

Brush Strokes

Volume 42, Number 3

www.minnesotawatercolors.com

May/June 2021

Pam Luer Demonstrates her Nature Sketchbooks

Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 7pm

Online live, watch your email for login information



Pam Luer's Nature sketchbooks are things of beauty. Her finely drawn nature themes nestle within loose backgrounds amid washes of textured color. These sketchbooks are jewel-like works of art.

But that's not how she thinks of them.

Pam likes to treat her sketchbook as a workbook, instead of a polished piece of art. She feels practice is the way to use art tools to create something beautiful. Her work combines a nature-inspired focal point, on a background of colorful patterns

or grids. She likes working within a hierarchy of highly detailed areas, to loose areas of pattern, repetition, and color. Pam has a respect for botanical art, and it's highly detailed images; for her, it is important to have some areas tightly rendered, and others loose, so the viewer gets to fill in the blanks.

While the pages of her finished sketchbooks read together as a cohesive whole, it comes about by a process. If a page isn't working, she may push it back under a layer of gouache, and let it rest before working on it again. She says the most important part of her sketchbook practice is to be still, observe, look for shapes, and let go of any preconceived images. Being present to what is in front of you, results in becoming better at seeing.

Pam often works in mixed media. She works outdoors and has developed solutions for keeping the supplies she needs within reach. She enjoys creating in ink, graphite, colored pencil, watercolor, and gouache. Whichever media she uses, Pam finds that her work has to include a lot of water, and chooses her notebooks accordingly.

Pam grew up in Waukesha, WI. She was inspired by the strong arts program and guidance of her teachers there. She holds a BFA from the University of Minnesota, specializing in painting. Pam has worked as a Graphic Designer, Instructor, and as a Visual Artist in the Twin Cities. She teaches sketchbook workshops both nationally and in the Twin Cities at the MN Landscape Arboretum. For the past eight years, she has led a book club in Hopkins, MN discussing books about art. (Artful Book Club at www.artfulbookclub.com). For more information about Pam, or her upcoming workshops at the Arboretum (July 28th, 2021), Dillmans Resort (Aug. 30-Sept. 2, 2021), and Mendocino California Botanical Gardens (Date TBA), please visit www.pamluer.com

"Book Five Forest Floor Blue Feather" by Pam Luer



May Meeting



"Cinque Terre Italy" by Pam Luer



"Italy Pink House" by Pam Luer



"Ruby Bouquet" by Pam Luer

From the President

Hello Members of the Watercolor Society!

As this is my first communication to you all, I want to introduce myself. I am an Architect and have managed a small Minneapolis Architectural firm for the last 35 years. I use pencil and markers to freehand sketch and detail buildings, so drawing has always been a part of my life. My journey in watercolor began 20 years ago when I saw a book of watercolors of the bridges across the Minnehaha Creek done by fellow Architect Vic Gilbertson. I was inspired to take a Saturday class from Marian Alstad at the Edina Art Center, and I haven't looked back since. I have a studio space in my home and I try to paint two or three times a week. I also paint with a group of artist friends once a week. Being able to support and critique each others work is enjoyable. As hard as I try to stay away from painting architecture, I find comfort in a landscape with some type of structure as a part of it.

I look forward to working with the Board and I hope that I can do as good a job at being President as Carol Wingard did. My year as Vice President prepared me because I shadowed her and learned so much. Thank you, Carol!

As you are reading this the Spring Exhibition CHROMA! has finished its run and we look forward to the Fall Members Exhibition "Lost in Paint", hoping that it will be an in-person event in October. The Board is keeping in contact with our meeting space provider, Christ Presbyterian Church, to see if they will open their spaces to outside groups in the fall, and what the limitations will be. We hope to be able to offer in-person/ zoom meetings which will be a step forward to a more normal time.

In case you haven't heard, this spring the Member's Day event would have taken place but we have postponed it until 2022 due to pandemic limitations.

Please continue to refer to our website and social media and the newsletter for virtual demos and workshop opportunities throughout the summer. Keep on painting,



Vic Perlbachs
President MNWS

MINNESOTA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

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vperlbachs@gmail.com

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cjwin48@hotmail.com

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Hospitality: Open position, please apply to any board member.

