

# Brush Strokes

Volume 45, Number 2

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

March/April 2024

## Lynn D. Pratt Demonstrates Photorealistic Watercolor Techniques

Thursday, March 14th, 2024 at 7 pm Zoom Only

March Meeting

The Minnesota Watercolor Society is thrilled to welcome Lynn D. Pratt as our March demo artist!



Lynn D. Pratt is an international and national award winning artist, demonstrator, juror and watercolor instructor. Lynn paints in a photorealistic style, adopted from her background in architecture and her love for detail.

Lynn has a deep passion for teaching watercolor. She finds inspiration from sharing her love of the medium with others. She travels to hold classes for every age and ability. She also has an online school through Patreon where she teaches and mentors students from around the world. [www.patreon.com/lynnpratt](http://www.patreon.com/lynnpratt)

In addition, Lynn is the creator of Women in Watercolor, an annual international juried competition for women. Women in Watercolor exists to encourage, support, and promote the outstanding women that are working in this medium on an international level. [www.womeninwatercolor.com](http://www.womeninwatercolor.com)

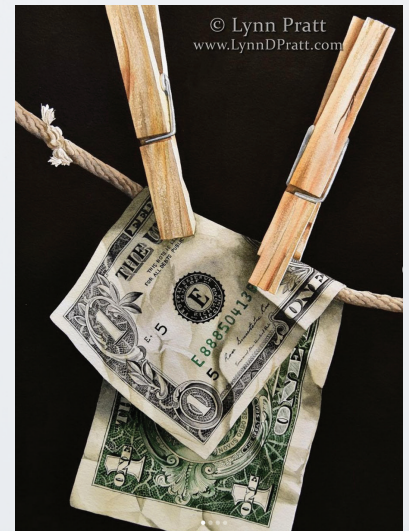
You won't want to miss this live zoom demo with Lynn D. Pratt!  
[www.lynnpratt.com](http://www.lynnpratt.com)



*"Box of Dreams" by Lynn D. Pratt*



*"Tough Break" by Lynn D. Pratt*



*"Laundered Money" by Lynn D. Pratt*

# From the President

Hello everyone,

I hope everyone is creating and finding time to do what we love to do. I was thinking of all the many compositions we use to create and thought I would talk about the different ways to make a great composition in our paintings. I know I don't think about this enough and thought I would dig into this world and write about it in the coming news letters.

Design is what we use to create the illusion of movement and life on a 2-dimensional surface. Bring our art to life. The arrangement of elements in a work of art. How we arrange shapes, colors, lines, lights and darks to create movement, balance, pleasing effects to our art. Composition can even create a certain mood. So, to start off with saying, when your art is perfectly balanced, symmetrical, it can create a boring painting. So, what are some of the many things we can do to make an interesting composition? Off center, colors, lines, shapes, values, breaking up your composition in the painting, are some of the many ways.

I thought I'd start off with Lines. What is a line in art? It's one of the seven elements. Lines, color, shape, form, texture, value, and space are the seven. Lines are one of the most crucial elements. If you notice, lines are everywhere.

**Vertical lines** which are all the straight up and down. They suggest height, and strength. Horizontal lines suggests width, distance, calmness and stability.  
**Diagonal lines** which are all other straight lines not horizontal or vertical. Trees are a used as an interesting composition using diagonal lines.  
**Zigzag lines**, such as a stream flowing down a Rocky Mountain path, convey action, drama and restlessness.  
**Curved lines** that bend and change direction. They can help your eyes flow through a painting. Giving feelings of comfort and ease. Curved lines can be seen in a shoreline or human body or a winding path. Van Gogh uses this in his painting "The Starry Night".  
**Implied lines** tho not physically present, can be a very powerful tool in are as they guide the viewers eye to where the artist wants them to go.

Lines can be broken, textured, thick, thin, and implied giving more energy, volume, shadow. These elements are used in modern and traditional paintings. The three-dimensional function of lines is to provide a sense of space. Variation of a line in tonality, width, weight, focus and intensity is what allows for the effect to occur. For example, if an object is far, the tone of the line will be lighter and thinner, than for the object that is close, which would be darker, and thicker.

