

# Brush Strokes

Nov/Dec 2020

www.minnesotawatercolors.com

Volume 41, Number 6

## November Meeting

### Tara Sweeney's Fun Watercolor and Ink

Thursday, November 12th at 7 pm Online Demonstration

See MNWS website or MNWS Facebook for connection details



We all know that watercolor can be challenging. But do you think of it as being playful—and fun?

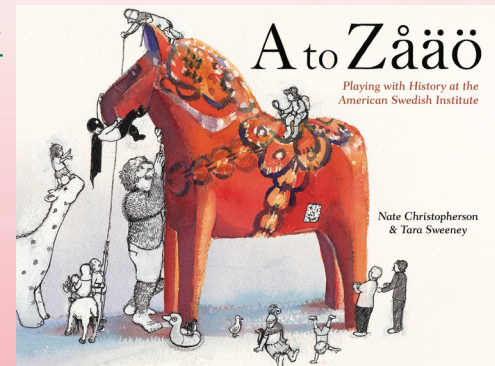
Whoa--Game Changer.

Tara Sweeney believes play is essential to nurturing creativity and will demonstrate how she plays with direct observation and imagination using ink and watercolor. "When I play, I open up my heart and mind to make connections I might miss if I'm trying too hard," she says. "It's where my most original work comes from." She is an accomplished

watercolorist known for her award-winning portraiture and her ink and watercolor illustrations. Tara and her son, Nate Christopherson, co-authored and co-illustrated the MN Book Award Finalist picture book, "A to Zåäö: Playing with History at the American Swedish Institute" (U of MN Press, 2019). Their playful illustrations of objects in The American Swedish Institute's collection are the inspiration for the exhibit, "Extra/Ordinary," which features the original illustrations. The exhibit is on view by timed reservation until January 29th, 2020.

*Tara holds signature status in the MN Watercolor Society and National Watercolor Society. "Close to Home: Sketching a Minnesota Year" is her debut collection of illustrated creative non-fiction. TPT2 public television's MN Original recently showcased her work. Her popular watercolor workshops and classes are available locally at Wet Paint and ASI as well as regionally with Dillman's, Peninsula School of the Arts and Grand Marais Art Colony. She is professor emeritus with Augsburg University, where she taught drawing and painting for 25 years. She began her creative practice in publication and book design, earning degrees in textile design and studio art from the University of WI and an MFA from Minnesota College of Art and Design (MCAD). Coursework at the West Surry College of Art and Design, UK inspired her lifelong love of watercolor.*

For a complete listing of her Tara's art please visit [tarasweeneyart.com](http://tarasweeneyart.com)  
Follow Tara's recent work on Instagram @tarasweeneyart



**"Collaborative Book Cover"** watercolor and ink by Tara Sweeney



**"Mr C. Retires"** watercolor and ink by Tara Sweeney



**"Castle in the City"** watercolor by Tara Sweeney



## From the President

### Hello Artist Friends and Members!

It is hard to believe that at the time I write this letter, we are nearing Halloween, and then Thanksgiving and Christmas. I love the smells, the colors, and the people the holidays are shared with, and the memories that make up these holidays. This year will certainly have some differences due to the virus. Hopefully we will still be able to share in some form the upcoming holidays with the people we love, and create new memories.

At this time of year I am inspired to draw and paint subjects that reflect the season and holidays. It lifts my spirit and brings me joy. I love the colors...oranges, browns, golds, reds, and greens. This is the time of year I am outside taking many, many photos to use as references for paintings. This is the time of year when I also find myself drawing more simple and symbolic compositions that become designs for greeting cards to send to brighten someone's day.

Our monthly mini-shows have moved to online. At the beginning of each month, an e-mail is sent to all current members letting them know how to submit for that month's mini-show. I hope to submit a couple of my holiday inspired paintings for the upcoming mini-shows. Maybe a few of you will also be inspired by the season to submit a painting.

At this time we are looking forward to more online monthly artist demonstrations and the 2021 spring show. To keep everyone safe, we are still not meeting in person at this time. We look forward to the time when we will be able to meet in person again. Please refer to the Minnesota Watercolor society website for ongoing information, and we will also continue to communicate to members via e-mail.

I wish all of you the best during the upcoming holidays in this challenging time. Stay healthy and when you can, immerse yourself in your creative spirit, and draw and paint!

Carol



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## Minnesota Watercolor Society

Plan to Attend our Online Demonstrations

## December Meeting

### Andy Evansen Demonstrates Planning Paintings with Value Studies

Thursday, December 10th at 7pm  
Online Demonstration

See MNWS website or MNWS Facebook  
for connection details

Andy began painting watercolors in the mid 1990s as a change of pace from his career as a medical illustrator. His work gained recognition after winning an international watercolor competition through American Artist magazine, appearing on their cover in 2005. He's been featured in numerous other publications since, and has become a sought-after workshop instructor who paints and teaches internationally. He became a signature member of the prestigious Plein Air Painters of America (PAPA) in 2012 and served as their President from 2015-2017.