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MNWS BRUSH STROKES NEWSLETTER

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Website: www.minnesotawatercolors.com

www.facebook.com/groups/MinnesotaWatercolors/

Minnesota Watercolor Society

Contact Sonja at sonjahutchinson.art@gmail.com
or Nancy Webert, nwebert99@gmail.com

2021 Summer Virtual Workshop Quick Sketch Portraits with Pam Wenger Tuesday, August 24 and Wednesday August 25, 2021



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION:

Learn to paint portraits in watercolor in a spontaneous style that involves minimal layering and the use of transparent colors.

Painting portraits in watercolor can seem like a daunting task, but many of us can't resist the urge to try it. We may have a loved one who we'd like to paint or we may simply be drawn to the challenge of capturing an interesting character on paper. It's so easy to "tighten up" our portrait paintings because of our focus on "getting it right". In this two day workshop we will focus on loosening up the portrait painting process and work to achieve a more relaxed look that highlights the beauty and freshness of the watercolor medium.

The 2 day format of the workshop will give us time to practice the techniques we are exploring. The references we'll be working with will cover a range of ages and skin tones. This workshop will be a combination of demo and hands-on portrait work. Students should be comfortable with painting in watercolor, but do not need to have experience with portrait painting.

WORKSHOP DATES AND TIMES:

Tuesday August 24 - Wednesday August 25, 2021 from 9-2:30 CDT. Zoom format.

REGISTRATION:

Class size is limited to the first 16 to register. Registrations are due by Tuesday, July 20. Registration and payment via PayPal at www.minnesotawatercolors.com/workshops.

Be sure to register with your correct Summer mailing address.

REGISTRATION FEE: \$130 for members, \$155 for non-members to be paid in full at time of registration. Cancellations prior to July 20 will be assessed a \$25 fee. After July 20 refunds will not be offered.

A workshop packet with pre drawn portraits, printed photo references, small paint samples and the supply list will be mailed after registration closes.

BIO: *Pam is a retired teacher who has always been drawn to portraits and figurative work. Her work has won awards in National and Local shows, which along with her art can be viewed on her social media outlets here:*
www.pamwenger.com , <https://www.facebook.com/pamwengerwatercolor/>, <https://www.instagram.com/pwenger32>

Spring Show Awards

Best of Show

Anne Legeros "Gentle Winds are Blowing"



Emerich Stordahl Founders

Darlene Mowry "Fragrant Beauty"



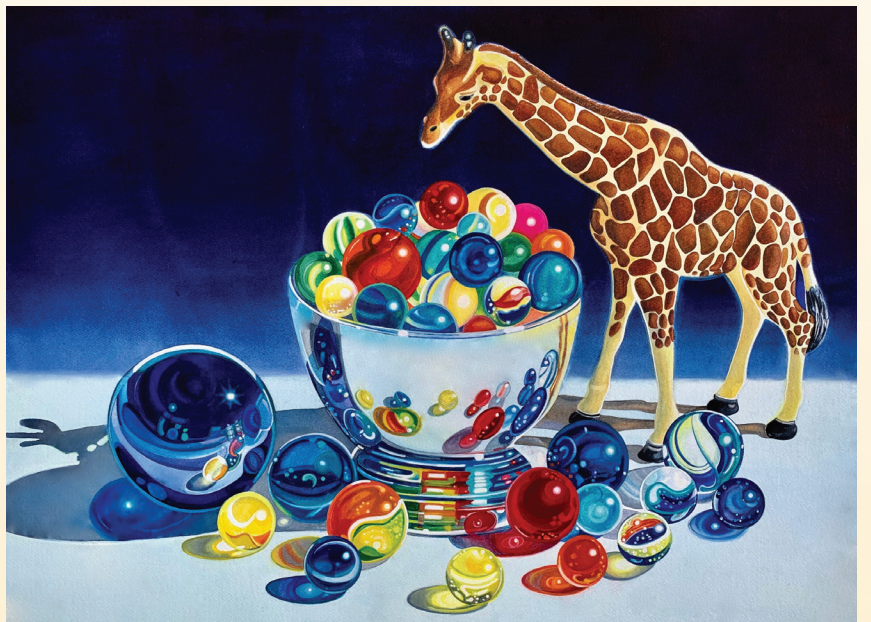
First Honors

Mary Anderson "Autumn Brilliance"



Second Honors

Julie Allen "What's for Dinner?"



