

# Brush Strokes

Volume 45, Number 1

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

Jan/Feb 2024

## January Meeting

### CAITLIN LELINE HATCH Demonstrates Horse Portraiture

Thursday, January 11th at 7 pm, Zoom Only Demonstration



Caitlin Leline Hatch is best known for her soulful, impressionistic watercolor paintings, with work that reflects the essence of its subjects. In animals, figures and landscapes, she captures the interplay of light, shadow and color, and reveals the everyday magic all around us. Caitlin has been dedicated to watercolor for over 20 years. Her work has been featured in numerous publications and she has been selected into prestigious exhibitions around the globe.



A native of Door County, Wisconsin, Caitlin grew up on a horse farm, and her childhood imprinted her with a specific sensitivity toward animals and rural landscapes. Today, she lives on a dairy farm in Wisconsin's Driftless region, where her family raises cows, horses and chickens, and makes artisan cheese. The rural countryside continues to be her main source of inspiration.

We hope you can join us via zoom for this evening with Caitlin Leline Hatch!

You can find more of Caitlin's artwork at  
Website: <https://www.lelineartstudio.com/>



# From the President

## Hello Artist and friends of the Minnesota Watercolor Society,

Have you ever considered how your work is influenced by the master painters? As artists we are influenced and guided – often unconsciously – by the masters whose works have shaped our concepts of beauty, expression and creativity. Their influence inspires our work to become masters of our own art. The painting group that I am part of is preparing for a show in September 2024 called “Under the Influence of the Modern Masters”. We are interpreting selected works by Van Gogh, Hopper, Klimt, Audubon, Monet, Picasso and others, using watercolor. In preparation I am researching the masters inspiration to create the selected piece and their use of composition, color and values to entertain the viewer.

Other considerations are, do I want to copy the work using watercolor, use a similar setting in a present-day scene, change up the color pallet or season? I don't know where this journey will take me or what the finished pieces will be, but I'm excited about the process and what I will learn on the way! I encourage you to do the same during these short days of winter, I think it will keep your creative juices flowing!

This is my last Presidents Column as I have resigned as of January 1, 2024. It has truly been my pleasure to serve the organization as President for the last three years. I'm sure that our new President and Vice President Susan Chambers and Daniel Kuchenbecker will continue to improve upon and add to the opportunities that the MNWS offers to its members. The Board of Directors is an amazing group that works to provide the opportunities, but they need some help. There are openings for Workshops and the Fall Exhibition that need to be filled soon so please reach out to me, Susan Chambers or the current chair for information on what is involved.

As always, Happy painting and thanks for being a member of the MNWS,

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



## MINNESOTA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### MNWS BRUSH STROKES NEWSLETTER

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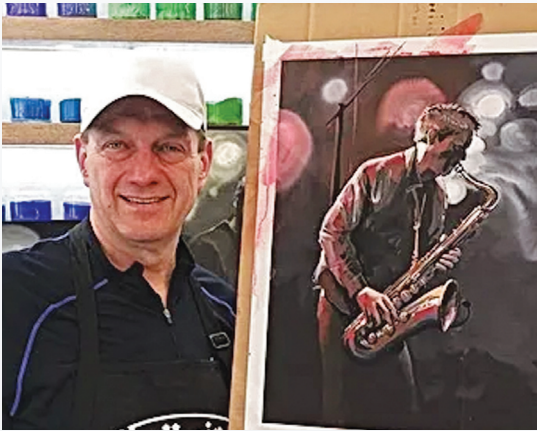


## February Meeting

### DAVID R. BECKER

#### Demonstrates Innovative Watercolor Techniques

Thursday, February 8th, at 7 pm. Zoom Meeting  
TWSA Artist, Illustrator, and Art Instructor



David R. Becker spent most of his artistic life and career in the city of Chicago. He studied at The American Academy of Art in Chicago and he is mostly recognized for his watercolor scenes of Chicago. David works in many mediums, including Watercolor, Oils, and Acrylics.

David is the author of *Watercolor Composition Made Easy*, and *How to Sketch with Watercolor*. He has had two different articles published in *International Artist Magazine* and in *Watercolor Magic*, has reached signature status with the *Transparent Watercolor Society of America*, and has won numerous awards for his work from watercolor societies around the country.

Please join us for this live zoom demo with David R. Becker!

(Link to view recorded demos will be emailed to members within 3 days of an event.)



