

# Brush Strokes

Volume 43, Number 1

[www.minnesotawatercolors.com](http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com)

Jan/Feb 2022

## January Meeting

**Karen Knutson**

**"Painting in an Illusionary (ghostlike) Manner"**

Thursday, January 13th at 7 pm Online link will be provided



Karen Knutson

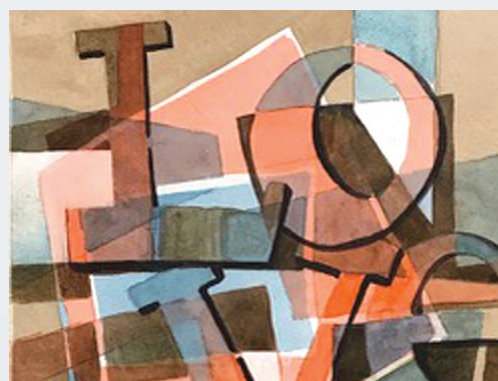
Karen will demonstrate how to have clean colors, and how to make objects ghost-like. This will be a limited color watercolor. Several tricks make this an easy process, but when you see the finished painting, you won't think it's simple. Watch this Zoom demonstration to learn the secrets to a transparent watercolor with good design..

Karen loves teaching workshops monthly all over the United States. Recently, she has grown to love outdoor painting (plein air), even though it is a difficult

process. "I finally know what it means to "be in the moment and not care about the outcome of the painting, when I plein air paint. I remember smells, people, conversations, temperatures, everything.... Just by looking at the painting that I did outdoors."

***Karen recently obtained signature status in the American Watercolor Society, based in NY. It was her lifelong dream to get that signature. She also has earned signature status in Transparent Watercolor Society of America, San Diego Watercolor Society, Northwest Watercolor Society, Rocky Mountain National Watermedia Society, Red River Watercolor Society, Minnesota Watercolor Society, Missouri Watercolor Society, Montana Watercolor Society, Northern Plains Watercolor Society, Northstar Watermedia Society, and has had many paintings accepted into other national shows. Karen is a lifetime member of the Minnesota Watercolor Society.***

[www.karenknutson.com](http://www.karenknutson.com)





# From the President

## Hello Artist Friends and Members!

As you read this newsletter we are beginning the new year with the hope that we can have more in-person gatherings. As you may know our members meetings are now at the Hopkins Center for the Arts, 1111 Mainstreet in downtown Hopkins. Our January meeting is zoom only and our February demo will be in person with Suzanne Schaff. We will continue to have the zoom option to attend as well.

I hope you are planning to enter the Spring Juried Exhibition. Entries will be accepted from February 1 through 7, so plan accordingly. The juror is Richard Kochenash and the show takes place at the Minnetonka Center for the Arts.

We also look forward to the possibility of a Members Day event this year! Information will be sent as plans are firmed up. I was at dinner with friends and the topic of "lost arts" came up. A few things we cited were- cursive writing no longer being taught at school, the ability to read a clock with hands, and how to use a turntable or a rotary phone. I'm sure there will be a time in the future when these terms will disappear from our vocabulary and way of life. What we are losing is our personal engagement and creativity with these daily tasks; other than to read a screen or punch in a number or letter on a keyboard.

I have also heard that watercolor is becoming a "minor art form" in the number of artists and sale price of the work. I'm not an art history buff, but I understand that in the old days the medium of watercolor was used to conceive a piece of art or as a sketching tool, with an oil painting as the final work. The early watercolor pigments were not colorfast and would fade out over time. This thinking continues today to some extent although modern pigments have all but eliminated the problem. The use of glass in a frame to protect the watercolor art is considered as a drawback compared to oil paintings. Today we have clear coat finishes that eliminate the need for glass if desired. All of these factors should level the playing field between watercolor and other medium.

As we all know watercolor is unpredictable and keeps our creativity engaged as the piece takes on its own life, changing as we go. Its range of transparency to opaqueness is unique to the medium. My opinion is that watercolor demands our engagement and creativity and will never become a minor art form.

Happy New Year and Happy Painting,  
Vic Perlbachs  
President. MNWS



## MINNESOTA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President:** Victor Perlbachs, 952-212-0532  
vperlbachs@gmail.com

