchinson@mchsi.com or Tara Sweeney at tarasweeneyart@gmail.com

Spring Show

Minnesota Watercolor Society

Mark this event on your calendar and join us for the Spring Show at the Minnetonka Center for the Arts.

SPRING INCLINATIONS

Inclination /,ɪnkləˈnāSH(ə)

n/: inclination; plural noun: inclinations

1. a person's natural tendency or urge to act or feel in a particular way; a disposition or propensity.
– an interest in or liking for (something).

As springtime brings the promise of new life and an awakening of the senses from the cold Minnesota winters, our art can awaken emotions and touch the soul. Whether it is a brooding portrait, or a beautiful scene, powerful art evokes an emotional response.



Best of Show 2019 MNWS Spring Show "Tea Birds", by Julie Allen

2020 Spring Juried Exhibition

SPRING INCLINATIONS

Friday, April 17th – Friday, May 15th

Minnetonka Center for the Arts

2240 North Shore Drive, Wayzata, MN 55391

SUBMISSION OF ART for selection from Thursday, Jan., 2nd to Tuesday, March 10th, 2020

ACCEPTED PAINTINGS posted on MNWS website on Monday, March 23rd

DROP OFF PAINTINGS Saturday, April 11th, 10 am – 2 pm, no late drop-offs accepted

PAINTINGS ACCEPTED Monday, March 23rd on minnesotawatercolors.com

HANG SHOW Wednesday, April 15th, 9 am – 1 pm

OPENING RECEPTION is Friday, April 17th, 6 pm – 8:30 pm

AWARDS PRESENTATION Friday, April 17th, by Jeannie McGuire at 7 pm

PICK UP PAINTINGS Saturday, May 16th 10 am – 1 pm, no late pick-ups allowed

Pittsburgh-based artist Jeannie McGuire will select and judge the paintings accepted into the MNWS 2020 Spring Exhibition. Ms. McGuire's works have been displayed and awarded on an International level including invitational exhibitions in the USA, China, France and Italy and a feature exhibition in the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art in Eugene Oregon, as well as represented in numerous art magazines. McGuire further dedicates herself to her craft by instructing figurative design watercolor workshops in an effort to encourage fellow artists. Professional organizations include the American Watercolor Society, Pittsburgh Watercolor Society and various small groups of collaborative artists.

MNWS Artists may submit up to two paintings starting Thursday, January 2nd to Tuesday, March 10th, 2020. This juried show is open to all MNWS members who have paid their dues through April 30, 2020. If you are not currently a member of the society, you can join when you submit your painting(s). Each member may enter up to two paintings. The entry fee is \$30 for the first painting and \$5 for the second entry. Entry fees are not refundable.

Complete exhibition rules and entry information:

<http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com/springexhibition/>

Questions: Spring Exhibit Co-Chairs Missy Moore and Diane Pearson Email: mnwsspringartshow@gmail.com
Please include contact information.



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*"To further the development of the
watercolor artist by providing a
supportive environment with education,
exhibition opportunities, promotion
of public appreciation and
greater visibility of the art."*

Minnesota Watercolor Society Mission Statement

*To become a member of the MNWS please visit our website at
<http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com/join/>*

MNWS CALENDAR

WELCOME!

MNWS **New Members**

Kim Mackenzie
Judith Anderson
Deb Zeller
Christine Rieffer
Jennifer Robey
Yvonne Foster
John Bergstad
Sandra Cowing
Susanne Johnson
Lisabeth Joy
Barbara Hubbard
Susan Zuelke
Mary & Jim Sauter
Wrenetta Dietz
We have 316 current
paid members

Programs are held the second Thursday of the month at 7 pm September–May only. Usually at Christ Presbyterian Church, 6801 Normandale Road, Edina, MN (Corner of 70th Street and Highway 100) Check our website for locations that may vary.

January 9th, Thursday	February 13th, Thursday	March 12th, Thursday	April 17th, Friday
Demo Artist: Charlotte Laxen	Demo Artist: Marilyn Garber	Demo Artist: Lisa Fertig	Spring Show Reception

MEMBER HAPPENINGS

Check our facebook page for more member happenings at www.facebook.com/groups/MinnesotaWatercolors



People's Choice Award
"Tickled Pink" by Erin Burton
Congratulations Erin for receiving the most votes at the 2019 MNWS Fall Exhibition!

Lifetime Members Pin
A lifetime member is a MNWS artist who has been a member of MNWS for 20 consecutive



years. Lifetime artists will continue to enjoy the benefits of MNWS with dues being waived. The board has voted to present pewter lapel pins for all past and future lifetime members. 39 Lifetime members will be honored in the coming year. Presentations will be at the May 2020 MNWS meeting.

NorthStar Watermedia Society News

*Meeting on the third Thursday of most
months at 7pm in the
Rose Room, Roseville Skating Center,
2661 Civic Center Drive
Roseville, MN 55113*

Guests are welcome.

**Jan 16: Demos by Four Artists
and Paint-in**

**Feb 20: Demo Artist Dan Mondloch
Transparent Watercolor**

<http://northstarwatermedia.com/>