His paintings have won numerous awards, including the Bronze and High Winds Medals from the American Watercolor Society.

His love of painting on location also led to him being a featured presenter at the 2014 and 2016 Plein Air Conventions and inclusion in the 2017 Qingdao International Masters Watercolor Plein Air Event.

You can view his work at [www.EvensenArtStudio.com](http://www.EvensenArtStudio.com)



"At the Rail Crossing:" by Andy Evansen



"Cold Fog in Vermillion" by Andy Evansen



# Show Awards

Thank you to the Fall Exhibition Juror, Cris Franchevich. You can explore her work at <https://crisfranchevich.com/>  
A big shout out to the White Bear Center for the Arts for hosting our exhibition. They were so helpful with the online show.  
<https://whitebeararts.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Splash-Catalog.pdf>

## Best of Show

*"First Sip" by Tara Sweeney*



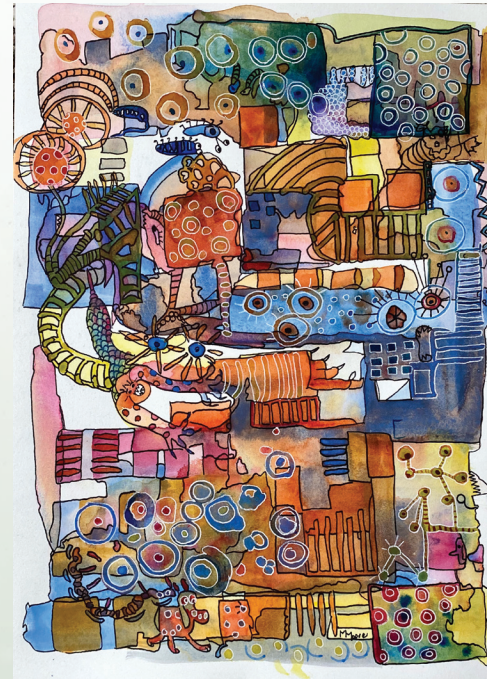
## Emerich Stordahl Founders

*"Feeling Blue" by Sue Olson*



## Honorable Mentions

*"Doodle" by Missy Moore*



*"Minnehaha Falls" by Karen Stuhlfeier*



*"Tinker Tot Drive In" by Karlyn Eckman*



The Splash! online show had a cumulative 15,545 views, including about 8,500 from the Facebook gallery alone and another 1,400 views for the award ceremony video between all the platforms.

## First Honors

*"Undulation" by Anne Legeros*



## Second Honors

*"Winter Ice" by Heidi Nelson*



## Third Honors

*"Rusted Out" by Stephen Lackore*



Thank you to all the artists who entered the show. I would also like to thank Kelly Kastner for her support and the White Bear Center for the Arts for sponsoring the show.

Janet Bates,  
MNWS Fall Exhibition Chair

## Merit Awards

*"Orchid Study" by Lucy LeMay*



This year's show debuted on September 17th online at the White Bear Center for the Arts and closed on October 15, 2020.

*"Balboa Island Boats II" by Mary Deziel*



# 2020 Fall Juried Exhibition SPLASH!





*Best in Show, Inclinations 2020*  
Suzanne Shaff "Self Portrait in Green Silk Shirt"

**Chroma!** noun *chro-ma* | \ 'krō-ma \

1. Saturation
2. A quality of color combining hue and saturation
3. Purity and intensity of color

#### Exhibition Time Line

**Submission period opens:**  
Saturday, January 9th, 2021

**Submission period closes:**  
Friday, February 5th

**Accepted work posted on website:**  
Monday, March 1st

**Drop off work at Arboretum:**  
Monday, March 15th, 11am -2pm

**Hang show:**  
Tuesday, March 16th

**Opening of show:**  
Thursday, March 18th, 6 - 8:30pm  
Awards at 7pm

**Show closes:**  
Friday, April 16th

**Pick up work - No Late Pick Ups:**  
Saturday, April 17th, 11am - 2pm

**This show may be virtual only  
depending on the Covid situation.**

## Carl Oltvedt will judge the paintings to be accepted into the MNWS 2021 Spring Chroma! Exhibition.

As we turn the corner on 2020 let's look ahead to our 2021 MNWS juried spring show, Chroma! It is scheduled for the Reedy Art Gallery at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Our juror, Carl Oltvedt will be deciding which pieces will be included. We have the following scheduled but please keep in mind we may need to switch to an all virtual show. Let us hope for the best! Complete exhibition rules and entry information:  
<http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com/springexhibition/>

Our spring juried show, "Chroma!" is open to all MNWS members who have paid their dues through May 31, 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. If a member's painting is selected for the show, they will receive a complimentary pass for the Arboretum while the exhibit is on display. Please Note that the Arboretum retains 50% sales commission when setting the price for your painting.