Website: [www.beckerart.net](http://www.beckerart.net)



## HOOKED ON WATERCOLOR



David R. Smith began his artistic journey studying Chinese Brush Painting in the United States and China. A decade later, he was introduced to Western style watercolor painting and was amazed at how enjoyable and forgiving it was compared to

working on rice paper. Ever since, he has been hooked on watercolor painting, and has become a popular artist and instructor nationally and internationally, as well as a sought-after juror. David is the recipient of the Skyledge Award (the highest recognition awarded by the Transparent Watercolor Society of America), an award winner and signature member of the American Watercolor Society, signature member of the National Watercolor Society, and his work has earned him numerous “Best of Show” awards for both his studio and plein air work, signature memberships, showings in galleries and museums across the United States and abroad, and inclusion in publications including *Fine Art Connoisseur*, *International Artist*, and multiple editions of *SPLASH – The Best of Watercolor*. With over 25 years of experience as a public school teacher, he is skilled at breaking down complex concepts and skills into easily learned chunks and now enjoys helping workshop participants find success with watercolor. As much as he loves to paint, he has found sharing his watercolor passion through instruction even more gratifying and he is most rewarded when he hears a frequent comment: “This is one of the best workshops I’ve ever taken.”

## DAVID R. SMITH SPRING WORKSHOP APRIL 2024

*Workshop dates to be determined*



*David enjoys the challenge of working in harmony with a fluid medium. By creating the proper environment, surrendering some control, and working harmoniously with the medium, the most beautiful results oftentimes occur naturally. To keep his paintings from appearing too precise and to convey a feeling of aliveness, David utilizes a number of techniques such as working wet into wet, pouring, glazing, spattering, and spraying. These techniques keep his paintings fresh and produce exciting intermingling and textures effortlessly.*

Questions: Email Jill Condon or Kelly Kastner at [workshops@minnesotawatercolors.com](mailto:workshops@minnesotawatercolors.com)



## The Value of Keeping Earlier Watercolor Paintings

By Carol Wingard

Do many of you keep some of your earlier watercolor paintings? I periodically go through my inventory of watercolor paintings to decide what I will keep, and what I will either recycle or use in another way. Some of the paintings are complete and some are not. My latest review had me thinking - is there value in keeping some earlier watercolor paintings that you might or not might not like, some complete and some not? Here are some reasons I found.

First, it is a way to see how much you have improved in your painting skills which can be a confidence builder. I have a couple of paintings from my first year of watercolor painting that I continue to keep for this reason. The greatest and most apparent improvement that I see from those paintings to my more recent paintings is the use of value - dark and light providing much more contrast in my paintings.

Second, there have been times when I have been inspired to complete an incomplete painting, or improve on a painting that I had put aside for awhile to review at a later time because I just wasn't sure if I liked it. These paintings usually had an area I was struggling with and over time I found a solution to be able to improve or complete the painting.

Third, inspiration for a current or future painting. At times, my inspiration has come from just a piece of the painting. This has especially happened when I decide to re-use the painting in another form, and tear the painting into strips to be used to test a color during painting, or to use as collage in another art piece. One of the strips catches my eye because of an interesting design or texture or colors just in that one piece. This leads to a new painting idea.

Take some time to look at your earlier paintings over time, and identify what you see as the greatest improvements, and what you like about some paintings that you would try again. What paintings did you have fun doing, and in what paintings did you struggle? All those questions and the answers are good knowledge to take forward with you to help you in your painting journey.



*Artwork by Heidi Nelson*

*Carol Wingard is currently serving on the board of MNWS as Historian, and has been past President.*



# Call for Entries 2024 Spring Juried Exhibition

Thursday, April 11th – Friday, May 17th

Minnetonka Center for the Arts, 2240 N Shore Dr. Wayzata, MN 55391

MNWS 20th ANNUAL



## David R. Smith, 2024 Exhibition Judge



This juried show is open to all MNWS members who have paid their dues through April 30, 2024. If you are not currently a member of the society, you may join when you submit your entry.

Artists may submit up to two paintings, in accordance with the show prospectus. The entry fee is \$30 for the first painting and \$5 for the second entry. Entry fees are not refundable.