I hope this gives your food for thought.

Hope to see all of you soon at the juried show coming up.

Susan Chambers, President of MNWS



Vertical, Horizontal



Zigzag



Curved

## MINNESOTA WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

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### MNWS BRUSH STROKES NEWSLETTER

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**Proofreader** Clare Ritter

Published • January/February • March/April • May/June  
• Summer • September/October • November/December  
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Website: [www.minnesotawatercolors.com](http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com)

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

## MNWS 20th ANNUAL



Opening Reception with Exhibition Judge David R. Smith  
Thursday, April 11th, 6 – 8 pm  
Minnetonka Center for the Arts  
2240 N Shore Dr. Wayzata, MN 55391

### “Ephermeal” Exhibition Time Line

#### **ACCEPTANCE NOTIFICATION:**

posted on MNWS website, Saturday,  
March 16, 2024

#### **DROP OFF ACCEPTED PAINTINGS:**

Saturday, April 6, 2024, 10 am-1 pm  
No late drop offs

#### **EXHIBITION:**

Thursday, April 11- Friday, May 17,  
Hours 9 am – 4 pm, Mon – Fri

#### **PICK UP PAINTINGS:**

Saturday, May 18, 10am-1pm (no late pick  
ups)

#### **NO LATE DROP OFFS OR PICK UPS**

will be allowed. As this is a juried show,  
please pay attention to the matting &  
framing rules on the MNWS website.

Don't miss this exciting exhibit!

Minnetonka Center for the Arts is one of the favorite venues for the Spring Exhibition. Members and guests are encouraged to attend the opening reception on Thursday April 11th from 6 pm to 8 pm. The awards will be presented by David R. Smith, an award winning and nationally known artist and workshop instructor. All are welcome to attend the reception. It will be a fun filled evening with snacks and refreshments.

As winter wanes and the air begins to warm, the early “Ephemeral” spring flowers put out a burst of beauty to brighten the lingering winter days, before fading away until the next spring. Artists have been busy throughout the winter creating new beautiful pieces and it's time to let those lovely works of art shine for the spring exhibition. The gallery walls of the Minnetonka Center for the Arts will hold these bursts of color and help us all shake off the dregs of winter.

Information about David R. Smith can be found here: [dsmithfineart.com](http://dsmithfineart.com)

Questions: [springshow@minnesotawatercolors.com](mailto:springshow@minnesotawatercolors.com)



“Rushing Water II” by Suz Galloway,  
Best in Show Spring 2023

# Don't miss this Three Day Spring Workshop

## David R. Smith

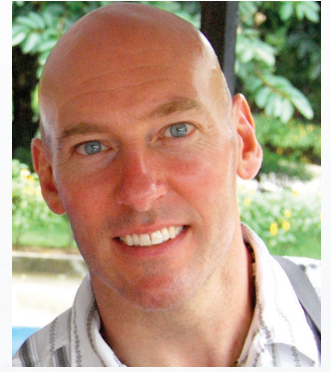
### “Fresh and Exciting Watercolors”

Monday April 8th–Wednesday April 10th, 2024, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

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

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 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.



**Workshop Dates and Times:**

Mon., April 8th through Wed., 10th, 2024, 9 am to 4 pm daily

**Registration and Payment:**

Minnetonka Center for the Arts in person or phone at (952) 473-7361

**Registration Fees:**

\$405 for members and \$450 for non-members

**Cancellation:**

Speak with Minnetonka Center of the Arts for cancellation policy.”