**Past President:** Carol Wingard, 763-218-2384  
cjwin48@hotmail.com

**Vice President:** Position Open

**Secretary:** Sandy Melander-Schildt, 218-259-3841  
suma311@msn.com

**Treasurer:** Hadji Bensfield, 612-554-6709  
blessedbygod123@aol.com

**Exhibition, Fall:**  
Karen Stuhlfeier, stuhlfeier@gmail.com

**Exhibition, Spring:** Melissa Moore,  
missy.moore@comcast.net  
Julie Schroeder, 651-352-5695  
brushcolour@yahoo.com

**Historian:** Carol Wingard, 763-218-2384  
cjwin48@hotmail.com

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

**Librarian:** Hadji Bensfield, 612-554-6709  
blessedbygod123@aol.com

**Membership:** Anne Bendt, 612-799-1074  
abendt12@gmail.com

**Newsletter:** Joannette K. Larson, 651-210-4544  
joannette@comcast.net

**Program:**  
Wendy Andersen, wandersencreativeconcepts@gmail.com  
Mary Sauter, mlsauter01@gmail.com

**Publicity:** Sandra Cowing, 952-212-2979  
scow2@comcast.net

**Signature Membership:** Stephen Lackore,  
507-281-0454  
slackore@yahoo.com

**Workshops:** Nancy Webert, 239-682-0254  
nwebert99@gmail.com  
Kelly Kastner, 612-363-6672  
kelynych26@msn.com

**Webmaster:** Kelly Kastner,  
612-363-6672  
kelynych26@msn.com

**Northstar Liaison:** Barb Carriger,  
t4tunes@comcast.net

**IT Consultant:** Laura Hanson, 612-203-9895  
vandermolen\_laura@yahoo.com

### MNWS BRUSH STROKES NEWSLETTER

**Editor/Graphic Design** Joannette K. Larson • joannette@comcast.net  
2722 1st Street, White Bear Lake, MN 55110 • joannettelarsondesign.com/

**Proofreader** Clare Ritter

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

## February Meeting

### Suzanne Shaff, "The Cuban Portrait Painting Project: Adapting Heart-Head-Hand to Imperial-Sized Watercolor Painting"

February 10th, 7 pm. A LIVE demo at the  
Hopkins Center for the Arts, 1111 Mainstreet, Hopkins, MN 55343

There is more to painting on an Imperial-sized sheet of watercolor paper (29.5"x41") than just making everything bigger. It's a qualitatively different painting experience. When I talk to others about the messy, convoluted process of making art I speak in terms of Heart, Head and Hand. The Heart is about inspiration. The Head is about strategy. The Hand is about the making.

During my years as a professional photographer, I discovered the life-changing joy that comes from slowly allowing my innate vision to move out from under all of the external noise and internal doubt. This conscious/unconscious knowledge directed my camera every time I lifted it to my eye. I'd found my personal style.

When I returned to watercolor painting after a 29 year hiatus I had a Heart full of ideas and a well schooled Head overflowing with how-to knowledge. But, I seriously disliked the way my Hand applied the paint to the paper. My proverbial 'slip twixt the cup and the lip' was my Hand.

If I could do with painting what I had done with picture taking, would an authentic watercolor style eventually flow from my Hand? In a surprisingly short time, with the encouragement of my mentor, I was able to quiet all of the 'shoulds' and what-ifs. Astonishingly, the Hand delivered! I was cautiously in awe of what my Hand could do with watercolor paint. Heart, Head and Hand became a working triad. At this point I moved quickly into the Cuban Portrait Painting Project which marked the beginning of my relationship with Imperial-sized watercolor paper.

My presentation will explain how I had to adapt my vision (Heart), my preparation (Head) and my application of paint to paper (Hand) to work with the real estate of a piece of Imperial-sized paper.



*"Cuban Woman in Her Doorway"*



*Cuban Portrait painting "The Barber of Baracoa Waits for You" Third honor MNWS Spring 2021 show. Juried into 2021 MN State Fair Fine Arts Competition receiving the Friends of Hopkins Center for the Arts Award. The North Hennepin Community College Memorial Award of Excellence in the name of Art Instructor Joseph Gazzoulo.*



*"Self-Portrait in Green Silk Shirt" Best of Show MNWS Spring 2020 competition. Juried into the 2019 MN State Fair Fine Arts competition.*

Suzanne Shaff Photography & Fine Art [www.shaffphotography.com](http://www.shaffphotography.com) 612.280.5191



# Four Day Spring Workshop

Discover the freedom of an intuitive approach!



*"Observer", by Jeannie McGuire*



## 2022 Spring Workshop Jeannie McGuire Figurative Design

Wed., April 20th through Sat., 23rd, 2022

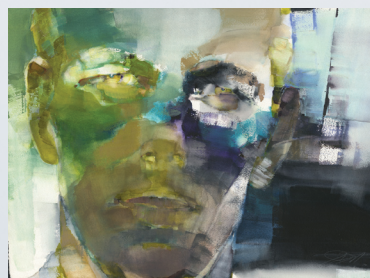
*At the Minnetonka Center for the Arts,  
2240 North Shore Drive, Wayzata, MN 55391*

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, for examples. Artists receive lots of personal attention and plenty of painting time.