Exhibition prospectus and entry information:  
[www.minnesotawatercolors.com/springexhibition](http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com/springexhibition)

David R. Smith website [www.dsmithfineart.com/](http://www.dsmithfineart.com/)

### EPHEMERAL EXHIBITION SCHEDULE

**Submission period opens:**  
Friday, January 12, 2024

**Submission period closes:**  
Sunday, February 4, 2024  
No late entries will be accepted

**Acceptance Notification:**  
Friday, March 15, 2024

**Drop off accepted work :**  
Saturday, April 6, 2024  
10 am-1 pm  
No late drop offs

**Opening Reception and Awards by David R. Smith**  
Thursday, April 11, 2024  
6pm – 8pm

**Show closes:**  
Friday, May 17

**Pick up work - No Late Pick Ups:**  
Saturday, May 18, 2024  
10 am -1 pm



"Boise" by Georgia Kandiko People's Choice Award 2023 Spring Show



## Congratulations!

### Patricia Swanson People's Choice 2023



Patricia Swanson's painting "Floating into Fall" received the most votes and won the People's Choice Award at the 2023 MNWS Fall Exhibition, "Shades of Autumn" at the Ames Center in Burnsville.

We appreciate everyone's support. Putting a show together requires some work, but it is also a very rewarding thing to do. Thank you to everyone who participated and attended this year's exhibition.

If you're interested in helping with the show next year please contact me at [fallshow@minnesotawatercolors.com](mailto:fallshow@minnesotawatercolors.com). If you're interested in volunteering I'd love to give you more information.

Lori Murphy-Grafing

Fall Exhibition Chair

[fallshow@minnesotawatercolors.com](mailto:fallshow@minnesotawatercolors.com)

### MNWS 2024 President Susan Chambers

Hello everyone, Happy New Year!

I hope we all are inspired by new things to paint this year.

I just wanted to say how honored I am to be here and to take over the position of president. I hope I can fill the big shoes of Vic Perlbachs. He has been an inspiration to me and so helpful, teaching me all his responsibilities he had as president. I am excited to take this position and will be learning along the way.

Please reach out to me or say hi at any of the functions that we have. I'm also excited to tell you that Dan Kuchenbecker will be stepping in to take over vice president. He is great at landscape and other types of watercolor painting. I'm excited to have him on the board.

I always try to have a goal to work toward each year. This year, 2024, my goal will be landscape and learning more about it. I usually paint animals and flowers. I would love to hear what all of your goals are this year.

I look forward to seeing all of you and future demos and gatherings.

Susan Chambers

President Minnesota Watercolor Society



### Want to help? Currently there are Minnesota Watercolor Society Board opportunities for:

**Workshop Chair:** *Want to meet your favorite artist in person? Eligible for free membership and workshop attendance. Email: [workshops@minnesotawatercolors.com](mailto:workshops@minnesotawatercolors.com)*

**Fall Exhibition Chair:** *Organize the fall show, can be co-chairs. Eligible for free membership. Email: [fallshow@minnesotawatercolors.com](mailto:fallshow@minnesotawatercolors.com)*

**Webmaster, Paid Position:** *Must have experience with WordPress and GoDaddy applications. Email: [webmaster@minnesotawatercolors.com](mailto:webmaster@minnesotawatercolors.com)*

**Please consider serving, it's a great way to meet artists and make friends!**





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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!

Programs are held the second Thursday of the month at 7 pm September–May only. Usually at Zeller Studio, 1421 Mainstreet, Hopkins, MN 55343. Check our website for locations that may vary.

### **MNWS**

#### **New Members**

Brianna Bentz  
Julie Creamer  
Mark Degallier  
Susan Flaherty  
Suzanne Hirshberg  
Kane  
Roy Lindaas  
Kari Miller  
Ann Mozey  
Yumiko Saunders  
Jacqueline Sutlif  
Karen Zwolenski

**We have 344 current  
paid members and  
57 Lifetime members**

January 11th, Thursday

Demo Artist Online:

**Caitlin Leline Hatch**

**Horse Portraiture**

February 8th, Thursday

Demo Artist Online:

**David R. Becker**

**Innovative Watercolor Techniques**

Thursday, April 11- Friday, May 17 at

Minnetonka Center for the Arts

**"Ephemeral" Spring Show**

Thursday, April 11, 6 - 8 pm at

Minnetonka Center for the Arts

**Opening Receptions with Awards**

### **NorthStar Watermedia Society News**

*Meetings are held on the third Thursday  
of most months at 7pm.*

*Rose Room, Roseville Skate Center,  
2661 Civic Center Dr,  
Roseville, MN 55113*

**Jan 18: Virtual demo by  
Roisin Curé (Zoom)**

**Feb 15: Virtual demo by  
David Daniels (Zoom)**

<http://northstarwatermedia.com/>