David R. Smith: <https://www.dsmithfineart.com/>

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

# Minnesota Watercolor Society

*Join in for a day of immersion in watercolor*

## MNWS MEMBERS' DAY 2024 SAVE THE DATE Saturday, June 15, 2024, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 4801 France Ave South Minneapolis, MN 55410

MNWS Members' Day is back! Get inspired for a summer of painting. Plan to join us for a summer day immersed in watercolor! join us for our exciting line up of demo artists, Dan Mondloch, MarySue Krueger and Sonja Hutchinson. Lunch available or bring your own. Please consider volunteering to help make Members' Day a success. We need help in Artists Assistant, Refreshments set-up, and Clean up. Be watching your email for registration information, and check our website.



Dan Mondloch is an award winning third generation painter. His first interest in painting was in the 9th grade; while driving with his dad he mentioned he'd like to try painting. The next morning the kitchen table was covered with everything he could ever possibly need to paint a picture! He's been featured in Plein Air Magazine, Southwest Art Magazine. Recent honors include the Jean Stern Legacy Award at Laguna Invitational and Best of Show at Grand Marais Plein Air. He lives in Cold Spring, MN with his wife, sons, daughter and canine bud, Ruby.

MarySue Krueger has been painting in watercolor for more than 40 years. She is a signature member of the Minnesota Watercolor Society, where she has served as President and Exhibition Chair. MarySue has earned numerous awards in juried shows throughout the metropolitan area. Her work has been exhibited at The Minnetonka Center for the Arts, The Ames Center, The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and other area venues. Her watercolor animal portraits are in collections around the country.



Sonja Hutchinson is a Signature Member of the Minnesota and Red River Watercolor Societies and has been painting in watercolor since 2001. Her interest was ignited through a class taught by a friend at the Linden Hills Community Center in Minneapolis that first winter. She served as President of the Minnesota Watercolor Society from 2016 – 2018 and served on the Board of Directors for 13 years from 2008 to 2021. Her watercolors have earned numerous awards in local and national juried exhibitions.

Questions? Contact Jean Allen, email: [allenpeace@aol.com](mailto:allenpeace@aol.com) or 952- 947-0717

# EXHIBITING YOUR ARTWORK

I am always happy when I can find a venue to show my artwork. In the past few years I have had opportunities to exhibit my artwork both as part of a group, and more recently as a solo artist. Here are some of my 'learnings' in the process as it has helped me become more confident in pursuing additional opportunities to exhibit, and hopefully will encourage you.



What I have learned in the exhibit process is research and preparation is key. Check out the exhibit space in person including any existing hanging system to determine if it is adequate, find out what the venue requires as to commissions, applications, deadlines. Decide a theme for the exhibit, and most venues will require examples of artwork. Create an inventory list of artwork to be exhibited and labels to post by artwork. Plan and prepare for the hanging and taking down of the exhibit.

Also, think about what your goal is for the exhibit and does that venue fit that goal? Is your primary goal to sell your artwork or to share your work with others? My most memorable exhibit was a solo show at a nursing home. Paintings were hung down a very long hallway that is visited by many of the residents, workers, and visitors. To know that providing the artwork gave them something of interest and joy was so rewarding to me. So keep in mind those non-traditional places to exhibit - nursing homes, hospitals, libraries, cafes, churches, etc. Feel empowered to reach out even if they don't currently exhibit.

Lastly, a bit of a commercial break: One of the best ways to learn about the process of exhibiting is to volunteer for either the fall or spring exhibition MNWS Board member chair positions.

Carol Wingard, MNWS Historian

## We Need YOUR Help

**WEBMASTER:** Paid position.

contact [webmaster@minnesotawatercolors.com](mailto:webmaster@minnesotawatercolors.com)

**SPRING EXHIBITION CO-CHAIRS:**

contact [springshow@minnesotawatercolors.com](mailto:springshow@minnesotawatercolors.com)

**FALL EXHIBITION CO-CHAIRS:**

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

These jobs are a great opportunity to work with wonderful board members, interact with MNWS members, and become further involved in the arts community. They are vital to the continuing monthly presentations, so please consider volunteering - it's even more fun when you sign up with a friend as your co-chair. Current Chairs will be able to help you get started and offer their knowledge and experience with this position. Your yearly membership fee is waived when you serve on the Board.