Third Honors

Suzanne Shaff "The Barber of Baracoa Waits for You"



Like a fauvist painting, Chroma! was a wild ride! There were many ups and downs to hang a show during a pandemic. Everything came together and Chroma! was a beautiful show in the Reedy Gallery at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Many thanks to our juror, Carl Olvedt for his keen eye and expertise. He had to make tough decisions with so many wonderful submissions. Thanks to the Reedy Gallery, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum for hosting our exhibition. Congratulations to all of the winners of the spring 2021 juried show, Chroma!

Minnesota Watercolor Society

Contact Missy Moore or Diane Pearson about volunteering.

Email: missy.moore@comcast.net

Please include contact information.

Honorable Mentions

John Grancorvitz "Friendly Face"



Suz Galloway "Intuitive Light"



Richard Green
"Covid Sketch – Outdoor Dining Available"



Diane Pearson and I are stepping down as co-chairs. We have enjoyed our time on the board, learned a lot, and made new friends! We want to introduce Julie Schroeder who has kindly volunteered to be a co-chair. Julie will need help so if you have thought about volunteering now is your chance! This board position is a rewarding and fun opportunity to give back to MNWS. Next year's show is scheduled to be at the Minnetonka Center for the Arts in April.

Thank you,

Missy Moore

Co-chair of the Spring Show

Merit Award

Cate Larson "Fog on the North Shore"



Merit Award Mary Holmgren "Cerulean Swing"



Please consider
volunteering
as a Chair!
We want to
thank the many
volunteers who
made this show
a reality.

2021 Spring Juried Exhibition **CHROMA!**

Thursday, March 18th – Thursday, April 15th

Reedy Gallery, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum 3675 Arboretum Drive, Chaska MN 55318

Fall Member Exhibition

LOST IN PAINT IMPORTANT DATES

ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS:

Tuesday, August 3, 2021 at 10 am

REGISTRATION CLOSES:

Tuesday, August 31, 2021 at midnight

DROP OFF PAINTINGS:

Tuesday, September 28 from 10 am – 1 pm ONLY*

AWARDS CEREMONY:

Thursday, Oct. 14 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm at Ames Center*

PICK UP PAINTINGS:

Monday, November 8, 2021 from 10 am – 1 pm ONLY*

You may have someone else drop-off and/or pick-up your painting for you. The Ames Center cannot accept early drop-offs or hold a painting for late pick-up.

The MNWS Fall Exhibition is a non-juried show open to all active members who have paid dues through May 31, 2022. The first 70 paid entries will be accepted. ONE entry per member. The \$30 fee is non-refundable and helps support the Minnesota Watercolor Society.

Registration will only be available online. If you need assistance, email Janet Bates at mnwsfallshow@gmail.com and she will help you get registered.

Paintings may be offered for sale or shown as NFS – not for sale. The Ames Center will exclusively handle all transactions and collect a 25% commission.



Ames Center, Burnsville, MN*
Wed., Sept. 29 – Sat., Nov. 6, 2021

All entries must follow MNWS Exhibition Rules which are posted on the MNWS website. Artists are strongly encouraged to completely read and understand rules before registering to avoid having a painting disqualified at drop-off.

*Subject to change based on any COVID restrictions in place. If the Ames Center is closed, we will host a Virtual Show posted on the MNWS website. <http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com/exhibitions/>

Questions? Contact the fall show co-chairpersons Janet Bates or Karen Stuhlfeier by email at mnwsfallshow@gmail.com

Fall Workshop

Looking ahead -- Mark your calendars for a landscape workshop with Dan Mondloch.

This is scheduled as a live workshop Nov 4-6 at the Bloomington Center for the Arts.

Watch for additional details in the coming months.