*"Resolved", by Jeannie McGuire*

**Questions:**  
*Nancy Webert*  
[nwebert99@gmail.com](mailto:nwebert99@gmail.com)  
or  
*Kelly Kastner*  
[Kelynch26@msn.com](mailto:Kelynch26@msn.com)

### **Workshop Dates and Times:**

Wed April 20th - Sat April 23rd, 2022. From 9 am to 4 pm CST

### **Registration opens:**

January 3, 2022 at 9:00 am CST

### **Registration and Payment:**

Go to [www.minnesotawatercolors.com/workshop-registration/](http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com/workshop-registration/)

### **Registration Fees:**

\$550 for members, \$600 for non-members Payment via Paypal

### **Cancellation Fees:**

\$25.00 up to March 15th. No refund will be issued after March 15th

### **Deadline:**

Wednesday March 15th, 2022



## Serving the Minnesota Watercolor Society

*Thanks to all who serve on our Board to offer quality meetings and information to all our members. Would you like to serve?*

### Meet Julie Schroeder.



Julie has just taken on the role of Co-chairing the Spring Show with Missy Moore. "It's been awesome working with Missy and I'm learning so much from her! It's wonderful getting to know all the amazing people who volunteer so much of their time to keep the MNWS thriving. I'm excited to see the 2022 Spring Show 'Spring Forth' unfold this spring."

Julie works in watercolors, alcohol inks and mixed media. She teaches classes and workshops locally and travels to give workshops.

Learn more about Julie & her artwork on her website:  
[livingwatercolours.com](http://livingwatercolours.com)

*As of this year, Board members are recognized with free membership. In addition, service on the Board is recognized with points towards signature status.*



### Currently there are Board opportunities for:

**Spring Exhibition Co-chair.** Contact Julie Schroeder at [brushcolour@yahoo.com](mailto:brushcolour@yahoo.com) This is a two year commitment to work on the 2022 and 2023 spring juried shows. You will have free entry. You will be making connections with gallery curators, jurors, and other artists.

**Vice President.** Contact Vic Perlbachs at [vperlbachs@gmail.com](mailto:vperlbachs@gmail.com)

**Hospitality.** Contact Vic Perlbachs at [vperlbachs@gmail.com](mailto:vperlbachs@gmail.com) Coordinate treats for our in-person meetings, help set up information tables.

**Fall Exhibition Co-chair.** Contact Karen Stuhlfeier at [stuhlfeier@gmail.com](mailto:stuhlfeier@gmail.com) Plans are already underway for our Fall Show in 2022. If you're looking for a fun and rewarding way to get involved with MNWS please contact me. I would be happy to talk with you and let you know what the job involves. Most of the work takes place during the summer and early fall and it's a great way to meet other members.

## Members Websites

Members please check our website to make sure your website information is correct and up to date. Don't let this valuable tool go unused. Check your listing here:  
[minnesotawatercolors.com/members/](http://minnesotawatercolors.com/members/)

If you would like to update to a new website address please let Kelly Kastner know at:  
[kelynch26@msn.com](mailto:kelynch26@msn.com)

## Congratulations!

To Claudia Trepanier! Her painting "Joyful Living" captured the most votes in the 2021 Fall Member Exhibition LOST IN PAINT People's Choice Award contest. Beautiful work Claudia!





# SPRING FORTH

## 2022 Spring Juried Exhibition

Friday April 22nd – Friday, May 20th

*Minnetonka Center for the Arts*

*2240 North Shore Drive, Wayzata, MN 55391*



*2021 Emrich Stordahl award winner, Darlene Mowry "Fragrant Beauty",*



*2021 Best in Show award winner, Anne Legeros "Gentle Winds are Blowing"*

**Richard Kochenash will judge the paintings to be accepted into the MNWS 2022 Spring Spring Forth Exhibition.**

Complete exhibition rules and entry information:

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

It's time to get ready to enter the MNWS 2022 juried show, "Spring Forth"! We are looking forward to seeing all of the fabulous paintings our members have been busy creating. It's always great fun to see all the work hanging in the gallery and to meet up with our members and friends at the opening!

"Spring Forth" will hang in the beautiful gallery at the Minnetonka Center for the Arts. Richard Kochenash, an esteemed local artist from Chaska, MN will be the juror and he will choose 65-70 paintings to be on display and the 10 awards for the show. Please make note of the schedule and keep in mind that the submission period has been shortened to one week this year, February 1-7.

All current members of MNWS are encouraged to submit up to two of their best paintings completed within the last 2 years. The entry fee for one submission is \$30.00. The entry fee for two submissions is \$35.00. You may renew your membership when you apply.

The schedule should allow members plenty of time to frame their accepted piece(s) before the show.

Please enter your submissions through the link found on our website under the Exhibitions Tab (Spring Exhibition). The preferred method of payment for the submission fee is PayPal. The link to PayPal can be found under the Exhibitions Tab on our website or you may send a check to the address listed on the submission form.