*Carl Oltvedt is working as an artist full-time, following his retirement as a Professor in the School of Visual Arts at Minnesota State University Moorhead. He has worked as a guest artist in regional schools as well as abroad at the Glasgow School of Art and Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art in Scotland. Oltvedt's paintings and drawings are included in the permanent collections of the Rourke Art Museum, Plains Art Museum, Honolulu Academy of Arts, North Dakota Museum of Art, Minneapolis Institute of Arts and Minnesota Historical Society. He received a Minnesota State Arts Board Artist Fellowship in 1991, a Lake Region Arts Council/McKnight Fellowship in 2002, and a Minnesota State Arts Board Artist Initiative Grant for fiscal year 2014. He is represented by Groveland Gallery in Mpls., MN, and Underbrush Gallery, Fargo, ND.*

**Questions:** Spring Exhibit Co-Chairs Missy Moore and Diane Pearson  
Email: [mnwsspringartshow@gmail.com](mailto:mnwsspringartshow@gmail.com) Please include contact information.

# Chroma!

## 2021 Spring Juried Exhibition

### Thursday, March 18th – Friday, April 16th

*Reedy Art Gallery at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum  
3675 Arboretum Drive, Chaska MN 55318*

# Minnesota Watercolor Society

*Board Positions open. We hope to be hearing from you!*

## Board Opportunities Available

*Hello Minnesota Watercolor Society Members. We have open board positions available now and in the near future. Please consider reaching out to me or one of the board members if you are interested in any of these positions, or would like more information. Positions can be two people as co-chairs. Below is listed the position, the current board member(s), when the position will become available, and a quote from the board member on the why they enjoyed serving on the board.*

**Vice President** Vic Perlbachs: Position available January 2021. "I enjoy being on the Board because I get to work with a group of artists that are kind, supportive and love what they do to make the Society better."

**Secretary** Carol Larson: Position available January 2021. "Serving on the Board of the MNWS has been a pleasure, especially getting to know other talented members, not only as artists but as good stewards of our Society. It has been a rewarding experience and I encourage other members to volunteer – you won't be sorry!"

**Fall Exhibition Chair** Janet Bates: See below.\*

"Being the Fall Show Chair was a tremendous opportunity to meet and get to know several members of the MNWS. A few I now consider friends and mentors."

**Spring Exhibition Chair** Missy Moore and Diane Pearson: Position will become available after spring show in April 2021. "It is a wonderful opportunity to meet artists and give back to our organization." (Missy Moore)  
"The MNWS Spring Show Chair is a fun board position where you will meet many local artists." (Diane Pearson)

**Programs Chair** Elizabeth Franklin and Marietta Turner: Position will be available September 2021.

"If there is anyone who would enjoy moving into this role, (or if you know anyone who would enjoy the opportunity) we would love to talk with you! It's been an incredible experience to work with artists we admire, and we would be happy to share our experience with anyone stepping into the role."

**Publicity** Kelly Kastner: Co-Chair position with Kelly available immediately with primary focus on Facebook. However, could also include other social media.

## SPLASH! People's Choice Award

### Missy Moore "Doodles"

Congratulations to Missy Moore for being selected as the Splash! 2020 People's Choice award winner. Thanks to everyone who voted.

\*Planning is already underway for next year's Fall Member Exhibition. Contact Janet at [mnwsfallshow@gmail.com](mailto:mnwsfallshow@gmail.com) if you are willing to co-chair for 2021 and move into the chair position for 2022. One or more volunteers are needed to keep this popular MNWS annual event part of the program in the future.



"Doodle" by Missy Moore





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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**

Rita Maehling  
Barbara Edwards Jolly  
Kathryn Kleiter

**We have 261 current  
paid members**

Check our facebook page for  
more member happenings at

[www.facebook.com/groups/  
MinnesotaWatercolors](https://www.facebook.com/groups/MinnesotaWatercolors)

Programs are held the second Thursday of the month at 7 pm September–May only.  
Usually at Christ Presbyterian Church, 6901 Normandale Road, Edina, MN 55435  
(Corner of 70th Street and Highway 100) Check our website for locations that may vary.

*Due to Covid-19 in-person meetings temporarily cancelled, be watching our website for more information.*

### **November 12th, Thursday**

Demo Artist: Tara Sweeney  
Fun Watercolor and Ink

### **December 10th, Thursday**

Demo Artist: Andy Evansen  
Value Planning

### **NorthStar Watermedia Society Meetings**

*Meetings are held on the third Thursday of most months at 7pm. Due to the COVID-19 Virus in-person meetings have been cancelled until further notice, however virtual demonstrations are being planned.*

### **National Juried Exhibition**

Oct 2 - Nov 13 at the  
Wildwood Library in  
Mahtomedi.

Due to COVID-19  
precautions, there will not  
be an in-person Artists'  
Reception and Awards

Ceremony. A virtual  
showing of all accepted  
paintings and award  
winners, with juror Nicole  
Watson's comments are on  
the NSWS website.

• **Nov 19: Demo Artist**  
**Paul Oman Online**

• **Dec 17: Demo Artist**  
**David Smith**

• **David Smith Workshop**  
Jan 13-16, 2021  
\$240 registration fee  
Register and pay online at:  
<http://northstarwatermedia.com/>