You can preview Dan's work here: <https://www.danmondloch.com>

Wanted: Technology Chair

The Minnesota Watercolor Society is seeking a Technology Chair for Programming in 2021. A free membership is included for this position. Duties to include:

Online:

Manage Zoom Meetings

Upload and Manage the MNWS YouTube site

In person:

Set up and Manage Projection Equipment

Film demonstrations and upload to the MNWS YouTube site

To find out more, please reach out to a Board Member or contact us at Program@minnesotawatercolors.com

Membership Renewals Are Due May 1st!

MNWS Annual Membership year is May 1st through April 30th of the following year.

by Anne Bendt, Membership Chairperson

With over 350 members, the Minnesota Watercolor Society (MNWS) is one of the largest associations of watercolor artists in the Midwest. Since its inception in 1983, MNWS membership has mushroomed with artists looking for educational information, support and encouragement. Monthly meetings, a newsletter, workshops, demonstrations, "paintouts" and exhibits provide a wealth of opportunities for artists to learn and grow. MNWS also maintains an excellent library of books for member use.

Renewals can be completed in one of the following ways:

1. Online Payments accepted via PayPal or check. the MNWS website at: www.minnesotawatercolors.com/join/
2. Mail your check with the completed Registration Form to:
Anne Bendt, MNWS Membership Chairperson
1120 Tonkawa Rd, Long Lake, MN 55356-9240

Please update your Member Profile at:
<http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com/member-registration/>

Membership Renewal fees are:

- Students \$20
- Seniors 65+ \$30
- Single \$35
- Couple/Family \$45

Any artist, from beginner to advanced, is welcome to join the supportive environment of MNWS.

Questions: Contact Anne Bendt at: abendt12@gmail.com

If you do not renew now, this will be your last newsletter and email communication of MNWS activities.



Cut or Copy and complete

Minnesota Watercolor Society Renewal/Membership Application 2021 Form

Name _____ ☐ Renewal ☐ New Member

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ - _____ Email _____

☐ Single Member \$35 ☐ Couple/Family \$45 ☐ Seniors (65+) \$30 ☐ Student \$20

☐ Check here to remove your name from exhibition award donors' mail list of artists product information.

☐ Check here if you are willing to volunteer.

US MAIL REGISTRATION: Checks only. Send registration to:

Anne Bendt, MNWS Membership Chairperson, 1120 Tonkawa Rd, Long Lake, MN 55356-9240



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MINNESOTA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

1120 Tonkawa Road,
Long Lake, MN 55356-9240

www.minnesotawatercolors.com

www.facebook.com/groups/MinnesotaWatercolors

*"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

Congratulations Signature Members

Rick Lundsten
Darlene Mowry

Congratulations Lifetime Member

Bonnie Friedmeyer

Welcome New Members

Patrice Abbe
Claudia Broom
Mary Drouillard
Lisa Fertig
Sandra Fishman
Kendra Garrett
Tracy Green
B Katherine Maple
Rowan Myre
Tonya Nelson
Nancy Punderson Parr

**We have 350 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.

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

May 13, 2021 at 7pm
Pam Luer Online Live

CHROMA! Reedy Gallery,
MN Landscape Arboretum
Now -Friday, April 16th

Summer Workshop Pam
Wenger August 24-25

Our members offer painting
classes, listed on our website at:
[minnesotawatercolors.com/
member-classes/](http://minnesotawatercolors.com/member-classes/)

Check our facebook page
for up-to-date events and
inspirational artwork shared
by members and guests at:
[www.facebook.com/groups/
MinnesotaWatercolors/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/MinnesotaWatercolors/)



*"Those Stems"
by Pam Luer. Detail*



NorthStar Watermedia Society

*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.*

**March 1-31: NorthStar Member
Exhibition viewed virtually**

**May 20, 7-9 pm: Online Demo artist:
Darius Steward**

**May 21-22, 7-9 pm: 2 Day Online
Workshop with Keiko Tanabe. For
Registration: [www.Northstarwatermedia.
com](http://www.Northstarwatermedia.com)**

**June 1 – August 1: Call for Entry
7th Annual NorthStar National Juried Art
Exhibition**

**June 17, 7-9 pm: Online Demo Artist:
Michael Reardon
northstarwatermedia.com/**