The submission rules, framing requirements, and ID label can also be found on our website under the Exhibition Tab. Always refer to the website for the most updated information..

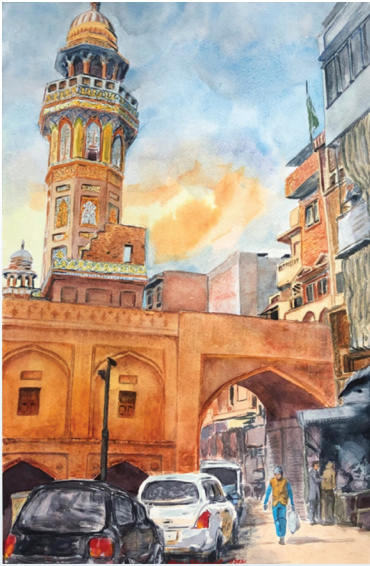
Questions: Julie Schroeder Email: [mnwsspringartshow@gmail.com](mailto:mnwsspringartshow@gmail.com) Please include contact information.



# Spring Show

## Congratulations!

CHROMA People's Choice 2021 was awarded to Alya Jawaid for "Under the Citadel"



### SPRING FORTH EXHIBIT SCHEDULE

#### SUBMISSION OF ART

Tuesday February 1st – Monday February 7th at midnight - No late entries accepted

#### ACCEPTED PAINTINGS

#### ANNOUNCED ON WEBSITE:

Friday March 11, 2022  
minnesotawatercolors.com

#### DROP OFF PAINTINGS

Saturday, April 16, 10am – 1pm  
No late drop-offs accepted.  
Minnetonka Center for the Arts,  
2240 North Shore Drive,  
Wayzata, MN 55391

#### OPENING RECEPTION

is Friday April 22nd, 6 pm – 8:30pm

#### AWARDS PRESENTATION

Friday April 22nd, 7 pm

#### SHOW CLOSES

Friday, May 20th

#### PICK UP PAINTINGS

Saturday, May 21st, 10 am – 1 pm  
No late pick-ups allowed

## Minnesota Watercolor Society

*Working towards Signature Member Status is a great goal that helps you, the artist, and our organization.*

## Awards

### Signature Member Awards

## Congratulations!



From left to right: Darlene Mowry, Fred Dingler, Richard C. Green, Donald C. Aggerbeck, Julia Kara Jaakola, Elizabeth M. Franklin, Victor B. Perlbachs, Melissa Moore, and Ann Sisel. Not pictured but also recognized were John Grancorvitz, Rick Lundsten, and Kathy Schur.

During the 2021 Fall Exhibition "Lost in Paint" these twelve member artists were recognized in-person by their peers, family members and friends. For several of these artists this recognition had been postponed a year and a half and as a result this celebratory occasion generated many smiles. To achieve this distinction in the Minnesota Watercolor Society these accomplished artists consistently created wonderful works of art and several had volunteered many hours of their time to support the mission and activities of the Society.

Congratulations to each of you!

Stephen Lackore, Signature Membership Chair

Questions: [slackore@yahoo.com](mailto:slackore@yahoo.com)





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1120 Tonkawa Road  
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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

Programs are held the second Thursday of the month at 7 pm September–May only. Usually at Hopkins Center for the Arts 1111 Mainstreet, Hopkins, MN 55343. Check our website for locations that may vary.

### WELCOME!

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

### **MNWS** *New Members*

**Sophie Niedenfuer**

January 13th, Thursday  
Demo Artist Online: **Karen Knutson**

**Daniel Kuchenbecker**

February 10th, Thursday, at  
Hopkins Center for the Arts  
Demo Artist Live: **Suzanne Shaff**

**Lizabeth Joy**

April 22nd – May 20th, at  
Minnetonka Center for the Arts  
**Spring Forth, Spring Juried Exhibition**

**Cathleen Montain**

**Ivan Zassavitski**

Thurs., April 20th – Sat., 23rd, at  
Minnetonka Center for the Arts  
**Spring Workshop, Jeannie McGuire**

**We have 291 current  
paid members**

**We now have  
43 Lifetime Members**

October 21-22  
**Fall Workshop, Kim Johnson**

### **NorthStar Watermedia Society News**

*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.*

Jan. 20, 2022, 7:00 pm  
Brienne Brown demo artist via Zoom

Feb. 17, 2022, 7:00 pm  
Shari Blaukopf demo artist via Zoom

Feb. 18, 2022, 11:59 pm  
Registration deadline for 2022 NSWS Member  
Exhibition "Re-Awakening"

Feb. 25-26, 2022  
Michael Reardon Online Watercolor Workshop  
\$200 members / \$230 non-members

\* Registration will open to non-NorthStar members  
on Jan. 15 at <http://northstarwatermedia.com/workshops/>

<http://northstarwatermedia.com/>