**If you have questions or are interested, please email any Board Member listed on page 2.**

**MNWS' success depends on active members and volunteers like you!**

## Lifetime Members Awarded

Congratulations to our new Lifetime Members:

**Elizabeth Franklin**

**Doug Meythaler**

**Gini Wermerskirchen**

**Phyllis Winther**

**Susan Zavadil**

These members will enjoy the benefits of MNWS with their dues being waived for the future. The presentation of Lifetime Pins and photo will be scheduled at a later date.



**Your membership is what makes our group a success.**

**MNWS thanks you for being a faithful member!**

# Don't forget, it's time for Renewals!

**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. Any artist, from beginner to advanced, is welcome to join the supportive environment of MNWS. Renewals are due April 30th, 2024.

**Renewals can be completed in one of the following ways:**

1. Renewals can be completed on line at [www.minnesotawatercolors.com/join](http://www.minnesotawatercolors.com/join). Select "Join/renew HERE"
2. Payments are preferred via Pay Pal. If check is your only option, complete the registration form on line and make the check out to MNWS and mail to:  
Anne Bendt, MNWS Membership Chairperson  
1120 Tonkawa Rd, Long Lake, MN 55356-9240

**This will be your last newsletter and email reminders of MNWS activities will cease if you don't renew now.**

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

*\*Brushstrokes Newsletter is not forwarded to temporary address changes. Keep up to date with all the MNWS newsletters online at [www.Minnesotawatercolors.com](http://www.Minnesotawatercolors.com).*

Questions: Contact Anne Bendt at: [membership@Minnesotawatercolors.com](mailto:membership@Minnesotawatercolors.com)



**Minnesota Watercolor Society Renewal/Membership Application 2024 Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_\_

Address\* \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Single Member \$35	Couple/Family \$45	Seniors (65+) \$30	Student \$20
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Check here if you are willing to volunteer. Thank you! We depend on volunteers to make our organization great!

**US MAIL REGISTRATION:** Checks only. Send registration to:  
Anne Bendt, MNWS Membership Chairperson, 1120 Tonkawa Rd, Long Lake, MN 55356-9240



PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
TWIN CITIES, MN  
PERMIT NO. 594

**Minnesota Watercolor Society**  
1120 Tonkawa Road  
Long Lake, MN 55356-9240

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

Be up to date and check our facebook page for current member happenings at [www.facebook.com/groups/MinnesotaWatercolors](http://www.facebook.com/groups/MinnesotaWatercolors)

WELCOME!

### MNWS 16 New Members

Risa Cohen  
Magda Yasmin Conde  
Jean Egbert  
Sue Demlow  
Dawn Erickson  
Julie Frank  
Alex Hall  
Linda Jensen  
Linda Klabo  
Caroline Lampert  
Kris Mestad  
Angela Passe  
Caroline Pierce  
Caitilin Stolle  
Missy Van Egdorn  
Michael Willis  
Cynthia Worden Lee

**We have 361 current  
paid members**

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

March 14th, Thursday 7pm  
Zoom Only  
**Demo Artist: Lynn D. Pratt**

April 8th–10th  
Minnetonka Center for the Arts  
**Spring Workshop, David R. Smith**

April 11th, 6 – 8 pm, Thursday  
Minnetonka Center for the Arts  
**“Ephemeral” Opening Receptions  
with Awards**

April 11 - May 17th, at  
Minnetonka Center for the Arts  
**“Ephemeral” Spring Show**

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### NorthStar Watermedia Society News

**March 22-23: Portrait  
workshop with Patty Schmid**

**April 3-May 15: Member  
Exhibition, “Colors of  
Spring” at Lakeville Arts  
Center**

**April 11: Meeting at  
Roseville Oval with demo by  
Steve Sheehan, 7pm**

**April 27: Member  
Exhibition reception and  
awards, 1-3:30pm**

[northstarwatermedia.com/](http://northstarwatermedia.com/)